



BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH COUNCIL

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**THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR THE PARISH OF BRAMSHOTT &
LIPHOOK TOOK PLACE AT 7.30 PM IN THE LIPHOOK MILLENNIUM CENTRE
ON MONDAY 23rd MARCH 2015.**

PRESENT:

Cllr M Croucher (Chairman)
Cllr B Easton
Cllr J Ives
Cllr D Jerrard
Cllr P Jordan
Cllr J Kirby
Cllr T Maroney
Cllr J Poole
Cllr P Robinson
Cllr E Trotter

There were 9 members of the public and two members of the press present. Also in Attendance, Cllr F Cowper HCC, Cllr L Ashton EHDC, Cllr A Glass EHDC & Cllr B Moulard EHDC.

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed all present and explained the emergency exits.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th March 2014.
Proposed Cllr Croucher, Seconded Cllr Robinson, Unanimously approved.

3. ANNUAL REPORTS AND PUBLIC QUESTIONS

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

Report from Cllr P Jordan.

“My report will dwell on the general responsibilities of the Finance & Policy Committee and refer to one off activities undertaken in the 2014/15 year.

The Finance & Policy Committee is comprised of the chairpersons of the Recreation, Millennium Centre and Planning Committee’s, the Chairman of the Council, myself as its Chairman of the committee and Cllr Maroney as Deputy Chairman.

The committee meets six times a year.

The Committee’s core work is the Financial well-being of the Council and responsibility for staff matters.

The financial aspects involve a monthly review of the bank reconciliation and supporting transaction documentation, the monitoring of expenditure and income during the year against budgets and revised annual forecasts, preparing and proposing a budget together with its precept, seeking to ensure that internal controls are robust and that management of risk is adequately assessed and insurance appropriately obtained.

The periodic monitoring of expenditure and income is intended to enable the Committee to be aware of potential areas of over expenditure and or shortfall in income and where possible take corrective action. This review is made more real thanks to the quarterly update of annual out turn forecasts provided by the Executive Officer. This aspect of monitoring was introduced last year.

The budget setting process has been successfully concluded with a net expenditure requiring a 1.5% increase based on “Band D rating” equivalent or £1.01 per annum per household.

The budget once again incorporates grants to local organisations which next year will be £18,825.

A change, over and above the expenditure of 2013/14, is the inclusion of £7,500 towards a Neighbourhood Plan.

A further aspect of note in the budget is a £35,000 subsidy towards the Liphook Millennium Centre, this is 13% of the total precept compared with 14% out turn this year. We must report that the subsidy this year is above the budget we set of 13%. The Millennium Centre’s net costs are very dependent on the income generated through hiring, the success of which in part is depending on the quality of the venue offered. I will return to this topic later.

On risk evaluation we have continued the considerable advances made in 2013/14. We still however a schedule of outstanding minor elements to address.

Needless to say the ability of the Committee to achieve its objectives is critically dependent on the support given by the Executive Officer and his team. We have been served well. A clear measure of performance is reflected in the internal auditors report of 1st May and the interim audit carried out in January. I quote from the Eleanor Green's audit report.

“The financial list of matters arising from my review is much shorter than last year (her first year as auditor after many years of the same auditor) and the officer and members should be proud of the significant improvements at the Council, even allowing for staff shortages. Overall I found the records of the Council to be in very good order.”

At the interim audit review she was able to report that issues raised in May had been addressed and there was no issues requiring comment.

Two excellent reports for which we congratulate Peter Stanley.

I now turn to our responsibility on staff matters. In last years report I commented on the strategic objectives review carried out by the Council which addressed Parish requirements and the organisation structure required to support these. This year we implemented the resulting staff reorganisation changes and recruitment. Such projects can be difficult to implement; to be successful a co-operative and a supportive environment is essential. I am pleased to report that overall we achieved our change management programme not least thanks to an understanding staff.

We believe that the Council now has an organisation structure that balances our service objectives with staff resources and within acceptable financial parameters.

