

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th APRIL 2022

Present: Cllr E James (Chairman), Cllr G Elliott (Vice Chairman), Cllr P Boulton, Cllr J Dumper, Cllr J Mann, Cllr J Hodgson & Cllr Mrs. K McAllister.

In attendance: Heather Bourner-Clerk
HCC Drew
0 Member of public

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies had been received from TVBC Cllr Johnston, Cllr C Hamilton-Parker, Cllr Morrison & Cllr B Keane.

Public Participation

2) There were no members of public present.

Declarations of Interest

3) There were no declarations of interest.

Planning

4) **The following decisions by TVBC were noted:**

22/00193/VARS-Variation to 21/02471/FULLS-The Buildings, -permission

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

22/00581/CLES- application for lawful development cert re-laying of track – comments submitted as track has been turned into a vehicular road

22/00057/FULLS-relocation of vehicle access including dropped kerb-1 Queenwood Rise- no objection

22/00751/FULLS-subdivision of garage and rear extension to form habitable accommodation-Ashfield Rookery Lane-no objection

21/1869/FULLS Hayters, Rookery Lane-The Clerk confirmed TVBC had provided details of a non material amendment to the main application which if agreed will give permission for the additional rooms built. Enforcement will monitor this case.

5) County and Borough Councilors' Report

HCC David Drew had circulated a full report which can be seen at appendix 1

Cllr James highlighted the continuing issues with Rookery Lane where flooding is causing erosion and potholes. HCC Cllr Drew has reported this to highways but will follow this up.

TVBC Cllr Johnston was absent.

Minutes

6) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 1st March were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Elliott, seconded Cllr Mann. All agreed.

Streetlight Queenwood Road

7) Cllr Keane was not present but had reported the matter is still under review.

Defibrillators

8) Cllr Keane was not present but confirmed the cabinet and the machine have been fitted and registered with South Central Ambulance service.

Housing Needs Survey & Neighbourhood Plan

9) The Clerk had circulated a housing needs survey produced by TVB to all councillors although this was on the whole acceptable a couple of amendments were suggested. Alongside this Cllr James, Mann, Morrison & Dumper had all attended a presentation from TVBC regarding Neighbourhood Plans when housing needs were discussed and it was recommended a consultation take place before a formal housing needs survey is circulated. Cllr James will arrange a village meeting some time in June when villagers will be asked to consider housing needs in the parish. TVBC have agreed to assist with the process.

Councillor responsibilities

10) Cllr James had communicated with all Councillors about areas of responsibility. Details of which Councillors will take on which responsibility will be published on the website.

Road Safety Issue

11) A parishioner had contacted Cllr James regarding vehicles ignoring the no entry signs at the pound which was putting pedestrians in danger. Part of the issue was vehicles parking in such a way as to obscure the sign on the right but it was also believed the sign was placed too far back from the edge of the junction.

The Clerk confirmed she had reported this to HCC providing photographs of the problem.

Sports Field Update

12) Cllr Elliot reported that final specifications for the new build tenders had still yet to be finalised. There were growing concerns raised regarding the project. The Parish Council had made it clear to the Sports Field Committee what their expectations were if they were to give £150,000.00 to this project but were not convinced the criteria had been met. In particular an agreed constitution was required along with full insurance cover at the Sports Club and evidence that full funding for the project was available. The Parish Council have already paid some expenses toward the project but were unwilling to make any further payments at present. Furthermore, as any tenders would be issued by the Parish Council, they were unwilling to begin the process if it cannot be clearly demonstrated that the required criteria are met. They strongly feel there needs to be one committed member of the Sports Field Committee driving the project forward and this does not seem to be in place. They warned that the offer of funding had been made some 17 months ago and would not remain in perpetuity. Furthermore, it was warned that TVBC will almost certainly have the means to withdraw any offers of CIL funding if there is a long delay in the project reaching fruition.

The Clerk explained that there had been an incident of vandalism at the Sports Field when several football goal nets had been slashed with what appeared to be a knife. The police have been informed and a member of the football club has approached her and asked if the Parish Council were willing to pay for replacement nets. The football club had confirmed they do not have insurance cover for equipment. Again, concern was raised that a similar incident had occurred to cricket club equipment in the past and while the Parish Council had met the costs of replacement, they had made it clear insurance cover should be in place for the future. It seemed that the Cricket and Football Clubs continued to operate as separate groups and not as a joined up Sports Committee and no comprehensive insurance cover was in place. The quote to replace the nets was for £878.40 but all Councillors present agreed it was not appropriate for the Parish Council to pay for the replacement nets.

Cllrs Elliott and Dumper were asked as Parish Council representatives on the Sports Field Committee to relay this message at the next Sports Field Committee Meeting.

