## BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2025

Present: Cllr J Hodgson (Chairman) Cllr M Mossman (Vice Chairman), Cllr J Morrison, Cllr J Dumper, Cllr A Taylor, Cllr C Brookes, Cllr S Dunn & Cllr Mrs. K McAllister.

In attendance: Heather Bourner-Clerk

HCC David Drew

3 Members of public

### **Apologies for Absence**

1. Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC Cllr Johnston, Cllr Y Ezra & Cllr J Mann.

## **Public Participation**

2) The members of public present were present to listen and observe.

## **Declarations of Interest**

**3)** Cllr Mc Alister declared an interest in the planning application for the Tally Ho. There were no other declarations of interest. All Cllrs present confirmed no amendments were required to register of interest documents.

### Minutes

4) **Resolved**: The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Brooks, seconded Cllr Dumper. All agreed.

## Planning

## 5) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

25/00880/TREES -tree works, Clifton Cottage. No objections 25/00704/TREES- tree works, Linden House-no objections

#### Reviewed between meetings: None

#### Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

25/00881/FULLS- vehicular access, The Old Donkey Field- no objections 25/01091/FULLS- demolish and replace dwelling, Hill House, Buckholt Road – no objections 25/01085/LBWS-internal works Tally Ho Inn-the decision will be concluded by email before the deadline however the Parish Council did express disappointment that this was a retrospective application while accepting this was not a decision for the Parish Council.

## Twinning Association

6) Cllr Hodgson reported the committee on the official twinning group wish to resign and new volunteers would be required to keep this initiative going. There was £822.86 in a bank account to support any project going forward.

Cllr Dumper has been involved in the past and will happily guide any new villagers keen to move forward with the project but cannot lead it. Cllr Hodgson will send a note around on the village email group to try and attract new interest.

## 7) County and Borough Councilors' Report

HCC David Drew had sent a report which can be seen at appendix 1.

TVBC CIIr Mrs A Johnston had sent her apologies.

#### Local Government Reorganisation

8) Cllr Y Ezra MBE had sent his apologies but had recently circulated a document outlining the latest proposals for Hampshire.

#### S106 funds held at TVBC for School Lane maintenance

9) Cllr Hodgson reported a previous Parish Council had agreed to ask TVBC for the whole of

the S106 funds for the maintenance of the green areas on School Lane to be passed to Broughton Parish Council to manage.

The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to an officer at TVBC and was awaiting a reply regarding the level of funds held and terms of the agreement. Once these details were held the present Parish Council would discuss the matter with TVBC.

## **Sports Field Update**

10) Cllr Dunn reported the sports committee had recently held a very successful fund-raising event raising approximately £20,000 towards the new sports pavilion. There will be a grand opening on 19<sup>th</sup> July, the local MP has been asked to cut the ribbon and it is hoped some sporting celebrities will attend. The day will include a champagne breakfast, a televised rugby game, a live cricket game, and in the evening a hog roast and live music. He confirmed a new bar steward has been appointed and that brick sales are moving well with currently 52 being sold raising £5200. It is hoped sales will reach 100 bricks. A new media officer is also now in place to help highlight news to the whole village.

Cllr Hodgson reported on the fitting of the new gym equipment, which was planned for the 13th of June. The sports committee have asked for this to be delayed as they are now not sure there is room to fit the equipment at the sports field. A plan of locations was discussed with a representative of the sports committee before the agreement was reached and on this basis the equipment was purchased. The matter was discussed and concerns were raised. Cllr Hodgson will write to the sports committee and express the concerns and ask them to work toward reaching a solution to satisfy all parties.

Cllr Hodgson also reported the Sports Committee had asked that the Parish Council to pay for the fitting of the fibre broadband package at the new Sports Pavilion. The total costs were £7174 plus VAT but this did not feature as a cost in the contract between the Parish Council and the builder. The sports committee had suggested this cost should be met from the contingency fund for the project. The sports committee have been asked to confirm why the additional service is required and why the old service for the old pavilion cannot use, they have also been asked to provide a plan with full costs.

## School Lane MUGA & management plan for open spaces

11) Cllr Dunn has been researching the proposed MUGA and has spoken to a TVBC officer Kevin Harrington who has confirmed the Parish Council could go ahead and build now under permitted development regulations but this would need to be inline with the plans submitted at the time of the application. If additional things such as lighting are to be added a further application will be required.