Other actions taken on staff matters are as follows:-

- We have implemented a formal staff performance review process which in part contributes to the annual staff pay review.
- The Staff Liaison Committee has been formalised with a well-defined framework. This committee provides a forum for the Executive Officer and Councillors to address staff related matters and provide a clear interface between Councillors strategic responsibility and the Executive Officers staff management responsibility.
- Also to report is the work on the evaluation of the pensions legislation requirements for providing and administering an Auto Enrolment pension scheme. This requires that the employer must provide a pension scheme to which it contributes and for which staff are required to either be in the scheme or positively opt out. This must be implemented by the April 2017. We have drafted proposals for the next Council to consider and take action on.

I am sure you will appreciate that the activities I have reported on are not achieved by time spent in 6 meetings a year. They require Councillors to contribute generously of their time at a myriad of work group meetings and the reading of background material. I am most grateful for their enthusiasm and dedication.

I promised to return to the subject of the Millennium Centre subsidy. The annual subsidy for next year includes some £10,000 transfer to reserved funds for major repairs, maintenance and refurbishment. This year we questioned whether the accumulated reserves were sufficient.

Following an excellent evaluation by Councillor Maroney of the Millennium Centres longer term requirements it is evident that the reserve created over the years is insufficient. As Councillor Ives will report it is also evident that such work has not been address for many years, other than urgent repairs such as last years leaking roof.

What is also recognised is that expenditure is necessary to bring the venue to a satisfactory standard and help enhance the venue's income earning potential.

Whilst the total reserves of the Council could fund the requirements it would result in their dropping below the level require by law. It is therefore likely that rates will have to increase over the period of a few years to close the funding gap.

There is however an alternative. I will be placing a motion on the agenda for the next Council meeting proposing that a feasibility study be undertaken to evaluate the financial and practical case for selling the Haskell Centre, transferring the staff to the Millennium Centre (thereby placing all staff in one location) and using the sale proceeds created to provide office accommodation and bring the Millennium Centre up the required standard for future needs.

That concludes my report, thank you for listening.”

There were no public questions.

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Report from Cllr P Robinson.

“The year 2014 / 15 has been both a busy and expensive one for the Parish with damage both natural and unnatural taking its toll on most areas for which the Parish Council has responsibility.

Radford Park

Radford Park saw the destruction of several large trees that became the victim of high winds and rain sodden ground. These had to be attended to professionally in order open up the right of way for safe use by visitors to the Park.

The unwelcome arrival in early 2015 of several caravans being used by migrant workers as accommodation put a large section of the Radford Car Park out of bounds and prevented entry into the Grounds men's compound. It was necessary to seek the assistance of the Hampshire County Council Traveller Enforcement Officer in order to legally evict these caravans and the Council has now erected a height restriction barrier to prevent similar incursions.

On a more positive note the friends of Radford Park work party assisted by the Scouts have made substantial progress in removing overgrown banks of rhododendrons, feral trees and large areas of Himalayan Balsam. The importance of this area of outstanding natural beauty has been reinforced by no less than three prospective developers who, if successful in their applications, would like to invest developer's contribution funds in improving access to and through the Park for prospective newcomers to the village. To this end a detailed report outlining the history of the park and the Council's plans for its future was compiled By Councillor Jeanette Kirby and a copy is available for inspection at the Parish Office.

Allotments

Work to reduce the length of the waiting list for allotments continues. As half plots are surrendered they are split into quarter plots. Unfortunately ploholders have suffered a series of break ins in the past twelve months with some theft of tools and equipment. The Parish Council has erected a four strand barbed wire fence along the length of Tunbridge Lane and substantial repairs have been made to the inner gates and the rabbit / deer proof fencing. Drainage work has been done in order to drain the upper part of the plots into the nearby copse.

War Memorial Recreation Ground

The Tennis Club have applied for, and been successful in securing, grants in order to affect the resurfacing of the hard courts and replacement of the existing flood lighting. They are also improving the toilet and rest room facilities near the grass courts. The Bowls Club and the Football Club continue to flourish.