Renovation of vintage road signs

13) Previously the Parish Council had been asked to make a donation toward the cost of renovating the vintage road signs. The quote to complete the work was £3200. A donation of £500 had been agreed by the Parish Council. The parishioner who had highlighted the need for the work and obtained the quote hoped to raise the additional funds required by obtaining grants however grants obtained so far amounted to £1400.00 These along with the Parish Council donation meant there was a shortfall of £1300.00.

After some discussion it was agreed if the Parish Council were to take on the project further quotes would be required. Questions as to who was responsible need to be ascertained, who do the signs belong to, one of them is located on private land the other is a fair distance from the highway, could these be removed and renovated by the PC, could they be relocated and was it essential that an approved HCC contractor be used. The Clerk agreed to contact HCC highways to establish facts and obtain further quotes. Once details are known the parish will be consulted to establish if the whole village want to see this work carried out.

School Lane Completion work

14) Cllr Boulton had circulated a report confirming another change in solicitor had seen further delays arise. He has expressed his disappointment and asked for prompt action to take place now.

Of particular concern is the grass cutting requirements of School Green. To avoid delays that have been seen in previous years it was suggested the Clerk write to Lindens and let them know the Parish Council intends to have the grass cut and will send them the invoice for the costs unless they can guarantee their contractor will do the work by end of April.

Finally, despite the continuing delays Cllr Boulton suggested now was the time to gather quotes for the installation of a MUGA. He will ask TVBC to assist. All agreed.

Clerks Report

15) The Clerk reported as follows: -

The Clerk confirmed all but one tenants allotment rents have now been paid. Cllr Mann will take on this responsibility. The Clerk will send him all necessary details

The Clerk confirmed an increase of £6 per month for cemetery rates, an increase to street light maintenance of 83p per unit along with increases in electricity costs of 22p per kWh. Cemetery maintenance hourly rates have also increased by £3 per hour.

Cllr James said he did not understand why the Parish Council paid rates on the cemetery, effectively the Parish Council were paying money to the Borough Council from funds they provided! The Clerk said she will speak to TVBC rates department to gain an understanding.

The Clerk confirmed she has requested training places for Cllr Morrison and McAlister and waits a reply.

Footpaths.

16) Cllr Elliott confirmed the Hollow has been cleared as has footpath 20. Fallen trees have been cleared by a land owner. Some concerns have been raised regarding the Clarendon Way where the path is becoming restricted by growth, Cllr Elliott agreed to review the matter.

17) Queens Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr James confirmed a committee has been formed and plans for the celebrations are progressing. Details have been shared with villagers via the Broughton email group. He confirmed a lasting gift for young people is planned.

Finance

18) Balances in the bank accounts were noted as: -

31/03/2022: -

TSB Charity account £149262.28

TSB Business Instant £71933.87

United Trust £30,000

Payments Resolved: that the following payments be approved, online transactions approved or cheques signed:

H Bournier sal	£469.74
H Bournier exp	£18.00
HMRC	£117.43
TVBC dog bins	£739.55
Awbridge PC speed sign	£360.27
Carol Davenport	£70.00

Retrospective

George Galea	£75.00
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Accounts to 31-03-2022

Accounts to 31-03/22 had been circulated. The Clerk confirmed the internal audit had been booked for 16th May. Broughton Parish Council have been selected by PKF Littlejohn auditors for a 5% assurance review.

The accounts were discussed, with all questions being satisfactorily answered. Cllr James proposed these were agreed which was seconded by Cllr Elliott. All agreed.

Items to carry forward

18)

- Moving recycling bins from Village Hall
- New equipment at skate park

19) Correspondence

The Clerk referred to correspondence received: -

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

Leaflets regarding sales of gym equipment and speed awareness cameras.

Mid Test Matters which had been circulated by email

Details of a Jubilee card making competition circulated by email

New items for next meeting

20)

Any Other Business

21) Cllr Elliott said he had received assurances that footpath 16 will be properly marked across the field which this path crosses.

He also said a new post for speed camera has been erected. The Clerk will ask the operator to use this pole from now on.

Finally, Cllr James said he had recently been confronted by residents about the state of Rookery Lane. One of whom had been particularly arduous. They said they will be escalating complaints to the Parish Council. Cllr James explained again that as the Parish Council has no jurisdiction over highways these would be referred to Hampshire County Council.

Date of next meeting

22) 7.30 pm on Tuesday May 3rd 2022

Annual Parish Meeting- 31May 2022

Append 1

Report from HCC David Drew

Hampshire County Council statement on publication of gender pay gap information

The Government requires public organisations with more than 250 employees to publish their gender pay gap figures annually.

The gender pay gap is a measure of the difference between men and women's average earnings across an organisation, or the labour market. For the year ending March 2021, on average (known as the mean figure), there is a 16% pay difference between men and women working at the County Council.

