

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2021 via ZOOM**

Present: Mr. P. Wales Chairman
Mr. A. Bartlett Mrs. R. Bowles
Mr. M. Croker Mr. M. Harris
Mr. R. Horne Mr. J. Korbey
Mrs. P. Mueller Mr. K. Whittle
Mr. J. Wingham Mr. R. Wolstenholme

HC Cllr. K. Mans

Mrs. M. Pattison Parish Clerk
Mrs. M. Beckett Communications Officer

Lymington Times

and two members of the public.

Public Presentments

An update on the village sign was requested, and this will come up later in the meeting.

21/19 Apologies for absence: None.

21/20 Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation: Mr. A. Bartlett declared an interest in the payment of invoices as a recipient. The Chairman and Mr. R. Horne both declared an interest as they are helping residents with the FTTP broadband community support scheme grant in the north-west quadrant of the village, where they both live.

21/21 Minutes of the Meeting held 19th January 2021. These were proposed, seconded and signed as a correct record.

21/22 Matters Arising:

Care Cars had been offered some funding towards mileage costs for transport to vaccinations, but they did not need it at present.

21/23 County Councillor's Report

C. Cllr. Mans reported that Covid infection and hospital admission rates are declining in Hampshire. The vaccinations are going well and it is important to focus on reviving the economy as soon as we are able to. It is anticipated that schools will re-open on 8th March.

Council Tax will be increased by 5%, 2% for the County Council and 3% for elderly care and Special Educational Needs.

21/24 District Councillor's Report

D. Cllr. Harris noted that all the NFDC staff are working very hard, mostly from home.

The Freeport bid is being compiled in conjunction with the Solent LEP. Even if the bid is not successful, useful experience will have been gained.

Further government funding has been received to support businesses that fell between the cracks in other schemes, but it has to last until 31st March 2022.

NFDC's finances have taken a hit although not as badly as they might have. An application has been made for funds for the repair of the Milford seawall.

News of future developments at the leisure centres will shortly be released.

21/25 Highways Consultation on Brookley Road

The Chairman reported that although Highways do not recognise that there are defects in Brookley Road, we would like improvements to the road and pavements in order to make the village more attractive for the traders and their customers. It is hoped that rejuvenation schemes will be available in the future.

The suggestion was made that we should carry out our own survey to see what people want from the village centre, perhaps by indicating three things they like, dislike and would like to have. The village centre strategy group will hold a meeting in March or sooner. It was also noted that improvements to pavements ties in with the purposes of the LCWIP.

21/26 Reports and response to Consultations to include ratification of recommendations

Mr. Korbey gave a report of the January Planning committee, at which six members of the public were present. The parking of buses at the College is a continuing issue. The guidance regarding public speaking at Planning meetings has now been put on the website. It was noted that there are double the number of applications for February's meeting.

The Chairman reported that the Amenities and Infrastructure committee discussed the different views relating to the churchyard/cemetery. A briefing meeting is to be held with the PCC, followed by a working party to continue discussions and seek legal advice if necessary.

The village sign needs to be reviewed in terms of the design and whether it has a frame etc. Once agreed, a review can be carried out by a structural engineer to confirm its safety prior to installation.

The "Happy to Chat" designated benches were unanimously agreed as one in front of the Terrace café and one by the Catholic Church. Stickers/signs will be produced.

The sum of £100 was agreed for additional locks to increase security on the container.

A very positive meeting has been held with the Brockenhurst Park land manager regarding the permissive path parallel to Mill Lane.

Once the new display screen has been installed in the PC office, it will have information relating to youth provision on it.

It was noted that the resurfacing work on the village car park will begin on March 1st.

Mrs. Bowles reported on the recent Greener Brockenhurst Group meeting. The group has now signed its constitution and is in the process of opening a bank account. Although it has become independent of the PC Climate Action Group, the two committees will work together.

The Chairman reported that the strategy meeting with Highways was unsuccessful as the budget and programme for the next financial year is still to be agreed. Their view on the yellow lines on Rhinefield Road and parking bay restrictions on The Rise is that both were a part of the pop-up scheme but once the scheme was removed there is no longer a justification for them. Other village parking restrictions remain a low priority. The road surface of Grigg Lane will be inspected.

Discussions on the Waters Green gully continue as permission has not been forthcoming from NE and the NPA.

Regarding ditch clearance, particularly on Rhinefield Road, Highways' view is that the FE should be clearing them as the riparian landowner. It was noted that the PC had written to FE last year concerning the responsibility for ditch clearance and we should write again.

Councillors felt strongly that the yellow lines between The Rise and Brookley Road should be established and will lobby Cllr. Keith Mans to assist. The Chairman noted that he has received complaints about the appearance of the cones.

The pavement improvements on the A337 last year were felt to have been unnecessary. There had been only two weeks' notice of these major works and this will also be pointed out in our letter to Cllr. Mans. **Action: Clerk.**

21/27 Directory Refund - Charity donation - £110

One of companies due a refund for advertising in the Directory has requested that it is used for a charitable donation instead. The Pre-School was agreed as the recipient. A different company requested that their refund be donated to the Primary School.

21/28 Emergency Action Transport Fund consultation - Brookley Road

The HCC consultation on the cycle racks and parklets will run from 22nd February to 21st March. It was noted that we can't influence the way the survey is publicised.

21/29 Correspondence

Southern Water are carrying out a Water for Life consultation relating to future water supplies, including a de-salination plant at Fawley. Councillors who wish to will respond individually.

HCC are proposing to increase the fee for Residents' Parking Permits to £50.

Longdown Management are enquiring whether the PC would be interested in purchasing the triangle of land at the bottom of Church Lane. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

21/30 Accounts for payment. Proposed, seconded and agreed.

- i) Viking - Stationery - £58.78
- ii) Streets Ironmongers - supplies - £23.40
- iii) Mint Gardens Ltd. - Lengthsman - E. Boldre - £318
Brockenhurst - £501.60
- iv) BT phone bill - £64.46
- v) Fair Account - Nalder Trust accounts independent examination - £65.

21/31 Items to note - to include items raised by members of the public

Unless there is a change to legislation, face-to-face meetings will resume from 7th May.

New Forest Drive area residents are applying for a community support scheme grant for FTTP broadband.

A complaint has been received relating to the poor condition of the telephone box near the old Lloyds Bank. Alan Bartlett agreed to clean it.

Mrs. Mueller reported that no LCWIP meeting has taken place yet. Our working party will be formed after the workshop to be held in March.

21/32 Date of Next Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm. Date of next meeting: 16th March 2021 - 7.00 pm.