Unfortunately anti-social behaviour continues to be a problem despite the fact that Hampshire Constabulary have identified the area as an A.S.B. 'Hot Spot' and have promised increased surveillance by their patrols. Complaints from neighbours continue and litter pickers continue to find evidence of drug taking and under age drinking. The slide in the play area was smashed and before being repaired the equipment was out of order for a substantial period of time.

The Millennium Green

Work has been started by Liphook in Bloom to create two large wild flower beds to the western edge of the green which should be a picture each year from May to September. A water catchment system using a large water tank will be installed on the western end of the Millennium Hall to capture rainwater from the large roof area for use in the summer months when watering the beds and hanging baskets demand weekly and sometimes twice weekly visits. Once again the area has been the target for anti-social behaviour with smashed windows and evidence of fire lighting. Spent capsules of Nitrous Oxide have been bought to the attention of the Police.

Aqueduct and Radford Bridge

This year the Ground Staff cleared the site around the aqueduct of brambles and weeds. The aqueduct itself was cleared of ivy that had obscured the features of this ancient monument. The River Wey Trust applied for permission to coppice the trees that threatened to undermine the aqueduct and this work has now been carried out. Radford Bridge has been selected as a site for a memorial plaque to British and Commonwealth troops of the First World War who marched across the bridge on their way to the front. This plaque will be unveiled by a representative of the Canadian High Commission on Canada Day when a choir from Canada will visit Liphook School and Church.

Fletcher's Field

Two new paths have been laid across the grassed area facing the Portsmouth Road to assist infirm and elderly residents to access the seats and the all ability raised beds. This work was made possible with grants from Age UK (Liphook) and Developer's Contributions from E.H.D.C.

Litter

Litter in our streets and open areas continues to be a problem and although Liphook could not be considered any worse than anywhere else it is certainly no better. According to the Communities and Local Government Committee, Litter remains a major issue of local public concern, with levels of littering and fly-tipping failing to reduce substantially, despite campaigns and publicity aimed at changing public behaviour, and despite a suite of powers and responsibilities for local councils and other bodies enshrined in legislation. The costs of managing litter and fly-tipping are significant. Here are just a few statistics, nearly half the adult population 48% admits to dropping litter, 70 % of that is food related. Plastic bags take up to 20 years to degrade, orange and banana skins 2 to 3 years. Some glass and plastic may last forever.

The Parish Council in partnership with East Hants district Council are determined to reduce the effect of litter in our village. At the request of the Parish Council E.H.D.C. have made a substantial reduction to litter on the verges of the A3 and the two Liphook junctions. The Parish Council have paid for three new large litter bins in Radford Park and the War Memorial recreation Ground. Two new Dog Pooh bins have also been established. The Parish Council will be assisting Liphook in Bloom in their annual 'Litter Pick' and once again we will be appealing to retail establishments and fast food outlets to improve the way they deal with litter generated by their activities.

The Parish Council in an attempt to involve and educate the children of the village will sponsor a 'Do Not Drop Litter' poster competition with the Federated Schools with Book Tokens as prizes and the best of these will be exhibited in shop windows in participating retailers.

Members of the public are invited to assist the council in clearing the area close to their homes and reporting any incidents of littering and fly tipping they see."

There were no public questions.

LIPHOOK MILLENNIUM CENTRE

Report from Cllr J Ives.

“The Liphook Millennium Centre Management Committee consists of 6 parish councillors. We meet every two months along with our LMC staff. Before giving my report I would like to thank both the staff and the committee for their involvement and participation over what has been a very busy year. I would also like to thank our Executive Officer, Peter Stanley, for his invaluable advice and guidance to me and to the committee.

The Liphook Millennium Centre management has undergone significant changes over the past, somewhat challenging, year. This evening I would like to highlight the main changes that have taken place and also to look forward to what we are trying to achieve in this coming year.

This time last year I reported that new charges were to be introduced in April 2014 with some charges being increased and some decreased. This was the first price increase the LMC had seen since 2009. We also, at that time, introduced a discount of 15% for community users which means local charities or voluntary organisations can hire the rooms at these reduced rates.

