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

**Tuesday 17th January 2023**

**Present:** **Councillors:** B. Harber (Chair), S. Birnstingl, P Bull, J. Cannon, A. Chilver, C Deadman, F Heaver, I Ivatt, T Kardos, S. Teatum and C. Warren.

**Also present:** Clerk: Steve Keogh.

District Councillors: Mike Croker and Roger Noel

Laura Gossett from Greening Steyning

**Members of the Public**: None

**C: 0123:01 Apologies for absence**

Apologies received from Cllr I. Allen.

There were no declarations of interest.

County Councillor, Paul Linehan did not attend

**C: 0123:02 Minutes of the last meeting**

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the minutes of the meetings held on [13](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EcT6yrmm8-tLjlRi-qmY1BABr4P5TY_eNCQP9KIS_fxgbg)[th](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EcT6yrmm8-tLjlRi-qmY1BABr4P5TY_eNCQP9KIS_fxgbg) [December 2022.](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EcT6yrmm8-tLjlRi-qmY1BABr4P5TY_eNCQP9KIS_fxgbg)

Proposed Cllr Warren seconded Cllr Chilver.

**C: 0123:03 Public Adjournment**

No Public present

**C: 1222:04 Life on the Verge -** Update on the Hyde Road Verge Project.

Laura Gossett from Greening Steyning had provided notes on the recent Stakeholders meeting which was circulated prior to the meeting.

The turn out on the night had not been as expected, given the number of letters which had been delivered to residents.

The general feeling is that the verge looked untidy during the summer 2022, with the grass growth and depth, residents were not sympathetic that this is a side effect of the project.

The timescale for the verge to change to a pollinated area of wildflowers may be too long for residents to accept and therefore it may not be suitable as a pollinator project. However, residents commented they would like something there and planting of non-native wildflowers may provide a quicker option.

It was **RESOLVED** that the verge management becomes a partnership between the Parish Council and the residents of the street with Greening Steyning, Beeding and Bramber providing some advice as needed.

Proposed – Cllr Birnstingl Seconded – Cllr Teatum

Laura agreed to give some ideas for the verge which, would fit the needs of the residents and the project.

Grass cutting timetable to be adjusted to ensure the growth of the cowslips already planted.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Greening Steyning group would then continue their support of Pepperscoombe Lane which might be more suited to pollinator conservation and has received more positive feedback to date.

There was some discussion about the ownership of Pepperscoombe Lane. The Clerk was instructed to check ownership and pass the details to Members and Greening Steyning.

**C:** **0123:05 Report from District Councillors**

Cllr Roger Noel

The main topic of the update is the Local Plan and the repercussions of the decisions made. The Local Plan had been making progress despite the issues of water neutrality and the unviable proposals from Southern Water to overcome this issue.

The Local Plan had to be agreed, at Cabinet meeting in December to ensure that it could be put forward to the Full Council and then to the Inspectorate to agree,

Although the proposal at the Cabinet Meeting was for the plan to be progressed, it was not voted through. Due to some changes to the NPPF and the 2023 Horsham District Council elections it was decided to pause work on the Local Plan until May 2023.

This decision led to the resignation of the Chairman and could lead to other problems regarding developments in the district.

The main concern being that without a robust Local Plan the Council could be open for some smaller estates to be pushed through, which would not need the same infrastructure as a larger proposal.

Cllr Warren asked why these developments did not need infrastructure.

The basic needs would be met, such as water, sewage power and road structure, but there would be no needs for medical centres, schools or transport, which the larger projects need.

The water neutrality issue will still reduce the ability for developers to build, but if there is a solution found to this issue, then this may lead to building of the homes which already have planning permission.

Cllr Warren asked what could happen if there is not a Conservative majority after the elections.

There is no clear indication of how it will go and whether there will be any majority, so it could delay the plan further.

This may mean further delays as there is expected to be an influx of new Councillors who will need to gain experience and training in planning procedure.

The new proposals from the Secretary of State, include the need to use brownfield sites and the expected reduction in housing numbers d from the current levels, and a number of local authorities have paused building.

There will also be some funding to help Councils with this issue.

The precept will be increased by 2.9% per year for a band D property, which is slightly higher than expected as the reports had been that the authority had balanced budgets for the past two years.

However, there are still some issues which have to be overcome regarding the cost-of-living crisis. There are also the issues of the level of inflation, potential industrial action, the loss of the New Homes Bonus and the King’s Coronation.

There will still be some rebates and help for the residents who need it. Each council will receive a grant to go towards events for the coronation.

Cllr Kardos asked for an update on the New Hall Lane issue. There is no date set for the appeal at the current time.

