



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 27th MAY 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
MONDAY 2nd MARCH 2015.**

MINUTES

PRESENT:

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

There were no members of the public or press present.

16/15 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chairman reminded those present of the safety arrangements. He also explained that members of the public now had a right to record meetings a separate area had been set up for those not wishing to be recorded.

17/15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

18/15 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

The disclosure was read out. No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

19/15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2015.

Proposed Cllr Robinson, Seconded Cllr Maroney, unanimously approved.

20/15 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Item 08/15 Guns Farm Allotments – the Executive Officer stated that information had been received from EHDC and an item will go the next council meeting in April.

14/15 LMC Funding & Quotations – Cllr Jordan reported that a meeting had been held with the Internal Auditor at her last visit to discuss the procedures for obtaining and considering expenditure quotations. The Finance Officer is responsible for the handling of quotations, including specifications. If a member of the council wished to see the paperwork or help Nikki with the technical specification that was in order. At the relevant meeting, the contractors will still be shown as contractor 1 etc. The advantages of knowing a contractor competent to do the work would be improved by having an authorised contractors list, rather than disclosing the names when considering the quoters.

21/15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No public present.

22/15 FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

The financial risk assessment had been updated by the Executive officer. It was proposed that the financial risk assessment be approved.

Proposed Cllr Maroney, Seconded Cllr Croucher, unanimously approved.

23/15 TOILET FACILITIES AT THE HASKELL CENTRE

The Executive Officer advised the committee that EHDC had now agreed to fund the toilets on an ongoing basis.

Cllr Jordan proposed that a capital fund should be established to pay for the periodic refurbishment of the toilets. He proposed that a sum of £1,000 be earmarked in 2015/16 from general reserves and that the council should then budget for an annual transfer to balances of £500 starting in 2016/17.

Proposed Cllr Jordan, Seconded Cllr Robinson, unanimously approved.

24/15 INTERIM AUDIT

The Executive Officer reported that following the audit visit on 28th January 2015, there were no matters to report. Thanks were expressed to the Executive Officer in moving the council to such a position. There would be a further visit on 7th April and a final visit for year-end accounts on 20th May 2015.

25/15 COST RECOVERY WORKING PARTY

Cllr Robinson reported that the Cost Recovery Working Group had met and following correspondence with the council's insurers, have recommended that the claim is no longer pursued. It was also agreed that the work of the working party was now completed and it should be disbanded.

Proposed Cllr Robinson, Seconded Cllr Croucher, unanimously approved.

26/15 SWIMMING POOL MOTION

Cllr Maroney presented his motion stating that Cllr F Cowper had offered the opportunity for a viability assessment. He had also spoken with Sport England concerning their report. It was felt that the high level of usage anticipated for the new pool in Bordon could be reduced by having a pool in the local area, although the site had not been identified. Cllr Maroney stated that the Parish Plan had identified a demand for a pool in the area. It was noted that there would be no Capital or Revenue running costs for the Parish Council to meet.

The motion "That the Parish Council ask EHDC to instruct Sports England to conduct a viability assessment into the provision of a 4-lane pool in Liphook similar to the Godalming Concept for the benefit of the wider community as part of addressing the over capacity issue identified in their report on the Swimming Pool Provision in East Hampshire District up to 2028"

Proposed Cllr Maroney, Seconded Cllr Croucher, unanimously approved.

27/15 LITTER PICKING MOTION

Cllr Maroney introduced his motion. There was a problem of litter in Liphook and at the Parish Plan exhibition, 18% of parishioners endorsed the need for a management plan to tackle the issue. At the last Finance & Policy Committee a motion to employ litter pickers was withdrawn pending further research on the likely cost. This motion proposes that the council employ two litter pickers at a cost of up to £16,000 per year. Councillors suggested alternative options such as litter picking days, raising awareness of the problem and contacting local businesses to provide bins for take-away food. Awareness raising could include schools. There was also a view that the time needed to litter pick was unknown.

It was noted that the precept for 2015/16 has been set and additional funds to cover costs (an increase of 6%) could not be actioned until the 2016/17 budget year. Such a decision should be taken by the council elected in May 2015.

Whilst there are general reserves available, the programme of work at the Millennium Centre had been forecast to use these within the limits allowed.

The motion "That the Parish Council spend up to £16,000 annually on employing two part-time staff, suitably equipped, trained and supported and working together

up to 20 hours per week each on clearly defined routes, to keep the centres of the village and hamlets free from litter on a regular basis”

Proposed Cllr Maroney. There being no seconded, the motion was not progressed.

It was recommended that if the publicity and other strategies do not work, that provision be made in the 2016/17 precept to tackle the problem. It was also agreed that the litter issue be placed on the agenda for the next Recreation Committee to consider awareness raising.

28/15 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 Jordan, Seconded Cllr Robinson, unanimously approved.