As a council we had had to face the brutal fact that the centre was running at a loss and these losses could not be sustained as ultimately the Liphook council taxpayer is the loser.

I am pleased to report that there are no planned price increases for this coming financial year and I can confirm that the 15% community discount is still in force.

The price changes have resulted in a loss of some bookings and whilst these were largely predicted, we were still very sorry to lose some valuable customers. We have though seen new bookings coming through and have been particularly delighted to welcome the Liphook Artisan Market which takes place once a month in the main hall and a recent soft play for small children which takes place every 2 weeks. We have also had 3 weddings booked for this calendar year plus some new fitness and dance classes. We are delighted to have retained valued regular users such as the U3A, LAMPS, Liphook in Bloom, the youth club and various dance and fitness classes.

The management committee is continuing to carefully monitor usage of the various rooms and at our most recent meeting in March we reported that whilst we have gained weekend bookings in the main hall the picture for some of the rooms is a little more mixed.

The LMC is quite unique in our local area as it is a managed venue meaning there are staff on hand to assist users and to help with requests like setting out rooms. We are also unique in that we have a tiered seating facility which is of great benefit when holding cinema events and large meetings. We need to build on this uniqueness to bring in more bookings.

To this end we have during this past year recruited new staff at the LMC. Scott Gavin now heads up the team as Property and Grounds Manager. Rosemary Lawrence was recruited as LMC Officer responsible for the day to day tasks at the LMC including marketing and setting up income generating events. Daniel Saunders is our caretaker. Rosemary will be going on maternity leave at the end of March and we have therefore very recently welcomed Karen Feeney to the team who many of you will know from her contribution to the Liphook Carnival for the past few years.

This team has had to hit the ground running as there was much work that needed to be done immediately. Firstly, the LMC has been somewhat neglected over the past 15 years and very quickly a programme of works was established and the committee have been prioritising which of the myriad of urgent work needs to be completed first.

You may have noticed when entering the LMC that refurbishment works have been carried out in the foyer including redecoration where last year's winter storms caused some water damage. This is not yet complete as we are keen to update and renew the furniture. Other items for consideration by the committee are replacement of the flooring in the main hall, upgrading the toilet facilities, repairing the outside amphitheatre which started to sink in last year's appalling Winter storms, repairs to the stage lighting, installation of CCTV, and replacement of curtains and carpets where necessary. All of this will cost some considerable amount of money and the parish council are releasing funds as necessary to update the facilities. However, we are currently nearing the VAT threshold set for local authorities so the committee and the council as a whole need to carefully consider priorities with regards to any spend. Unfortunately the LMC has suffered from vandalism in recent months with a number of windows being broken. We are working with the police who have recommended installation of CCTV.

Our new staff are not just working on improving the facilities but are also working with our users to provide the best possible service by obtaining valued feedback and we hope to do this by regular user group meetings. Their remit also includes marketing and coming up with income generating events. There are plans for expansion of the cinema to include children's cinema, music events, a beer/wine festival, plays and drama. I also hope that the local community groups who use our facilities will continue to do so and our staff will work with them to provide a first class service when they use our facilities. We have seen an upturn in bookings for private parties and weddings and this is a trend we would like to continue. We also hope to encourage more business users to use our facilities for meetings/conferences. If we can achieve all of this then we will turn the LMC into a community hub for our village. Our staff have started a marketing campaign by using both Twitter and Facebook and we have a TV in the foyer which will be used for advertising events at the centre.

The committee would like to thank our staff for their assistance over the past few months as they have had to learn so much so quickly. I would also like to acknowledge the valued contribution by a number of people who give up their free time to assist us. Firstly, John Tough for running the monthly cinema club which generates a healthy

income. If you haven't attended the cinema at the LMC I would urge you to do so. We have some great films, it is much cheaper than Odeon or Vue, plus you get an interval with a licensed bar serving drinks and coffee! And I would like to thank the volunteers who man the front desk or help out at the cinema - Les Fatcher, Janet Marr, Kay Murray, Louise Garwood, Wendy Moore and Ron Tanner.

