

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL
PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD
ON TUESDAY 4th JULY 2023 AT BROCKENHURST VILLAGE HALL**

Present:	Cllr P Wales	Chairman
	Cllr M Harris	Cllr R Horne
	Cllr R Bowles	(from 19.06)
	Mrs T Pritchard	RFO & Assistant Clerk

23/14 Election of Chairman:

Cllr Wales was unanimously re-elected as Chairman.

23/15 Apologies for Absence:

Cllr R Wolstenholme, Cllr J Korbey

23/16 Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation:

None

23/17 Minutes of Meeting held 7th March 2023:

The minutes were proposed, seconded and signed as a correct record.

23/18 Financial Comparison and Bank Balances:

- a. **Financial Comparison**
Noted
- b. **Bank Balances**
Noted
- c. **Bank Transfers**
Noted

23/19 Grant Policy:

Further to the previous meeting, the query had been investigated and resolved and the amended draft grant policy was approved for recommendation.

23/20 Grant Application:

- a. **Victim Support**
A grant of £100 is to be recommended.

23/21 Investment Strategy:

The investment strategy has been updated to reflect the changes in interest rates and bank ratings. It was noted that all of the ratings of the banks in which monies are held have improved.

A discussion was held regarding the relatively low interest rate on the Cambridge Building Society account and the limited alternatives for council specific accounts. It was agreed that enquiries of other accounts used by councils would be made via clerks' forums.

23/22 Christmas Lights Forward Planning:

Cllr Horne reported that the spares and parts to replace or maintain the Christmas lights are in place. The icicle lights should be replaced not repaired when becoming faulty. He recommended that due consideration is given to safety and costs aspects before contemplating a new set-up.

It was agreed to recommend requesting a quote for erection and dismantling of Christmas lights from Ross Boyle again this year, as soon as possible to secure a booking if the quote is acceptable.

Cllr Horne was thanked for the huge amount of work he undertakes in connection with the Christmas lights.

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

23/23 Local Government Pension Scheme:

It had been previously agreed to offer all existing employees the option of joining the Hampshire group pension scheme. It is to be recommended that all future employees are offered the same option to join the Hampshire group pension scheme.

23/24 Recruitment:

It was agreed to recommend the position of Assistant Clerk is advertised as a minimum of 16 hours per week, at a rate of £12.06 in accordance with the National Association of Local Councils pay scales.

A general discussion took place regarding all of the employee roles within the Parish Council.

23/25 Any Other Items:

Friends of Brockenhurst have investigated the need for maintenance of the bridleway between Church Lane and Royden Woods. Sources of funding are to be clarified although the Parish Council has a limited amount of funding available for footpaths in their budget for 2023/24.

Agreed that the Clerk should check on Councillors hardware and software requirements, if any.

23/26 Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7pm unless required sooner.

The meeting closed at 8pm.