**Minutes of the Full Council meeting held at Beeding and Bramber Village Hall on**

**Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 7pm**

**Present:** **Councillors:** B. Harber (Chair), I. Allen, S. Birnstingl, J. Cannon, A. Chilver, F. Heaver, S. Teatum, C. Verney and C. Warren.

**Also present:** Clerk: Celia Price, District Councillor Mike Croker.

**Members of the public:** 5

The Chairman reminded members of the public of the requirement that they limit their participation to the Public Adjournment section of the meeting.

**C:1021:01 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Albright, Cllr Bull, Cllr Ivatt, Cllr Kardos, Cllr Newton, and Cllr Shaw, County Councillor Paul Linehan and District Councillor Roger Noel also tendered apologies.

**C:1021:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest**

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

**C:1021:03 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on [21st September 2021](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EeGvHhlscXBMjE2bLZuH3ugBY0Icwrfillyg6Jh6VQw_EQ?e=dWWxMY) were approved as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Allen seconded Cllr Warren and agreed.

**C:1021:04 Public Adjournment**

Objections regarding DC/21/2195 were expressed and included concerns regarding accessibility, flooding, landscape, infrastructure, loss of amenity and environmental damage.

**C:1021:05** **Planning Application** - **DC/21/2195 – Land at Pound Lane, Upper Beeding**

Erection of 35No. residential dwellings including access from Pound Lane, on-site parking and turning, hard and soft landscaping together with sustainable drainage system.

Councillors reviewed the plans and discussed the benefits and losses for the community. Although the application met a lot of the NPs requirements, it was unanimously agreed to OBJECT to the application. The objections are on the following grounds:

* Sustainability (NPPF – paragraph 8) – pedestrian access is inadequate (for example; to access the village residents would have to walk in the wrong direction in order to leave the development and join a footpath crossing 4 roads to access the village amenities.) – Objectives 2 & 6 of the NP
* Compliance with the NP – whilst many of the policies have been adhered to, policy 3 (particularly 7.24 – 7.28) is not being complied with. The PC are concerned that overriding a significant policy in the first application since the NP was made  tests the robustness of the NP and could set a precedent, reducing the weight of the NP plan going forward.
* There is no community benefit as highlighted in the NP (eg: outdoor gym equipment) – Objective 3 of the NP and Community Aspiration 3
* Southern Water have given very clear recommendations regarding water supply and waste. However, there is no evidence of the required pumping station on the plans.
* Pound Lane is unadopted at the proposed entrance and has no footpath on the Eastern side. This raises concerns about accessibility
* Some of the application documents are incorrect: the closest secondary school is Steyning Grammar, with years 7&8 now at the Towers site in Upper Beeding, not Shoreham. The speed limit is 20mph throughout the village (not 30mph as per the application)
* Affordable / Social housing – NP Policy 2 (particularly 7.19 -7.21) and NP Policy 3

The Parish Council unanimously agreed the application goes a significant way to complying with many of the NP policies but still needs further refinement.  Given the expected delays in determination caused by the water neutrality requirements, the PC would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with Reside and HDC, however they must OBJECT to the plans in their current format.

Proposed Cllr Harber, seconded Cllr Verney. All agreed.

**C:1021:06 Report from County Councillor**

Not present.

Cllr Teatum requested updates on the outstanding actions, the Clerk will request an update.

**C:1021:07 Report from District Councillor**

Mike Croker reported that HDC are currently receiving approximately 1000 planning applications per month, a significant increase on the usual average of 700-800 per month. There are no significant delays in processing despite the unusually high volume of applications.

In addition, Natural England are concerned about the impact of new developments on water usage in the area and the impact on endangered species. HDC have issued a water neutrality statement advising that planning applications (other than minor extensions and householder applications) are on hold. It is not known how this will affect the Local Plan but it is anticipated that there will be a further delay due to the water neutrality requirements. Concerns have been raised about the potential additional pressure from speculative planning applications whilst the Local Plan is delayed.

Cllr Croker also advised that HDC has confirmed its opposition to the Gatwick Airport (LGW) expansion and has budgeted for consultation expenses should further work be required. It was noted that LGW anticipate a 34% increase in flights by 2038 (based on 2019 data) even if there is no expansion. Should the 2nd runway be opened the increase in flights is estimated by LGW to rise by 62%.

