

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2023 AT BROCKENHURST VILLAGE HALL**

Present:

Cllr R Bowles	Vice - Chair
Cllr P Wales	Cllr P Mueller
Cllr A Bartlett	Cllr R Horne
Cllr K Whittle	Cllr J Korbey
Cllr P Pearse	Cllr J Wingham
Cllr M Croker	

Mrs H Lawrence Parish Clerk
Carolyn Griffith Advertiser & Times
Three members of the public

Public Presentments:

A member of Friend of Brockenhurst raised concerns regarding the future plans for the local campsites. It was noted that a reference to the campsites has been made in the November 2022 Verderers minutes.

23/01 Apologies for absence: Cllr M Harris

23/02 Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation:

Cllr Bartlett & Cllr Horne declared an interest in accounts for payment 23/15.

23/03 Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday 15th November 2022

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

23/04 County Councillor's Report:

C Cllr Mans reported that there has been a recent change with the Environment, Economic Development and Highways department now called Universal Services. With the current weather conditions there has been a significant increase in potholes. Temporary repairs to the potholes are being made at the moment to stop the holes from getting bigger with more permanent repairs to be made at a later date.

C Cllr Mans advised that he has a small amount of money left in his devolved budget any local organisation wish to apply.

Cllr Whittle raised concerns regarding insecure fencing under Holmsley Bridge which could lead to livestock getting onto the road. C Cllr Mans will investigate.

23/05 District Councillor's Report: In the absence of a District Councillor there was no report

23/06 Report on Brockenhurst Flooding

Peter Hebard, a member of the Flood Action Group gave a report on the recent flooding issues around Brockenhurst and the work that Brockenhurst Flood Action Group have been doing.

Peter explained that at the time the railways were built an extensive drainage system was installed which has ample capacity, but it needs maintenance to restore it to its original capability. Once restored the need for maintenance is radically reduced.

There are currently sixteen observers and twenty-three projects/problems around the village.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would contact the Environment Agency for a brief on the Weirs Natural Flood Management Project

Peter was thanked for the many hours that he and the Flood Action Group have recently spent and the work that they continue to do to solve the ongoing problems.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Environment Agency

23/07 Reports and response to Consultations - to include ratification of recommendations

- i) Planning committee meetings held on 22nd November 2022 and 20th December 2022

Cllr Korbey gave a short report on both meeting.

- ii) Events Committee meeting held on 22nd November 2022 and feedback on the Christmas Fun Evening

Cllr Pearse gave a short report on the recent committee meeting.

It was agreed that the Christmas Fun Evening was a great success and there has been many positive comments from residents. There was a good turnout which was helped by the dry weather.

- iii) New Forest Community Rail Partnership held 8th December 2022

Cllr Wingham reported that Brockenhurst Station Adopters are short of volunteers but have a stall at the Volunteers Fair at Brockenhurst Village Hall on the 29th January.

SW Railway are sponsoring Music Therapy sessions at the Village Hall. After a request by Brockenhurst Station Adopters a late train from Poole & Bournemouth has been added to the timetable. It will arrive at Brockenhurst around 11.45pm.

- iv) Passenger Transport Forum held online 6th January 2023

Cllr Wingham reported that he was able to attend part of the online meeting. Bus service budget are being cut resulting in some reductions in services but they are not affecting Brockenhurst.

23/08 Update on the Active Travel Scheme to consider future decisions

Cllr Wales gave an update on a recent site visit with HCC. The structure of the work to be carried out in Brookley Road is already agreed. Decisions regarding the street furniture to be made once the work has been completed, when the space can be reviewed for the permanent location of benches, bins and bike racks. The existing cycle racks will be temporarily sited until new racks are available. Wooden bollards will be installed when the structural work is carried out. Timescales are still to be confirmed but HCC will if necessary work around Easter and Bank Holidays.

