



# BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL

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## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL  
AT THE NEXT MEETING ON 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2014**

**A MEETING OF BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL  
TOOK PLACE AT 7.30 PM IN THE PEAK CENTRE, MIDHURST  
ROAD, LIPHOOK ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2014**

### MINUTES

#### PRESENT:

Cllr Croucher - Chairman  
Cllr B Easton  
Cllr R Evans  
Cllr D Hoskins  
Cllr J Ives  
Cllr Jerrard  
Cllr Jordan  
Cllr J Kirby  
Cllr T Maroney  
Cllr J Poole  
Cllr P Robinson  
Cllr E Trotter  
Mr P Stanley – Executive Officer

Eighteen members of the public and the press were also in attendance.

#### **140/14 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The chairman reminded those present of the fire exits.

The chairman on behalf of the council thanked all those involved with the Parish Plan.

**141/14 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

All Councillors were present.

**142/14 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

No disclosable pecuniary interest were declared.

Cllr Jerrard joined the meeting.

**143/14 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

Proposed Cllr Croucher, Seconded Cllr Robinson, unanimously approved.

**144/14 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were not matters arising.

**145/14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Public Questions – Not on the Agenda**

None.

**Public Questions – On the Agenda**

None

**Meeting Reconvened.**

**146/14 BRITISH LEGION BUILDING**

Cllr Robinson outlined the background to this item. A decision had been taken at the Recreation Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014 that the building should be closed at the end of the year following consideration of a surveyors report. Since that time, the Willows Nursery have been unable to secure alternative accommodation and have requested an extension to allow more time to explore a long term solution.

In order to overturn a previous council decision, Standing Orders require that a minimum of six councillors propose a motion. The following motion has been proposed by eight councillors.

“At the Recreation Committee Meeting held on the 6th October 2014 the Council resolved to issue a termination of hire agreement between the Council and the Willows Nursery Partnership with effect from the end of the current term in December 2014. After discussions with the Willows Nursery Partnership we resolve to reverse the original notice period and extend it to the end of the spring term (Easter 2015) subject to the necessary insurance cover for the building being confirmed by the Willows Nursery.”

Proposed By: Cllr Robinson, Cllr Evans, Cllr Trotter, Cllr Poole, Cllr Ives, Cllr Easton, Cllr Kirby, Cllr Jordan.

Cllr Jordan tabled an amendment that in the event of an accident, no action would be taken against the council. Cllr Hoskins stated that Contra Proferentem Rule

meant that if the council believe the building structure to be unfit for children and allow the children to be there anyway then negligence could still be established against the council. It was felt that the building was not immediately unsafe but would need increasing amounts of maintenance to ensure it did not become unsafe in the future. Cllr Jerrard tabled an amendment that the use of the building be extended to the end of the academic year. There was not seconder for this amendment. Cllr Jordan withdrew his amendment as he was now satisfied with the wording.

The motion was approved 9 in favour, 3 abstentions.

**147/14 THE WILLOWS NURSERY**

It was agreed that a working party be established to conduct ongoing discussions with the Willows Nursery. The membership to include Cllr Trotter, Cllr Poole, Cllr Ives, Cllr Jerrard and Cllr Robinson. The working party will report back to council on any recommendation for decision.

**148/14 SPEEDWATCH**

A presentation was made by Gordon Clarke on the work of the Speedwatch volunteers. Speedwatch is an awareness raising programme and has 60 schemes and 750 volunteers in Hampshire. The council shares the equipment with two other councils and has use for 4 months of the year. The 6 main roads in the village have been monitored. Approximately 7% of the traffic is speeding covering all types of vehicle. The London Road had 23% speeding and needed some further measures to slow down the traffic. This could include fixed camera, rumble strips, partial road blockage or reducing speed limits in run up to 30 mph zone.

It was suggested by Cllr Robinson that the deployment of the councils SLR camera may be one solution. Gordon Clarke was asked to submit his report to the Parish Council for further consideration. A vote of thanks was made to all those involved in the speedwatch programme.

**149/14 REPORTS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

County Council

Cllr Cowper ran through his report which had been distributed to councillors and members of the public. This covered Liphook Federated Schools, Parking Generally, Newtown Road Complaints, Traffic Congestion in the Square, Midhurst Road/Gunns Farm, Buses and Devolved Grant Budget.

Cllr Cowper in reply to the Speedwatch presentation stated that although all the options for traffic calming could be considered, a reduced speed limit was unlikely to be approved due to the difficulty with enforcement.

It was noted that a sum of £3,100 remains available from the original pot of £7,000 for any voluntary groups or organisations.

Following a question from Cllr Easton, Cllr Cowper ran through the history of events leading to the current proposals for traffic control in the area of the Avenue.

He suggested that maybe a time restriction rather than a general restriction could be proposed by the council if it felt that would help.

District Council

Cllr Moulard ran through the report of the District Councillors which had been circulated to Councillors and the public. This covered Councillor Recruitment Events, Planning Matters and The Willows Nursery.