The majority of the workforce is female, and this is most pronounced at the lower pay grades. In particular, the County Council is quite unusual as a local authority, as it has kept a number of services in its direct control, such as school meals, because the County Council feels it is important to do so. Other agencies 'outsource' these services, which tend to employ mostly women, and that affects the gender pay gap reports. If these services were excluded from the data, the County Council would have a gender pay gap of 10.4%.

At the same time, more women are progressing to higher grade jobs across the County Council - with women continuing to make up 57% of senior managers within the organisation.

[See the County Council's annual Gender Pay Gap report](https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/30032022genderpaygap)

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/30032022genderpaygap>

Young people highlight their key priorities in annual 'Make Your Mark' consultation

Young people across Hampshire voted environmental issues as their top concern in this year's 'Make Your Mark' consultation. Hampshire ranked second in the UK for participation in the consultation, with 17,385 votes cast in total. Make Your Mark is the largest youth consultation of its kind in the UK and gives all young people aged 11-18 a chance to have their say on the biggest issues facing them. This year's consultation, which ran from 1 - 28 February, was supported across the county by 36 schools, colleges and youth groups, and nationally by the British Youth Council, UK Parliament and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

Young people in Hampshire were able to vote on a number of topics through the Hampshire Youth Parliament network and, for the second year running, placed 'Environment' at the top of their priorities with 4,260 votes. Jobs, money, homes and opportunities came in second place with 3,532 votes and health and wellbeing followed closely behind with 3,457 votes. This aligns to the national picture, which saw health and wellbeing and jobs, money, homes and opportunities voted in first and second place respectively.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/24032022makeyourmark>

COVID-19: CHANGES TO TESTING

Hampshire County Council is reminding residents that free COVID-19 testing is coming to an end next week – this includes PCR tests for those with symptoms and LFDs for those without.

Key dates and changes: Wednesday 30 March: Testing sites for people with symptoms will close and Mobile Testing Units will cease operating. Thursday 31 March: Targeted Community Testing for those without symptoms will cease.

From 1 April: The Government will no longer provide free universal symptomatic and asymptomatic testing for the general public in England. Anyone wishing to get tested will be able to purchase an LFD test from pharmacies.

Limited free symptomatic testing will continue for a small number of at-risk groups and will also remain available to social care staff. Guidance on testing arrangements for visitors to care homes is provided on the gov.uk webpages. The advice is to discuss visiting arrangements with care settings in advance.

For more about the latest COVID-19 changes and what to expect after 1 April see here: www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus/covid-changes-faqs

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/23032022covidchangestesting>

Standing shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine

As conflict in Ukraine continues into another week, Hampshire County Council has expressed solidarity with the nation's people – and stated its preparedness to support the UK Government if called on to help the unfolding humanitarian crisis.

Hampshire County Council, in common with the rest of the country, is watching the concerning situation in Ukraine and stands in solidarity with the Ukrainian people and communities affected by this conflict. Should Government seek our support, we will assist as needed - building on our experience of supporting refugees and evacuees from previous conflicts.

Details of any mechanism for registering interest in supporting individual families – and we will highlight these on our dedicated webpages:

www.hants.gov.uk/ukraine. These webpages are being updated on a regular basis to ensure we keep the public well informed about the steps we are taking with our partners across Hampshire to support those seeking refuge, and how they can help.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/28022022Ukraine>

Majority of Hampshire pupils offered preferred choice of secondary school

More than 98 per cent of parents in Hampshire have been offered a place for their child, at one of their three preferred choices for a secondary school in September 2022

Of those who applied for a Year 7 place (for September 2022) by the application deadline, more than 92 per cent have been offered a place at their first choice school. The County Council received 14,982 on-time applications this year – an increase of 499 applications compared to the number received for places in September 2021 (14,483).

Pupils who did not secure a place at one of their chosen schools have been allocated a place at their catchment school or the next nearest available school. Parents have the right to appeal in these situations and their child's name will be added to the waiting list for their preferred schools. Places do become available owing to parents changing their mind, or families moving home.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/01032022secondarieschoolplaces>

Hampshire County Council Trading Standards welcomes successful prosecution of illicit streaming operation

Following a detailed investigation led by the County Council's Trading Standards officers working in collaboration with FACT (which investigates intellectual property crime) and National Trading Standards, four individuals were sentenced on Friday 18 March 2022, at Southampton Crown Court, after being convicted on charges in connection with the illegal streaming of copyright protected material, such as Sky Sports and BT Sports, and laundering the proceeds of this illegal activity.

This successful prosecution in collaboration with FACT has helped to ensure that legitimate providers of digital content are supported, and crucially, that consumers are protected from downloading unregulated content. Illegal distribution of content presents significant risks – including children being easily exposed to explicit or age-inappropriate content, as well as people being exposed to malicious software and their data being misused. Other dangers might include electrical safety if adapted streaming devices don't meet important required standards.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/21032022tradingstandardsprosecution>

Cllr [David Drew](#)

[Test Valley Central Division, HCC](#)