23/09 Arrangements for the 2023 Brockenhurst Citizens Awards

The clerk is in contact with the Village Hall for details of how the awards have been run in previous years. Cllrs Pearse, Mueller and Wales will then co-ordinate this year's awards.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Village Hall

23/10 Update on the Parish Council communications plan including approval of newsletter and online sign up Approval of printing costs for newsletters

Councillors were happy with the second draft of the newsletter. Final copy for any articles to be sent to Cllr Pearse. Mailchimp is set up and the clerk advised that the £10 monthly cost is variable due to the exchange rate with the US dollar. A quote for 500 copies of the newsletter at £48.70 was unanimously approved. Arrangements will be made for the printed newsletter to be available in various locations in the village at the end of January/beginning of February.

ACTION: Clerk to make arrangements for printing and locations for newsletter

23/11 Debrief on Christmas Light and trees

It was unanimously agreed that the lights and trees looked great and it was good to see the addition of decorations on Spencers building. Thanks were given to Cllr Horne for all the work he does each year. Thanks, were also given to Martin Wilson and David Podmore for their help, to Westbeams for their help with the main tree and to Mr Cooper for donating the main tree.

23/12 Coronation Event 2023 and to approve the budget

The events committee are currently considering options for a village event to celebrate the Kings Coronation. A budget of £2000 was proposed and was agreed by nine councillors with one abstention.

23/13 Arrangements for 2023 Annual Parish Meeting

It was noted that the Practice Manager at the doctors surgery had offered to speak at this year's meeting. It was agreed that a list of the previous invited speakers/organisations for the last couple of years should be circulated and for councillors to consider who to invite this year and should there be a theme.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate

23/14 Correspondence

Rural Village Services Group – Membership

They have approached the Parish Council again with the offer of twelve months free membership. Details to be circulated to councillors with the view that if there is no commitment to join after the twelve months that the offer should be accepted.

23/15 Accounts for payment. Proposed, seconded and agreed.

J Humphry Associates Ltd	Payroll services December	£ 36.00
Surrey Hills Solicitors	Fees re Sparks Green	£ 660.00
Streets	Gas heater	£ 192.50
Gates	Fuel	£ 8.84
Vita Play	Repairs to play area	£1258.43
Viking Office	Shredder and phone	£ 154.78
Wessex Windows	Office window cleaning	£ 12.00
R Rideout	Reimburse expenses	£ 23.00
Corbins Florist	Harding fund	£ 17.50
Ross Boyle Electrical	Take down Christmas Lights	£2400.00
R Horne	Reimbursement – Christmas lights	£ 248.94
Peter Hebard	Reimbursement – Flood conference	£ 387.28
Village Hall	Hall hire – January 23	£ 101.00
Bronze Design	Signage	£ 216.00
Mint Garden Services	Lengthsman (Brock)	£ 168.00

Payments made since November were noted with no queries.

23/16 Precept requirement 2023/24

It was confirmed that the exact amount of precept for 2023/24 is £80,995.00.

23/17 To appoint a second Village Trust director: No nominations

23/18 Update on Village Sign: Amended documents are with the planning officer.

23/19 Clerks & RFO Report

Internal audit to take place from W/C 20th February

It is noted that our nearest HSBC branch in New Milton will be closing in June and the Christchurch branch closing in July. After that the nearest branches will be Bournemouth or Southampton.

Anzac Service will be led by RBL and will take place on Sunday 23rd April 2023.

23/20 Items to note – to include items raised by members of the public

Camp sites – it was agreed that the Parish Council will make further enquiries.

Bolderford Bridge – it was noted that Forestry England currently does not have a Civil Engineer to progress the bridge repairs. Further updates to be requested and this could be requested as an agenda item for the next consultative panel meeting.

Speedwatch – One member of the public, who approached the Parish Council at last year's annual parish meeting, has made significant progress in trying to set up and administer a Brockenhurst Speedwatch group. It was questioned what the Parish Council could do to support the group. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

23/21 Date of Next Meeting: 21st February 2023 Brockenhurst Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.53pm

Signed:

Date: 21st February 2023