Finally, we would very much welcome attendance by members of the public at our management committee meetings as we would value input into what we are doing right and what we can do to improve. The meetings are publicised on the parish council website, or you can pop into the LMC at anytime and ask a member of staff for the dates/times.

Thank you for your attention."

There were no public questions.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Report from Cllr J Kirby.

The planning committee have considered over 180 planning applications over the past year. These range from tree applications to major housing developments.

Major Developments

- Poultry Farm, Chiltley Lane for 100 dwellings – the committee had no objection but this was refused by EHDC. Reasons included impact on traffic congestion around The Square.
- OSU Site, Midhurst Road for 60-bed care home was objected to by the committee and refused by EHDC.
- Lowsley Farm, Lark Rise for 175 dwellings – the committee objected to this application which was subsequently refused by EHDC. Again, reasons included impact on traffic congestion.
- Bleaches Yard off Station Road for 11 dwellings was objected to by the committee and refused by EHDC.
- Bohunt Park, Portsmouth Road for 140 dwellings was objected to by the committee and is awaiting decision by the SDNPA.

Applications for large developments are accompanied by large quantities of documents, many of which are highly technical. Major applications are also subject to pre-planning amendments which also have to be carefully reviewed. Thanks are due to the diligence of committee members who spend several hours reviewing these documents, and making site visits.

Presentations on Potential Developments

The planning committee received presentations from:

- Peter Brett on behalf of the Northcott Trust for a large development in the South Downs National Park off Longmoor Road. This site has potential for at least 175 homes.
- Mr Mills whose family owns a number of sites off Chiltley Lane/Highfield Lane and Midhurst Road. The presented site has potential for anything from 100-200 homes.
- Reside Developments on behalf of the Pope family for a relatively small development of around 35 homes off Headley Road.

None of these have yet reached planning application stage.

Appeals

Committee members have also attended planning appeals for

- Bramshott Place Village for a further 40 cottages and a 64-bed care home
- Hill Top Stables for a traveller site, which has now been approved.

An appeal has now been submitted for the 60-bed care home facility on the old OSU site and we anticipate appeals being submitted for the other major development applications which have received notice of refusal.

Housing and Employment Allocation Sites

Lowsley Farm was allocated by EHDC as the preferred site for the 175 homes attributed to Liphook under the Joint Core Strategy. Even though the current application has been refused in its present form, this site will remain the allocated site.

No landowner has come forward with a potential site for employment and both the planning committee and EHDC are objecting to loss of employment land from applications for housing.

The housing allocation site was a result of the LIPS process carried out by EHDC which at the time included sites within the SDNP. These were subsequently removed from the report as EHDC does not have jurisdiction over the SDNPA as they are two separate planning authorities.

Neighbourhood Plan

The full council have agreed to support a Neighbourhood Plan for Bramshott and Liphook. EHDC have raised the point of a Duty to Co-operate between the two planning authorities and yet government guidelines state that the Duty to Co-operate does not imply a duty to agree, the National Parks have different criteria to be met with regard to planning applications as they have greater protection. At present the five potential housing development sites located in the National Park have been rejected by the SDNPA. However these could be included in a Neighbourhood Plan, although this would have to comply with planning legislation.

It is clear that there are areas of conflict between both EHDC and the SDNPA as well as differences of opinion within our local community.

There were no public questions.

PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Croucher thanked the staff for all their hard work over the past year and in particular, the new staff who have needed to quickly adapt to the hectic environment of a parish council. He also thanked councillors who do a considerable amount of work on a voluntary basis not just attending meetings but in preparing reports and researching topics. He invited all present to join councillors for a drink and informal discussion after the meeting.

4. REPORT FROM EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL & REPORT FROM HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report from Cllr B Mouland.

“The year began as it has ended, with a freeze on council tax, a trend that the district council leadership has pledged to continue for as long as possible.

To do this, while preserving and enhancing services, the council has to be ever more innovative in the way it funds and runs its budget.