It was noted that the Community Team of EHDC were in discussion with the Willows Nursery on a possible grant which could be possible with a change to Charitable Status.

**150/14 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Planning Committee**

Cllr Kirby reported back on the work of the Planning Committee.

The minutes of a meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

Proposed Cllr Kirby, Seconded Cllr Trotter, unanimously approved.

The minutes of a meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

Proposed Cllr Maroney, Seconded Cllr Robinson, unanimously approved.

**Finance & Policy Committee**

Cllr Jordan reported on the last meeting. The grants budget had been agreed at £7,200, the draft budget had been considered and there had been some movement to the earmarked reserves.

The minutes of a meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

Proposed Cllr Jordan, Seconded Cllr Maroney, unanimously approved.

**151/14 TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE F & P COMMITTEE**

The Schedule of Accounts for September 2014 was noted (copy in minute book as attachment 1). Cllr Maroney advised the council that he had audited the accounts and found them to be in good order. There was a £60 refund due and a duplicate payment of £483 was being refunded, together with a 1p reconciliation adjustment. It was noted that the balances held by the bank were as follows:

**August 2014**

**Cleared balances at the bank**

Business Account	1,000.00
30 Day Account	212,480.99
Total held by the council end July 2014	213,480.99
Less un-presented cheque	4,658.74
Cashbook Balance	208,822.25

**152/14 MEETING PROGRAMME 2015**

The meeting schedule running to May 2015 was approved. An annual schedule will be considered at the Annual Meeting in May 2015 in accordance with Standing Orders.

**153/14 TRAFFIC ORDER PROPOSALS**

The proposed traffic orders in the Avenue area was noted. Comments were due to be made by 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Any comments should be forwarded to the Executive Officer. It was agreed that a comment should be made about the restrictions being time restricted rather than a general restriction.

**154/14 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Parish Plan

Cllr Maroney reported on the work of the Parish Plan. A total of 319 people had attended the recent exhibitions, although the younger generation were not well represented. An analysis of the outcome should be available in the next few weeks.

Meeting with Thames Water

Cllr Maroney reported on the meeting with Thames Water concerning drainage on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Kirby reported on the meeting held with EHDC & District Councillors concerning the possibility of producing a Neighbourhood Plan. A lot of useful information had been obtained and it was clear that this would be a long term project, although a lot of evidence was available to use in the plan. A decision on whether to proceed with a plan will be the subject of a future meeting of the council.

At this stage it was proposed that the meeting be extended by a further 30 minutes. Proposed Cllr Croucher, Seconded Cllr Easton, unanimously approved.

**155/14 TRANSPARENCY AND THE PUBLICATION OF COUNCIL DOCUMENT**

Cllr Croucher asked whether Cllr Jerrard wished to consider his motion in 3 parts. Cllr Jerrard stated that the first paragraph covering the publication of the report by Messrs Jacob & Hunt was now on the website so that was withdrawn. The other two items were to be considered together and were read out as follows.

“That the Council should publish on its website fully redacted and anonymised copies of any other reports prepared for Bramshott and Liphook Parish Council and paid for by the tax payers of this parish

That the Council should publish on its website fully redacted and anonymised copies of any other reports prepared by Bramshott and Liphook Parish Council which have been collated in order to be presented to third parties.”

Proposed Cllr Jerrard, Seconded Cllr Hoskins.

Cllr Jerrard explained that the motion was about transparency. It was important in terms of Freedom of Information in that transparency improves efficiency, impedes corruption and that the public have a right to know. He felt that the law requires the council to provide such information and gave examples of why he felt this to be so.

Cllr Croucher stated that the council was already transparent. It has a publication scheme approved by the Information Commissions Office covering things such as finance, committee papers and organisational details, complying with the council's legal obligation for disclosure of information. The council also needed to work with its insurer's and take its advice or face not being covered by insurance. The Government has produced a new Transparency Code and the council will need time to consider the implication of this.

Cllr Hoskins stated that all identifying features of an individual would be removed and that they would not be identifiable from the report.

Cllr Poole was concerned the policy was too open ended and that all reports should be considered on their own merits.

Cllr Jordan stated as Chairman of Finance & Policy Committee responsible for staff matters that any reports should remain confidential to avoid possible litigation that could impact on the precept.

Cllr Jerrard stated that reports paid for by the public should be available on the website and not just available in the Parish Office as not everyone can visit the office.

Cllr Hoskins argues that all reports should be published but the council could then decide that certain reports remain confidential.

Cllr Jerrard summarised his position.

The motion was then subject to a vote.

In favour of the motion, Cllr Hoskins, Cllr Trotter, Cllr Jerrard, Cllr Evans

Against the motion, Cllr Jordan, Cllr Kirby, Cllr Easton, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Ives, Cllr Poole, Cllr Maroney.

Motion not approved.

#### **156/14 EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Motion: "In accordance with the provisions of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted"  
Proposed Cllr Croucher, Seconded Cllr Maroney, unanimously approved.