He confirmed feasibility a study will be carried out shortly to produce a plan of what might fit the space available and the facilities this would provide. Details from the recent village questionnaire will be factored in to the plan and once this has been created it will be shared at a public meeting where residents will be able to review the plan and provide feedback. Cllr Taylor asked that a feasibility study also considers what plants and screening could be included at the site.

Cllr Mossman reported that a review of the school land green areas had been carried out and advice requested from Hampshire Wildlife Trust as to how to manage the site. Some small dead trees have been felled and Cllr Mossman will try and have the waste logs removed. Finally, he has drafted a letter to the management company for Downs Close which was reviewed and agreed. The Clerk will send this to the appropriate office of First Port Management Company.

Cllr Hodgson also reported he had spoken to the practice manager at Broughton Surgery regarding the footpath and access to the surgery from the car park. The practice members have met to discuss work required and are awaiting quotes for the required work.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

12) Cllr Mann had sent his apologies. Cllr Mossman said the group are following the road map provided by TVBC regarding the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan, this is a lengthy process.

# Cemetery

13) Cllr Mossman said he and volunteer had cut the grass areas at the cemetery as a temporary measure because it was so long. He said it was clear this could not be cut by large machinery and hand mowing was required. A permanent solution is still needed, the hope being that a local gardener will be happy to carry out the work. Finally, he said he has asked a tree surgeon to look at trees on the cemetery fence line given there is a lot of dead wood.

## Allotments Update

14) Cllr Mossman reported he had spoken to several allotment holders regarding improvements to the allotment area. He hopes to hold a meeting with all allotment holders to discuss a way forward.

## **Clerks Report**

15) The Clerk reported the annual internal audit had taken place and the items from that report were highlighted as

Grant Policy- one was required and a draft had been circulated to all councilors. This was discussed and with a few amendments approved by all. This will be posted to the Parish Council website.

Contracts Finder- this was an online tool for use when the tendering process was required and the auditor had advised the Parish Council use this when tenders for the MUGA are required.

Parish Council email addresses- it was now compulsory for Councillors to use specific Parish Council emails; use of private email accounts was no longer allowed. The Clerk said there was a drive for all government organisations to use .gov email addresses and Hugo Fox, the current website provider was able to provide these. She was asked to research this and report back to the Parish Council with details and costs

The Clerk confirmed she had researched setting up Councillors to be able to make payments from the Parish Council bank accounts. There was no legislation to allow Councillors to make payments, only the Clerk had this authority. Councillors' roles were to authorise. With this in mind, in an emergency the Parish Council should be in a position to hand over the laptop and passwords for a locum clerk to carry out transactions. The auditor had also recommended the Parish Council should provide the Clerk with a business mobile telephone to carry out all Parish Council business which could also be passed to a locum if the need arose. The matter was discussed and it was agreed the Clerk should research costs relating to this provision.

Finally, the Clerk confirmed the Lengthsman funding had been received and the payments included distribution to the three other Parish Councils in the cluster arrangement managed by the Clerk. A £400 admin fee from HCC had also been received and was payable to the Clerk for the work she carried out.

## Footpaths.

16) Cllr Morrison reported he has raised several areas of concern regarding footpaths to Hampshire County Council. He has been sent replacement finger posts which he will fit and been asked to contact Romsey ramblers to help with the repairs to some steps. He said that the volunteer team have worked on the footpath near shallow Ford and that he was trying to find a solution to the tree stumps on footpath 15 which were a trip hazard. Finally, he said he was still trying to find a central location point to keep all the equipment used by volunteers for footpath clearance.

## Finance

17) i) To note the bank balances 27/05/2024: TSB Charity account £62025.50 TSB Business Instant £374726.24 United Trust £30969.44

ii)To approve the following payments and authorise on line transactions: -H Bourner sal £727.26 H Bourner exp £32.50 HMRC £59.68 Hugo Fox £23.99 Aceliftaway £325.00 Haygarth Ross £81576.50

| Do the Numbers  | £350.00  |
|-----------------|----------|
| Grass & Grounds | £947.73  |
| Lengthsman      |          |
| Thruxton PC     | £1000.00 |
| Charlton PC     | £1000.00 |
| Monxton PC      | £1000.00 |
| Clerk           | £400 .00 |
| Play Safety     | £216.00  |
| Shenton's       | £871.57  |
|                 |          |

# Retrospective

Scottish & Southern £2976.00

# 18) Items to carry forward

Container/storage at Village Hall-Cllr McAllister will speak to the Village Hall Committee Well House roof repair-Cllr Mann will obtain a quote

# 19) Correspondence

The Clerk reported three items of correspondence An email regarding the presence of Hemlock Water Dropwort on Rookery Lane, noted but not Parish Council responsibility.