One example of this is an income generation strategy to offset the continuing decline in central government funding. The council has set up a special new ventures team to develop this.

The council leader is on record as saying that the strategy could generate enough income to make the authority non-reliant on central government help, and even council tax.

Another part of the policy is investing money in the property market rather than low interest bank accounts. Purchases include the Metro Inn and Starbucks on the Liphook by-pass. Returns from rents rather than bank interest are much more generous – estimated to bring in £244,000 a year compared with £37,000.

The council’s healthy financial position has allowed it to pay for three extra Police Community Support Officers to help the fight against crime and anti-social behaviour. These will be available to target specific issues.

The council is also paying for five Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras, which will be operated by the police, to help identify problem drivers and fly-tippers.

One of the biggest issues facing the council has been the government’s demand for new housing and where to put it. Money has been set aside to fight developments which the community does not regard as acceptable.

The council refused applications at Chiltley Lane and Lowsley Farm. The result of an appeal against the decision to refuse more development at Bramshott Place is awaited.

An appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a gipsy site in Devils Lane was won by the applicant.

Since then the council has taken action – including a High Court injunction – against another, larger, gipsy encampment, also in Devils Lane. A planning application for this proposed development is awaiting validation.

One of the most pleasing aspects of our work this year has been the allocation of grants to local community groups, whether it be to help with repairs to buildings or the purchase of new equipment. We have worked as a team to make sure that as much as possible of the £3,000 we can each give is used up. This year there was just £6 left over from the £9,000 total.

After the election in May, district councillors will each have £4,500 to award, making the total for Bramshott and Liphook £13,500. It has been a pleasure as well as a challenge to serve as district councillors. Cllrs Glass and Mouland will be standing again at the election, but Cllr Ashton is standing down due to the pressure of business commitments.”

EHDC councillor community grants 2014/2015.

Conford Village Hall Trust.....	£1,000.	.
Liphook U3A.....	£500	
Bramshott War Memorial Trust.....	£400	
Liphook U3A - Film Appreciation Group... ..	£325	
Liphook Bugle.....	£258	
Liphook Youth Club.....	£717	
Liphook Village Hall.....	£1,000	
Liphook Modellers Club.....	£1,000	
Liphook Junior School /Andrew Lucas.....	£800	
Liphook in Bloom.....	£994.49	
The Community Support Laundry of Liphook ..	£1,000	
Hospice Services At Home TLC Ltd.....	£1,000	

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Report from Cllr F Cowper.

“General County Council Comments

- Hampshire County Council, (HCC), is freezing Council Tax for 2015-16 but continues to experience severe budgetary pressure as Government Grants are rapidly withdrawn.
- This has resulted in proposed or actual service reduction in many areas including Libraries, Highways and Public Transport.

Main Highway Projects.

As your County Councillor, I initiated or progressed the following works on your behalf during the year;

- Upper Hammer Lane, Bramshott Chase, school walk to Woolmer Hill School. The new footpath on the open side is approved and funded. The deed of dedication to allow HCC to build the footpath on MoD land is now approved by the MoD after massive delays caused by MoD and there is every prospect that work can commence this summer.
- Liphook Golf Club crossing of Portsmouth Road. Proposals tabled. Awaiting reaction from Golf Club.
- Highways Agency to improve white lining on southbound off ramp at Liphook. Still scheduled for financial year 2014-15.
- Good news from the Highways Agency is that sound reduction measures for the A3 in the vicinity of Liphook, Bramshott and Grayshott are all now agreed and likely to be included in the 2016-17 budget.
- Bramshott Lanes calming. This project is under way. HCC have made a real mess of the new signage. The mistakes have been brought to their attention and will be corrected.
- The Highways team are aware of complaints about Newtown Road potholes and work is scheduled.
- Relief Road for Central Liphook. Thanks to significant funding from EHDC, the County Council are creating 1.5 new jobs to carry out Strategic Highway Planning dedicated just to East Hampshire. Together with proposals from property developers with planning applications submitted, this District Council initiative seems to be the best chance of securing a solution.

