

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 18th JANUARY 2022 AT BROCKENHURST VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Cllr P Wales	Chairman
Cllr M Harris	Vice Chairman
Cllr A Bartlett	Cllr R Bowles
Cllr M Croker	Cllr J Wingham
Cllr J Korbey	Cllr P Mueller
Cllr K Whittle	

Mrs H Lawrence Parish Clerk
Mrs T Pritchard RFO & Assistant Clerk
C Cllr Mans
One member of the public

Public Presentments None

22/01 Apologies for absence: Cllr R Horne, D Cllr M Holding

22/02 Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation:

Cllr Bartlett declared an interest in accounts for payment.
Cllr Wingham declared an interest in the History Boards for the Platinum Jubilee.

22/03 Minutes of the Meeting held Monday 13th December 2021

They were both proposed, seconded and signed as a correct record.

22/04 Matters Arising:

Update on Village Sign

Cllr Wingham advised that we are waiting for the engineering design for this to be considered at the A&I meeting on the 1st February.

The Rise

It was confirmed that the parking restriction signage has been covered with plastic bags by NSL. No restrictions apply.

Police & Crime Commissioner questions

No reply has been received from Donna Jones Police & Crime Commissioner to our questions sent in November 2021. It was agreed that this should be chased

ACTION: Clerk to contact Donna Jones office

22/05 County Councillor's Report

C Cllrs Mans reported that there is a budget meeting next month with a predicted 3% rise including 1% for social care.

C Cllr Mans advised he still has a small amount of money in his budget for this year which could be applied for and put towards any Jubilee events. This would be used up by the end of February but the 2022/2023 budget can be brought forward.

There is encouragement for tree planting for the Jubilee, not just for single trees but for groups of trees where someone will look after them.

HCC are trying to shorten the time that the A35 is closed for the Holmsley Bridge replacement. Highways are also aware of the impact this will have on the surrounding roads and that there will be a need for additional repairs to be carried out.

It is hoped that in future that traffic events can be co-ordinated better and help to keep alternative routes clear and the HCC website can advise the correct diversion information. It was noted that some road signage is not correctly placed, including the Grigg Lane overnight closure signage displayed at the wrong time of day.

22/06 District Councillor's Report

Cllr Harris advised council tax rates are being decided but the proposed is £5 per tax payer. Kate Ryan, the new Chief Executive is now in post. Decisions are being finalised on arrangements for the last Covid Funding grant. Garden collection services will restart soon.

22/07 Active Travel Scheme update

S171 licence application form has been submitted to HCC. Further proposed plans are due to be discussed at the A&I meeting on the 1st February to which all Councillors were invited.

22/08 Martin's Corner Footbridge

Forestry England have confirmed that the £300 licence fee is a standard charge to cover site visits, preparing documents and ongoing monitoring of the licence.

We are waiting for a further update from HCC Bridge Department concerning the replacement rails.

22/09 Reports and response to Consultations - to include ratification of recommendations

i) College Liaison meeting held 30th November 2021

Cllr Wales gave a short update on the meeting. It was noted that the college continue to be keen to be involved in the community and would like to be part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. The college are happy to electronically circulate the recent village survey to students. The college were asked to check with Hampshire Highways and existing students whether the new path across Waters Green is satisfactory for wheelchair use.

ii) Lymington Brockenhurst Community Rail Steering board held 2nd December 2021

Cllr Wingham confirmed that traffic numbers are 40% of pre pandemic. FoB have a basic plan to improve the appearance of the car park

iii) Planning committee meeting held 13th December 2021

Cllr Korbey gave an update on the last planning meeting. The former Redmayne site was debated at the NPA committee meeting where our objections were noted. After a very long debate the planning application was passed by a slim majority but with many conditions attached.

iv) Events Committee held 6th January 2022

Cllr Harris advised that the Pancake Races will take place on Tuesday 1st March 2022. A Platinum Jubilee event will take place on Saturday 4th June 2022 potentially including Brookley Road, football club and village hall. Arrangements are being made for entertainment. Seven trees will be planted at various locations and history boards displaying the seven decades of Brockenhurst history.

It was felt that the history boards should be paid for by the Parish Council as they can be used in the future and displayed at the PC office. A figure of up to £600.00 was agreed based on an initial quote.

Proposed, seconded and agreed by all except for John Wingham.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should fund the purchase of a mug for each child in Brockenhurst. Brockenhurst Parish Council to be printed on the mugs. Numbers to be sought from the pre-school and primary school. The numbers of other children in the village to be ascertained. Additional mugs to be made available to be pre-ordered or sold. Monetary amount to be confirmed but this was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed.

v) SW Quadrant meeting held 11th January 2022

The online meeting was attended by Cllrs Horne, Wales and Wingham.

There were presentations from Helen Wallbridge NPA concerning the Local listings project. This aims to list buildings for their character, including archaeological sites and landscape features. They will not have a formal status.

Olivia McGregor concerning Net Zero with Nature and Forestry England gave an update.

Steve Avery gave an update on the NPA Design Guide. The Article 4 Direction on new planning rules for pop-up campsites is progressing.

Marquees and outdoor markets no longer require planning permission in places like pubs, cafes and historical visitor attractions.

vi) Nalder Trust – update on Almshouse Feasibility working party

Cllr Croker advised that the findings of the working party are ongoing.

