



Bramshaw Parish Council New Forest Hampshire

**Minutes of the Meeting held on
Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 7:30pm
Bramshaw Village Hall (Community Room)**

Present:-

Councillors:

Martin Vann - Chair (MV), Adam Coutts (AC), Kay Harrison (KH), Sue Bennison (SB), Carl Seabourne (CS), Vaughan Thomas (VT).

28/24 Apologies for Absence: Mark Medley (MM), Gemma Hinchliffe (GH) (Parish Clerk), Joe Reilly – NFDC.

29/24 Declarations of interest: None

30/24 Consideration of approval of the minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 27th February 2024. Approved and signed by MV on 26/03/2024.

31/24 Public Forum

No members of public attended.

32/24 Report from NFDC

There was no councillor to make a report.

33/24 Planning

No planning applications were listed on the Agenda.

34/24 NFDC planning decisions

SB confirmed that the New Forest National Park decision on the planning application for Orchard House concurred with the opinion of the Parish Council

35/24 Finance

In the absence of the RFO financial figures were not formally reviewed.

No expenses were tabled for approval.

36/24 Auditor

The firm Do The Numbers Ltd, Eleanor Greene www.dothenumbers.uk was suggested and approved unanimously.

37/24 Parish Council Annual General Meeting

It was agreed to hold the AGM on the 28th May, ahead of our usual PC meeting. A discussion took place about how to, or whether to, actively promote attendance. It was agreed that a suitable keynote speaker on a topical issue would be most likely to stimulate local interest. It was agreed that Steve Avery, Executive Director of Strategy and Planning, New Forest National Park Authority

should be invited to 2928. In addition, a representative of Forestry England could be invited to explain access charges for Forest residents.

38/24 Access charges for Forest residents

A letter has been prepared and approved by the chair (MM) asking for clarification regarding liability for payment of these charges and how the scale of charging is determined.

Actions: Expedite the sending of this letter. Consider inviting a representative from Forestry England to the AGM to discuss this matter.

39/24 Appointment of Lengthsman

Neighbouring parishes were contacted by GH but only one response has been received, from Wellow, who use the person formerly contracted to Bramshaw as well.

Actions:

GH to recontact neighbouring parish councils

Efforts to be made to re-engage the previous post holder

Individual councillors to make personal contact with other nearby parish councils

40/24 Drainage update

The working party assessed the situation around Wych Green, finding many interrelated problems. These have been outlined in a letter to Mr Tim Lawton, Assistant Director, Highways, Engineering & Transport, Hampshire County Council and copied to the Verderers and to Forestry England. This letter was discussed and Councillors agreed it should also be copied to the National Trust, who may be responsible for some of the land and drainage in question.

Action: Send letter to HCC, cc NFDC & NT (cc Cllrs Edward Heron, Joe Reilly & Derek Tipp for info)

Additionally, AC reported that he had had a meeting with one of the National Trust wardens regarding flooding near Paddock Cottage and that some remedial work had been started but more was required.

41/24 Bramshaw in Living Memory

VT reported on outline costs for conversion to a digital format and subsequent printing. Access to original photographs would enhance the quality of any published images and SB offered to explore some potential sources.

42/24 “Welcome to the New Forest” Leaflet for new residents

A draft of this was discussed and approved by Councillors for distribution, pending a few formatting changes to facilitate folding into a convenient shape. CS volunteered to edit the documents.

43/24 Portrait of HM the King.

MV reported that the Bramshaw Trust have agreed that the Portrait should be hung within the Village Hall.

44/24 Councillors Reports

Garden Waste Collection

Councillor SB reported that a neighbour has had their service removed since the change to bin collections as the larger bin truck cannot negotiate their forest track. No alternative collection was offered. There may be many residents in the same circumstances.

Defibrillator

MV has checked with Jenny Watts who advised that the batteries will need replacing in September and that she will take care of it for us.

45/24 Correspondence, AOB, urgent matters.

Councillor MV reported that a resident had emailed regarding the small number of public litter bins in the parish and asking if additional bins could be placed near Harley Lane and the Bentley garage. A discussion raised the issues of securing access to a suitable site (land ownership), safety (proximity to traffic), and responsibility for emptying.

Action: Write to NFDC as a first step to determine the feasibility.

46/24 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting for **Bramshaw Parish Council** will be held on

Tuesday 23rd April 2024 at 7:30pm in the **Bramshaw Village Hall (Community Room)**.

Meeting was closed by Cllr Vann at 20:50pm.