The following 2013-14 highway projects have been closed

- Gunns Farm junction with Midhurst Road. Signage improvements complete.
- Green Dragon pub fire, temporary footway. Has been installed.

- Post Completion Review of Resurfacing The Square. Complete.
- Midhurst Road treebelt by Sainsbury's. Agreement has now been reached with Sainsbury's.
- Highways Agency to change signs to Haslemere. HA reused the request.
- Access to 45 Church Road. This was investigated extensively by officers but I'm told that the nature of that area makes a solution impossible.
- Tunbridge Lane flooding. Temporarily alleviated. However long term works are required.
- Raised manhole cover in The Square. Complete.
- New Grit Bin for Manor Fields. Complete.
- Suggested button operated pedestrian crossing by The Anchor to improve traffic circulation. Not progressed because each button operation would block traffic for a long period of time and the cost was considered excessive.

'Buses

There have been 'bus service cuts following the public consultation I mentioned at last year's Annual Meeting. Requested improvements to the 13 cannot be funded and the 250 service frequency has been reduced to 3 days. I'm sorry to say I do not support HCC's position on 'bus cuts.

I have received a useful suggestion to reroute the 250 via Hanover and Radford Courts and that is now with the HCC Passenger Transport team to evaluate.

Grants from My Devolved Grant Fund.

I have made the following grants locally from my County Council devolved grant budget during 2014-15;

- The Peak Centre, £2,000 for new chairs.
- The River Wey Trust, £850 for Radford Aqueduct preservation
- Peer Production, £650 for a play about bullying and self-harm at Bohunt School.

Other Projects

- Measures to alleviate parking problems in Avenue Road by the school. Improved school signage has been implemented. As a short term measure, new parking controls

to improve safety are being implemented. In the medium term, a new pick up/drop off location within school property is being assessed.

- At long last, the Post Office has replaced the stolen Posting Box at Tween Oaks, Liphook Road.
- I'm helping Liphook in Bloom secure a legal right to plant on the band in London Road close by the pedestrian crossing.
- Overall Car Parking Study for Bramshott and Liphook. Options have now been presented by HCC Highways and a funding solution is being explored at present.
- Abuse of Newtown Road "Access Only". This has been investigated three times this year by the Police and by EHDC's Parking Enforcement team. The main problem seems to be the use of the road by through traffic. The Police have made it clear that enforcement is very difficult as proof is required that a vehicle entered the road at one end and left at the other and did not visit a property in the road whilst doing so. The Police have made it clear that they do not have the resources to enforce this restriction. EHDC Civil Parking Enforcement officers will ticket all offending vehicles. Please note that their powers relate to breaches of visible signage and do not extend to "obstruction" which is dealt with by the Police.
- "Canada Way" area parking restrictions. The consultation is complete. There were objections and also letters of support. The volume of objectors was tiny and so the scheme has moved to implementation in 2015-16.

Other Activity.

I was very pleased to be invited to the annual meeting of Liphook in Bloom.

For the first time in my life I crowned a Carnival Queen at the Liphook Carnival event.

My thanks go to the organisers of both events for these honours."

Questions:

Cllr Robinson asked about the recent traffic survey and whether the results would be shared. Cllr Cowper confirmed that if they were shared with HCC then a copy would be passed to the Parish Council.

Cllr Maroney asked whether the results of the car parking review would be made available. It was stated that once the review was conducted it would be subject to a wide consultation exercise.

Cllr Croucher asked whether the A3 was due to be resurfaced soon. Cllr Cowper stated that a stretch was due to be resurfaced in 2016/17 with a surface designed to reduce road noise.

There were comments about traffic issues at Rectory Lane and Bramshott Lane. It was hoped that measures would be implemented to reduce these problems.

Cllr Jordan suggested the use of School Crossing Patrol by the Anchor to reduce traffic congestion during school peak times could be a cost effective solution. This will be considered alongside other traffic congestion options.

Meeting Closed at 8.45 pm.