Cllr Heaver asked if there was an update on the School Road or Hyde Cottages applications. These would be investigated

**C: 0123:06 Report from County Councillor**

Due to Cllr Lineham being unavailable there was no report

**C: 0123:07** **Neighbourhood Warden Report**

The Neighbourhood[**Warden Report**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EVUaxR1R1XxFlLpqkdEiANsBBcWPU08GI1qCfhmoIP9wpg)for December circulated with the agenda was received

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

**C: 0123:08 Joint Parishes Youth Agreement.**

The minutes of the [Joint Parishes Youth Committee](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EYKR3XkALdhPrPimxTsHwb4B_s84E3s6BHZNSDK9xR26zg) were circulated prior to the meeting were received

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the contents of the report.

Cllr Chilver gave a verbal update on the meeting and proposed that the Council support the decision to request an extension to the current agreement for one year.

It was noted that the Upper Beeding numbers on a Tuesday were healthy.

Steyning do not currently have a permanent location for their club provision.

It was **RESOLVED** to request that the Joint Parishes Youth Agreement be extended for one year and that a longer agreement be tabled in time to start in 2024.

**C: 0123:09 2023/24 Meeting Dates**

The list of dates circulated before the meeting were now correct.

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and accept the [meeting dates.](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/ETTq1Pf9XA5KqcuvZFkw1DUBZ2t7VhTagAFsV7wvPyfg_Q)

The dates may be subject to change during the year.

**C: 0123:10 Clerk’s report**

The Clerk’s [**Report**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/Eb90vqfSjD5Asrj1IK1f6dsBsh7NHfhG4_fRfk9NNHasig)circulated with the agenda was received and **NOTED**.

The Clerk reported that the skate park land lease had been completed.

Cllr Teatum also updated everyone on the Dementia Friendly Village project, which was taking shape,

The Steyning Medical Centre was now interested in helping and there will be an event in the next few months at The Hub to highlight the project.

**C: 0123:11 Annual Parish Meeting**

The Clerk gave a brief verbal report explaining that the Annual Parish Meeting is encouraged as it is different from the Annual Parish Council meeting, as it is supposed to be for the residents.

The previous two years had been cancelled due to the pandemic.

It was **RESOLVED** that an Annual Parish Meeting should be held in May 2024 following the elections on a date to be confirmed.

The preferred speakers would be:

Representatives from the schools

Parish Neighbourhood Wardens.

Other speakers would be asked to attend.

**C: 0123:12 Bank Reconciliation –**

The reconciliation for [December](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:x:/s/UBPC/EQSvv3ojt4xCr4XPCq6R_MkBwETW4lePHB1Z_HlTZHJA6w) was received and **NOTED**.

**C: 0123:13 Payments List –**

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and **NOTE** payments made in [December](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EcX4h282T_VNm1MrkmMzE3UBQjKRuOfBpj41UJjtTi6U0Q) for £15,915.03 in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

**C: 0123:14 Finance Reports –**

The income and expenditure reports ([detailed](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/Ee3Qo9Za3MdCirRS2RkgXj4BiBKVS5olx9y-bm88UkGYLA) and [summary)](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EaHAmlOxG61Ohuu7Wp3KEpMBltwr-zGECa0G4gaR9M5vzg) were received, discussed and **NOTED**.

**C: 0123:15 Correspondence -**

The [correspondence](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EVgIVWhAk5xFnn9X_LxY4wYBIkYq_AGOEzOneGSQWjgjeQ) list was received and **NOTED**

**C: 0123:16 Chairman’s Announcements**

Steyning and District Community Partnership (Working Party 9 on the White Bridge Path) have a meeting on 3rd February.

However, there was a brief meeting on Tuesday 17th January to discuss the need for a bespoke EA report and supporting information for the White Bridge section of the project. This will mean that the Parish Council’s riverside project will not be able to be added on but would be a separate phase of the project.

The Parish Council website needs some work, as the majority of the information is useful, but there is a need to make it more user friendly, and including more information on local activities and facilities.

The Clerk has started to work on some aspects of this.

Trees are a concern. A recent incident in Liverpool has highlighted a need to ensure hat the trees are regularly checked and works carried out to ensure that they are in good health etc.

The clerk was asked to find out of there is any training that the staff and tree warden could attend.

**C: 0123:17 Matters raised by Councillors**

**Cllr Ivatt** commented that there are many potholes in the area and that some of these have been repaired only for others to appear.

He encouraged all Members to report potholes to WSCC Highways.

The Clerk also commented that a website called Fix My Street was very good as it took the issue of ‘who to contact’ out of the equation.

**Cllr Cannon** asked that the Sports Hall Lights be looked at as the hall was becoming dark.

She also asked that the Clerk use less paper for the agendas.

**Cllr Bull**

Has reported a speed limit sign which is in need of repair.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:45 pm

Signed Date