**C:1021:08 Neighbourhood Warden Report**

The Neighbourhood Warden Report for [September](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EVN0xsh9REFJpaC3MUDak6EB76LmpwjyetHgdqfQkJt02Q?e=yq6sDL) was received and noted.

**C:1021:09 Clerks Report**

An [update](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EfjPrnSfSL1IqjFBC4mmsi8BtZHgtmNO00r254jR9ubRRw?e=Uv9aya) from the Clerk was received. In addition to the written report the Clerk verbally updated councillors advising that the memorial bench is now in place at the band stand and WSCC have given assurances that footpath sidings work from Dacre Gardens to the High Trees roundabout will be addressed over the coming months. It is anticipated work will start once the grass cutting season is finished.

**C:1021:10 Facilities Committee**

The draft minutes from the Facilities Committee meeting held on [12th October](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/ERL-KiA4yhBPnpP4UEuuQfABD-xhmpp0PuaQM2uNX7w-aw?e=WyMfSq) were received and noted.

The Chairman advised that the nets protecting the allotments from footballs from the recreational ground have deteriorated further and are in urgent need of replacement. Quotes have been received and were circulated prior to the meeting. UBFC have agreed a £1000 contribution to the total cost of £3256. The Clerk confirmed that the usual pitch maintenance was not required this year following reduced usage due to Covid-19 and therefore the occasional maintenance budget would cover this cost with a surplus to cover any anticipated expenditure.

It was proposed accept the quote as presented and to proceed with the work as soon as possible. Proposed Cllr Allen, seconded Cllr Cannon and agreed by all.

Cllr Allen reported an increase in litter in the bus shelter opposite the garage. There are a number of reasons for this including the absence of the litter warden and increased activity due to SGS moving into the Towers site. A new bin was requested and the Clerk will investigate costs and feasibility.

**C:1021:11 Hyde Street Green Trees**

Cllr Warren reported that quotes are being obtained to carry out works to the trees in Hyde Street Green that are encroaching on the buildings adjoining the green. These trees have TPOs and planning permission will need to be sought. Therefore, to avoid delay it was resolved that the unbudgeted expenditure of up to £2500 is authorised for trees work as recommended and in consultation with the tree warden and the Chair of the Facilities Committee. Proposed Cllr Harber, seconded Cllr Heaver and agreed by all.

**C:1021:12 WSCC Highways Partnership Agreement**

Cllr Allen prepared comments on the original agreement and these will be forwarded to WSCC for action.

**C:1021:13** **Finance Reports**

The [summary](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/Ef0ITsbnUh1KmWCd3QuJ5T8BPC9AaJB2tp-GKUeth7haHg?e=ejba6h) income and expenditure report was received and noted.

**C:1021:14 Bank Reconciliation**

The [bank reconciliation was received and noted](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EccxqD86ORhKs4o-Hdq5ExUBK7MdMqVkvUvWFl1dD1itgA?e=k46VSn). Joint Burial Authority figures will be noted at the bottom of future bank reconciliations for transparency.

**C:1021:15 Payments List**

The payments list for [September](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EdV7ZsXi4tJMsGcqL3EmY6UBwaq_a2eV7v-WF5JUCnjiKA?e=WshzHD) totalling £ 12,934.44 was received and noted in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

**C:1021:15 Correspondence**

The [correspondence](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/ESWP2nzV4gBChwfSkkGzp1QB6nny-9veJ5VU-p3lnnLPZA?e=JlK7XC) list was received and noted.

**C:1021:16** **Chairman’s Announcements**

The Chairman announced changes to the meeting schedule. The schedule will be updated and forwarded to all councillors as soon as possible.

Greening Steyning, Bramber and Beeding are organising a Climate Change March on 6th November.

The Repair Café will take place at the village hall on Saturday 23rd October and councillors were asked to support this initiative.

Finally, there is an urgent requirement for two additional authorising signatories for Unity Trust Bank. Cllr Chilver and Cllr Cannon volunteered. All agreed and the Clerk will action.

**C:1021:17 Matters raised by Councillors**

Cllr Allen requested that Councillors best wishes be sent to Cllr Shaw following her recent illness. The Clerk will facilitate this.

Cllr Heaver reiterated concerns that Virgin Media who despite having given reassurances that they would use existing infrastructure will need to install new equipment and cabling potentially causing damage to footpaths and highways.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 9pm

Minutes Signed by: Date