An email regarding the interment of ashes in a burial plot originally used 44 years ago. An email regarding the cutting of Dowse Paddock

### 20) New items for next meeting

Road safety issue-junction High Street & Paynes Lane

### **Community news**

21) Cllr Morrison said it was still the intention of the bus committee to buy a new electric bus and they wanted to consider installing and EV charger. He will research costs and possible locations to bring to the Parish Council meeting in July. He will also research potential grants.

A concern was raised that flower tubs and benches outside the Greyhound Inn were positioned as such that a mother with a pram or buggy or a wheelchair user would have to go in to the road to avoid the obstacles. The Clerk will contact the landlord and ask if these could be rearranged.

## Date of next meeting 24) 7.30 pm on Tuesday July 1st 2025

Appendix 1

## Have your say on proposals to help nature recover across Hampshire

The public are being asked for their views on the Draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire which sets out a series of biodiversity priorities to help reverse nature's decline

Produced in conjunction with a wide range of organisations\*, the <u>draft strategy</u> maps the most valuable existing habitat for nature, setting out proposals for creating, restoring and enhancing habitats, and suggests priorities and targets for nature's recovery.

The public consultation is open until 23 June.

Among a broad range of suggested priorities and actions, the draft strategy includes proposals that could:

Ashape how future funding for farming and land management is used

help local planning authorities to understand locations important for conserving and restoring biodiversity

\*identify the highest priority areas for habitat creation and connectivity

\*provide guidance on actions on farmland and woodland to achieve nature recovery and move towards more sustainable farming practices help guide local communities with funding applications for nature recovery projects
suggest potential measures for embedding nature into urban infrastructure, such as stormwater management

In 2021, the Environment Act required local areas to produce Local Nature Recovery Strategies. The Government designated Hampshire County Council as the Responsible Authority for delivering the strategy for the whole of Hampshire, including the areas covered by Southampton and Portsmouth City Councils, as well as the New Forest and South Downs National Parks (that are within Hampshire).

\*Supporting authorities include the local planning authorities of Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, Hampshire's district and borough councils, the New Forest and South Downs National Parks, as well as Natural England.

https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250516LNRS

# The County Council's chain of office has passed to Councillor Mark Cooper who has been elected as Hampshire County Council's new Chairman

Councillor Cooper who represents the Romsey Town electoral division on the County Council was elected to the position at the Annual Meeting of the Local Authority on Thursday 22 May 2025.

In his role as Chairman, Councillor Cooper is the civic head of the County. He will represent the County Council on any Royal visits and ceremonial occasions in Hampshire as well as carry out other civic activities and duties. The Chairman presides over County Council meetings and ensures they are conducted in line with Standing Orders.

Hampshire born and educated; Councillor Cooper was first elected to Hampshire County Council in 2005 to represent the Romsey Town division. During this time, he has served on the River Hamble Harbour Authority Management Committee and the Regulatory Committee. He was a member of Hampshire's Fire and Rescue Authority between 2005 and 2017, and a Commissioner on Hampshire's 2050 Commission of Inquiry – dedicated to help shape the long-term vision for the whole of Hampshire, enhance the future prosperity and quality of life of Hampshire's residents, as well as protect the environment, and tackle climate change.

Councillor Pal Hayre, local Member for Fareham Crofton, was elected Vice Chairman.

https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250522HCCChairmanelected

## Local Government Reorganisation - securing a strong future for Hampshire and the Solent

Hampshire County Council has today underlined its clear commitment to residents to ensure that councils delivering services to the people of Hampshire and the Solent region in future will be simpler, stronger and secure – providing communities with high-quality services while delivering the best value for the taxpayer

Under national plans for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), central Government wants to replace Hampshire County Council, 11 district and borough councils across the county, plus the unitary councils of Southampton, Portsmouth and Isle of Wight, with a number of unitary local authorities, all delivering the same public services as they do now to help make councils more efficient and effective. All 15 local authorities in the region have been tasked to come up with proposals for how councils should be reorganised from 2028 onwards, evidenced against various criteria. They will then be submitted to central Government this autumn for a final decision.

https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20250513LGRstrongfuture

<u>David Drew</u> Test Valley Central Division, HCC