22/10 Correspondence

Network Rail - North Road Footbridge

The sudden closure of this bridge and lack of contact from Network Rail is a concern.

This bridge is an important link within the village. Network Rail have confirmed the closure is due to the upside trestle supporting the staircase subsiding making it unsafe for public use. It was noted that there has been some recent damage to the wire fence.

The Parish Council should have some input in the survey results and any future plans

with a view to including a ramp given the number of prams being used to go to the preschool and make it disability friendly. Network Rail should be asked what plans are in place when the nearby level crossing is being frequently closed for engineering works.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Network Rail for update

22/11 To co-opt a new councillor – procedure

The process to co-opt the next councillor will be dealt with as per the co-option policy. Agreed that the vacancy should now be advertised with candidates encouraged to attend interviews and the policy to be reviewed before the next 2023 elections.

ACTION: Clerk to organise advert for co-option

22/12 HALC Speed Limit Motion

It was explained that at the 2021 Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) AGM a proposal was put forward that HALC requests that HCC adopts 20mph as a default speed for residential streets in towns, villages and rural settlements in Hampshire. HALC also calls for HCC to implement the new limit in such away as to make it enforceable to ask Hampshire Police to support all efforts.

The counter motion made was to propose an amendment that instead of a blanket 20mph speed limit which would be as difficult to enforce as the current 30mph, give councils the power to implement selective 20mph areas, such as at schools and congestion areas.

Whilst Greener Brockenhurst had urged the Parish Council to support the initial motion, Councillors all agreed that the counter motion was the best proposal. This information would be taken to the next New Forest Association of Local Councils meeting where this is due to be discussed.

ACTION: Cllr Korbey to take recommendation to NFALC meeting

22/13 Response to the Government Burial proposal

Cllr Wales explained that there has been a Government Burial consultation which we were only advised about via the National Association of Local Councils. The two main changes proposed are to increase the minimum grave size to 5m² (5 metres squared) and retain a 1 metre minimum clearance between the base of a grave and the water table in a cemetery. It was agreed that we are opposed to these proposals as this would reduce the available space in the cemetery. The level of the water table at the cemetery would also mean the cemetery could not be used in some areas.

22/14 Debrief on Christmas Trees and lights

Cllr Horne's report was read out. Thanks were noted for Mr Cooper of Strawberry Field for the donation of the Christmas tree on the Terrace. Thanks to Westbeams for helping with the trimming and installing of the large tree. Three residents and a councillor helped with the preparation of the small trees which was much appreciated.

Cllrs wished to express their thanks to Cllr Horne for all his hard work in looking after the lights throughout the year and the wonderful display this year.

22/15 Accounts for payment. Proposed, seconded and agreed.

Mr R Rideout - reimbursements Nov, Dec, Jan - £58.89

Positano Ltd - WM mowing - Sept, Oct, Nov - £654
Wessex Window Cleaners - Nov, Dec - £30
Paul Reynolds - internal audit Apr-Oct 21 - £520
PCC - Lukes hours for churchyard Oct 21 to Mar 22 - £3,000
Brockenhurst Village Hall - room hire - £163.50
Ross Boyle Electrical - £4,800 (erection Xmas lights - £2,400, dismantle Xmas lights £2,400)
Lampwise - Christmas light bulbs - £70
SLCC - Planning training and membership Tiffany - £134
Streets - supplies - £34.00
Gates - petrol - £15.08
Viking - office chair and stationery - £106.03
Autela - payroll processing fee Oct-Dec 21 - £73.92
Vitaplay - playground service Dec 21 - £117.60
P&D Hannon - insurance, water, electric (office) - £426.81
BT - £51.30 December, £51.30 January
Mint Gardens Ltd - Lengthsman - Brock - £504, Sway £384
2 x short stay parking clocks - £60 – for office use, agreed by all.
HMRC - PAYE & NIC Oct-Dec 21 - £1,994.53
Brockenhurst College – 1st Aid Course Ray Ridout - £65
SPG Mowers – repairs - £205.93

22/16 Confirmation of Precept Requirement for 2022/23

The Precept requirement for 2022/23 was confirmed at £42.49 per Band D dwelling, which results in no increase per dwelling but gives a small increase in funding due to the higher taxbase.

22/17 Councillor training

Cllr Wales reminded councillors that training is available should anyone like to attend a course. HALC run a variety of course many of which are now run online. There are also various other publications which can provide guidance.

ACTION: Clerk to contact HALC to obtain copies of The New Councillor Guide

ACTION: Clerk to circulate latest HALC training course list

22/18 Items to note - to include items raised by members of the public

Councillors congratulated Tiffany on successfully passing her FiLCA course.

Cllr Bowles advised of a history expert and their writing and the importance of local history to the community.

Cllr Bowles expressed her disappointment that the Village Centre Strategy Group was unable to proceed with the engagement of consultants so that others in the village were taking the initiative. Cllrs agreed to revisit the brief.

Clerk to provide the log in details for the NALC website and apply to NFDC for individual log in for GIS mapping system.

ACTION: Clerk to send log in details to all councillors

22/19 Date of Next Meeting: 15th February 2022 at Brockenhurst Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.45pm