

Upper Beeding Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held virtually using Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 20th October 2020 at 7pm

Present: Councillors: S. Birnstingl (Chairman), I. Allen, A. Chilver, S. Garrod, B. Harber, F. Heaver, I. Ivatt, T Kardos, I. Newton, S. Teatum, C. Verney, C. Warren, D. Wood

Also, present: Clerk: Celia Price, Cemetery Clerk: Colette Harber, County Councillor: David Barling, District Councillors: Mike Croker and Roger Noel, Neighbourhood Warden: Paul Conroy

Members of the public: None

C:1020:01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Cook and Cllr Shaw.

C:1020:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interests

The Chairman reminded councillors that previous declarations still stand (as defined under the Localism Act 2011).

C:1020:03 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on [22nd September 2020](#) were approved as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Chilver, seconded Cllr Ivatt agreed by all. The Chairman will sign the minutes as soon as is practical.

C:1020:04 Public Adjournment

None present.

C:1020:05 Neighbourhood Warden Report

The Neighbourhood Warden Report for [September](#) was circulated prior to the meeting. Paul Conroy gave an overview of the report and invited questions and comments. Discussions included an update concerning incidents of drinking, litter and fly tipping at the layby in Edburton Road. Patrols have increased in this area.

There have been no reported issues at the skatepark in Small Dole, any problems tend to be seasonal. Paul also confirmed there have been no other reported problems in Small Dole.

The Nisa store have reported increasing incidents of theft, especially at the weekend. The Wardens will liaise with the shop owner and police. There is CCTV available.

The air rifle incident in Henfield Road is the third of its kind and the residents are increasingly frustrated with lack of interest from the Police. Welfare visits and reassurance for the residents concerned has been provided by the Wardens.

The Chairman thanked Paul for attending the meeting and for providing a very valuable update.

Paul Conroy left the meeting

C:1020:06 Report from County Councillor

Cllr David Barling reported that the financial situation at WSCC is very fluid. The budget will balance this year; however, the advice is to be prepared for cuts in the next financial year.

Upper Beeding Parish Council

WSCC welcome the decision by Highways England to improve the A27. The 'grey' route was chosen over the WSCC preferred 'magenta' route but the improvements will benefit the whole region and WSCC are pleased to see the project progressing.

Cllr Barling also reported that the highway drain issue on the Henfield Road has been resolved so there should be no further flooding in the area.

Problems with cars and at the Bostal continue and various options, including the possible installation of a bollard are being discussed with residents and WSCC.

Questions and comments were invited. The Chairman expressed concerns Parish Council budgets have to be approved before County Council budgets, therefore any County Council cuts will not be known until after the Parish Council have approved their budget.

C:1020:07

Report from District Councillors

Cllr Mike Croker reported that HDC have responded to Government Planning Consultations emphasising the flaws in the methodology calculating housing numbers and issues with infrastructure in rural areas.

He went on to report on HDC's financial position stating that the shortfall in the budget will result in the sale of District Council assets, under consideration are the Drill Hall, the running track and Rookwood Golf Course.

Cllr Roger Noel reinforced the District Council budget position, adding that a Performing Arts grant of £182k from the Government has secured the future of the Capitol Theatre, at least for the short term.

Regarding planning, Cllr Noel reported that HDC are changing focus for assessing strategic sites and decisions will be made in December/January regarding which sites will be put forward.

He went on to report that the planning application at the land adjacent to St Anne's has been withdrawn and an appeal has been lodged regarding the application at Bridgewater Farm in Small Dole.

Finally, Cllr Noel advised that there have been incidents of drug related fly tipping at the Five Ways car park at Truleigh Hill.

Questions and comments were invited. Concerns were raised about the sale of Rookwood Golf course; this is a community asset that will be missed by residents. Cllr Noel responded, advising that the facility runs at a loss which is unsustainable. He also reiterated that HDC will continue to work their current Local Plan and are not currently considering higher housing numbers. All were reminded not to refer to the land north east of Henfield as 'Mayfield' as this is just the name proposed by the developer.

C:1020:08

[Truleigh Hill Noticeboard](#)

A report was circulated prior to the meeting, it was resolved that the Community Committee will discuss all noticeboards at their next meeting. The possibility of collaboration with Truleigh Hill will also be investigated.

C:1020:09

[Clerks Report](#)

The Clerks written report was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions and it was resolved to note the report.

Upper Beeding Parish Council

- C:1020:10** **[Standing Orders](#)**
In accordance with Standing Order 5.10(ix), Standing Orders were reviewed. Proposed by Cllr Warren and seconded Cllr Allen, it was resolved these be adopted without amendment.
- C:1020:11** **[Financial Regulations](#)**
In accordance with Standing Order 5(ix), Financial Regulations were reviewed. Proposed by Cllr Warren and seconded Cllr Harber it was resolved these be adopted with the minor amendments as proposed by the Clerk and Chairman of the Finance Committee.
- C:1020:12** **External Audit Report**
It was resolved to defer this item until the next meeting as the report is yet to be received from the external auditor, Moore.
- C:1020:13** **[Finance reports](#)**
Income and expenditure reports were received and noted ([detailed](#) and [summary](#)). Cllr Harber have an overview of his report and invited questions. It was resolved to note the contents of the reports.
- C:1020:14** **Bank Reconciliation**
The bank reconciliation for [September](#) was received and noted.
- C:1020:15** **Payments List**
The payments list made between [23rd September and 16th October](#) totalling £14,207.12 was received and noted in accordance with the Financial Regulations.
- C:1020:16** **Community Committee**
Draft minutes for the meeting held on [15th September 2020](#) were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Verney gave a verbal update highlighting the investigation of possible Christmas tree lights in Upper Beeding and Small Dole and the proposed orchard at the Hyde Street Open Space. He also reported the review of Parish Council newsletter and the new website launch planned for 13th November 2020.
- C:1020:17** **Planning Committee**
Draft minutes of the meeting held on [13th October 2020](#) were circulated prior to the meeting and Cllr Kardos provided a verbal summary.
- C:1020:18** **The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government ([MHCLG](#)) Consultation**
The Planning Committee circulated a draft [proposed response](#) prior to the meeting. Proposed Cllr Kardos, seconded Cllr Warren is was resolved that the Clerk issue the agreed response with minor amendments as agreed. Cllr Teatum and the Clerk were thanked for the collating the response.
- C:1020:19** **Staffing Committee**
Draft minutes of the meeting held on [13th October 2020](#) were circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Verney reported that the Clerk's appraisal will take place later this week.

Upper Beeding Parish Council

C:1020:20 [Staffing Committee Terms of Reference](#)
Proposed Cllr Kardos, seconded Cllr Warren it was resolved that the draft Terms of Reference as proposed by the Staffing Committee be adopted.

C:1020:21 [Correspondence](#)
It was resolved to receive and note the correspondence as circulated.

C:1020:22 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman will forward a summary of Truleigh Hill activities for Councillors information. He also requested the renaming of Hyde Street Open Space be added to the agenda of a future Community Committee meeting.

C:1020:23 **Matters raised by Councillors**
Cllr Allen reported she will be attending the HDC/HALC AGM and the Clerk provided a verbal update regarding the WSALC value for money project in preparation for the meeting.

Cllr Kardos advised he is working on the rural broadband project and will provide an update in due course.

Cllr Warren reported the need for repainting of road markings in Horn Lane. Cllr David Barling volunteered to liaise with WSCC Highways.

County Councillor David Barling seconded by District Councillor Roger Noel commended the Council for an efficient and effective meeting.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 8:30pm

Minutes Signed By:

Date