



BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL

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FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

**THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES AND ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
AT THE NEXT MEETING ON 2nd MARCH 2015**

**A MEETING OF BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE TOOK PLACE AT 7.30 PM IN
THE HASKELL CENTRE, MIDHURST ROAD, LIPHOOK ON
WEDNESDAY 7th JANUARY 2015.**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Cllr Jordan (Chairman)
Cllr Croucher
Cllr Kirby
Cllr Maroney
Cllr Robinson
Mr P Stanley – Executive Officer

Also in attendance: Cllr Jerrard. There were four members of the public and the press present.

01/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chairman reminded those present of the safety arrangements. It was stated that item 13 would be taken after item 5. Cllr Kirby would be leaving the meeting at 8.15. It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Monday 2nd March 2015 rather than the scheduled date.

02/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Ives.

03/15 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The disclosure was read out. No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared. Cllr Jordan stated that for item 7 on grants, he was a trustee for the River Way Trust and was also a member of Liphook in Bloom, but had no disclosable pecuniary interests.

04/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the meeting held on 5th November 2014.

Proposed Cllr Jordan, Seconded Cllr Croucher, unanimously approved.

05/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters arising.

06/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Cllr Jerrard asked to speak regarding item 14 (CCTV) and Mr Hall regarding item 9 (Litter picking). The chairman agreed the questions could be taken when the items are discussed.

07/15 GRANT FUNDING

Cllr Jordan stated that the budget had already been agreed at £17,200 and requests had been received totalling £21,025. This meant that some requests could not be met in full. Cllr Jordan had been through the applications in detail and ran through his suggested allocations.

The Carnival Committee had requested an increase from £2,000 to £2,500. It was agreed that a sum of £2,250 be approved. It was also noted that the Council allows the Fair to use the Millennium Green free of charge and the Carnival Committee would benefit from this free use.

St Mary's Church had requested £3,600 which compared to £2,000 the previous year. It was agreed that a grant of £2,500 be approved and noted that this is used entirely for the maintenance of the grounds.

Liphook Tennis Club had requested a one-off sum of £2,000 towards the provision of floodlighting and new play surfaces. The total cost of the work is £59,900 would be funded from a number of sources including s106 funding and the Hampshire Playing Field Association.

The Jubilee Sailing Trust had requested a sum of £500. Following discussion about the merits of this application, a sum of £250 was approved.

The following grants were proposed:

Charity/Organisation	
St Mary's Church, Bramshott	2500
CAB	4000
Liphook in Bloom	1700
Carnival Committee	2250
Royal British Legion/Canada Day	250
Liphook Day Centre/Peak Centre Trust	3000
Home Start	500
Liphook Tennis Club	2000
River Wey Trust	100
Bramshott War Memorial trust	250

Jubilee Sailing Trust	250
Total Grant	16800

This leaves a balance of £400 to allocate during the year. In addition, the Liphook Youth Club to have free use of the Liphook Millennium Centre up to the value of £1,625.

Proposed Cllr Croucher, Seconded Cllr Jordan, unanimously approved.

08/15 GUNS FARM ALLOTMENTS

The council had been approached by EHDC to take over the freehold of the land forming the Gunn’s Farm Allotments. The Recreation Committee had considered this request and agreed that this should proceed subject to the approval of the Finance & Policy Committee. The Executive Officer reminded Councillors that the decision to acquire land must be made by the full council. In addition, the legal deed could not be executed without authorisation by Resolution.

It was proposed that the acquisition of the allotments be pursued and a final decision taken by the full council once the details and implications are known.

Proposed Cllr Jordan, Seconded Cllr Robinson, Unanimously approved.

Cllr Kirby left the meeting.

09/15 LITTER MANAGEMENT

Cllr Maroney presented his Motion “The Council should employ a litter picker at least 2 days per week to remove litter around the village and in the hamlets”

There were no costed proposals that could be built into the budget. It was felt that this could be quite an expensive activity and the timing meant it could not be accommodated in the precept calculation. Other options should also be considered, for example, the use of volunteers or the Community Rehabilitation Service.

Following the discussion, Cllr Maroney withdrew his motion and agreed to bring fresh proposals forward together with likely costs. If necessary, council reserves could be used to fund the activity.

10/15 BUDGET MONITORING

Cllr Jordan reported that the Q2 budget monitoring statement shows a small projected deficit of £1,894. Cllr Maroney expressed some concern about using transfer to balances as a mechanism to balance the budget and hoped that this would not be the case in future years. The loss of income had impacted on the budget, including the loss of income from the Pavilion Building and a reduction in income

from the hire of the Millennium Hall. It was proposed that the budget monitoring statement be approved.

Proposed Cllr Jordan, Seconded Cllr Croucher, Unanimously approved.

11/15 BUDGET 2015/16

Cllr Jordan introduced the budget and advised councillors that EHDC were continuing to fund the Council Tax Support grant at a level of £11,731. Spending committees had all considered their budgets and provided figures to include in the overall council budget. The budget carried with it some risks, mostly on income from EHDC for the toilets and the income from the hiring of the Millennium Centre.

The proposed budget is a precept of £262,285, Transitional grant of £11,731 making a total budget of £274,016. This would mean a charge per band D equivalent of £68.29, an increase of £1.01 or 1.5%.

Proposed Cllr Jordan, Seconded Cllr Croucher, Unanimously Approved.

12/15 SCOUTS & GUIDES RENT REVIEW

It was reported that a meeting had been held involving, Cllr Ives, Cllr Jordan, the Executive Officer and representative from the Scouts & Guides. The rent review was due from September 2013 and was based on an open market rental, rather than looking at an RPI/CPI increase. The organisations had produced some statistics that showed Market Rent had not changed significantly over the review period. A compromise had been reached that provided for an increase of £250 per annum, which would avoid the need to go to expensive arbitration. The Scouts & Guides had indicated that they would reluctantly accept this level of increase.

Proposed to increase the rent income by £250 to £7,101 per annum backdated to September 2013.

Proposed Cllr Robinson, Seconded Cllr Jordan, For 2, against 1, abstain 1. Proposal accepted.

13/15 RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT

A land Registry document had been circulated concerning 2 Church Cottages, Hammer lane. For many years, access free of charge over parish land had been granted, but was for the owner of the building not the property. As the property is about to change hands, the new agreement is needed to allow the same access. The document has been seen by our solicitor who is happy with the content.

It was unanimously agreed that the land registry document be signed on behalf of the council by two councillors.

14/15 TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR LMC PROJECTS

The following allocations from the LMC earmarked balances were approved for release:

CCTV	7,460
Furniture	25,000
Reception Redecoration	3,000
Refurbishment of Toilets	16,000

Cllr Maroney expressed his concern about the detail in the quotations at the last LMC meeting. Cllr Jerrard also supported this view. Cllr Jordan explained that the council was working to the system recommended by the Internal Auditor. This will be raised at her next visit in late January.

15/15 TO APPROVE THE SUCCESSFUL QUOTATION FOR CCTV

This item was referred to the next meeting of the LMC MC on 15th January 2015, as that committee would have more knowledge of the requirements and because it was only a week later.

Meeting concluded at 9.18 pm.

Chairman

Date