**Minutes of the Community Committee meeting held at The Gladys Bevan Hall, Church Lane, Upper Beeding on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7pm**

**Present:** **Councillors:**P. Bull, A. Chilver, B. Harber, S. Teatum

**Also, present:**  Parish Clerk: Stephen Keogh

One Virtual Resident

Two Residents

**CC:** **0323:01 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Allen, Heaver and Kardos.

**CC: 0323:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest**

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

There were no additional declarations of Interest.

**CC: 0323:03 Minutes of the last meeting**

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on 6th December 2022 as a true and accurate record.

Proposed Cllr Chilver seconded Cllr Teatum.

**CC: 0323:04 Public Adjournment**

Two residents present spoke about the proposed bench at Hyde Street Green.

Firstly they thanked the person donating the bench and tree, but stated that there were a number of issues that need to be clarified before the bench is installed.

* The previous benches had been removed due to anti-social behaviour.
* The bench could be a concern as it may cause a loss of privacy.
* The bench would be best located away from any properties.

The person donating the bench (on Zoom) stated that the bench would not be a guarantee of antisocial behaviour as the same people could sit on the grass.

Their investigation had shown that people wanted a bench in the shade, which is the preferred option, between two trees.

The orchard was not an option due to the time it will take to grow the trees.

If the location is not what they want the tree may be given to another cause.

The Chair was not happy for the decision to be made without seeing the site in more detail

The residents were included in the discussion regarding the Management of Hyde Street Green. **CC: 0323:05i**

They felt that the previous years, the bank had looked neat when cut regularly and this had encouraged residents to keep the area clean and tidy. The bulbs had flowered, and the area looked like a proper village green.

Due to the wilding of the bank the area had become untidy, which had started to discourage some residents who would normally have collected litter etc.

**CC: 0323:05 Hyde Street Green – To Consider the Following:**

1. Proposed [management options](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EYLYU5aH-PBEsD8yv7B1s_cBvYI3MR4zHwBFtLPXiLLY8A) ([Survey](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:x:/s/UBPC/EZ8Zv9CtxoNCqOLkrWdAQREBTjuGN-v4K04dzEnJ3GdbQg) and [Information](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/EUWIMZCFPeJLovDQOh4njXYBX61fq530_p7y2rfsFP8_dQ))

The report circulated with the agenda was **NOTED**.

It was **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that option 1 (Revert to cutting 3-5 times per year with no grass collection – this will favour grass species) would be the preferred option.

1. Bench Installation – Best location

It was **AGREED** to defer a decision on the final location as a site visit was required to ascertain the best location, fulfilling the needs of the residents and the donor.

1. The Planting of fruit trees in the Orchard.

It was **AGREED** that the proposed tree in memory of the former Councillor would be planted, but the Clerk would then have to investigate a policy to help with the management of the orchard.

**CC: 0323:06** [**Dementia Friendly Village**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/ERv05vH8FO9Dl10IHjOWRDIBauXYGPOwANADpur8Dr3yIQ)

The report circulated with the agenda wea **NOTED**.

The offer from Cllr Teatum to lead the project was accepted at the meeting on 6th December 2022 and he had contacted a number of people and businesses and set up a meeting/event at The Hub on Wednesday 8th March 2023.

The event would be a short training session for the retailers’ and businesses to explain the condition and how they can help make life easier for those who are living with it.

**CC: 0323:07 Community Organisations –**

Interaction with[**community organisations**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/UBPC/Ef_q6QeVYXBDhY0DEEPgc30BhAYspSVqHl02xPB6x9K9zw)was discussed.

In general, the relationships appear to be good, with a number of groups having representatives.

The Chairman stated that it is important that the list be updated in time for the elections as the new Council will need to allocated areas of interest.

The Clerk also requested that Members report that all the groups are all still active.

**CC: 0323:08 Community Engagement – to discuss**

1. **Proposed events for the Queen’s Canopy tree/Kings Coronation.**

The events in the village were discussed and at present there were none proposed.

The District Council has proposed that the Villages and Parishes may receive £200 to allocate to groups for their events.

Due to the elections it may be difficult to have a parish event as those organising the event may not get elected.

It was **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that the Parish Council promote the fund for those groups organising events, street parties etc.

1. **Elections 2023 – Encourage residents to stand in 2023.**

The elections will be taking place in May 2023, the Parish Council will be included in the process and there will be a need to have 12 Members elected to ensure that the Council can continue to use the General Power of Competence.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that the poster is circulated in the Parish to garner interest from local residents and groups members.

1. [**Parish Postal Service**](https://www.royalmail.com/services-near-you#/results?&postcode=BN44%203HP&latitude=50.884553&longitude=-0.304754&searchRadius=40&count=40&officeType=postboxes&filters=&selectedName=BEEDING%20PO%20(BOX)) **–**

The lack of afternoon collections in the Village was discussed.

The Chairman commented that there are only afternoon post collections at the three local post offices, Steyning, Small Dole and Henfield, and not the other post boxes in the area.

This could be a hindrance for many residents who may not have transport and many businesses who need to use the postal service for important documents etc.

The Clerk stated that the MP may be the person to contact or directly to the Postal Service.

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would investigate ways to contact the Postal Service to request an Upper Beeding village collection in the afternoon to help businesses and residents in the Parish.

1. **Car Charge Points –**

Members discussed the new car charging points which had been partly installed at Priory Field

It was **AGREED** to support Cllr Croker with his response to the installation of the car charge points at Priory Close and to encourage the use of the High Street, car park.

**CC: 0323:09 Spring Newsletter**

The proposed newsletter for 2023 was discussed.

The Clerk was hoping to have the newsletter ready for distribution at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

Subjects to include:

Dementia Friendly Village

Speed and Road Crossings

Election results

Change of Clerk

Car Charging Points

Canopy Tree(s)

Youth Club

Litter Picking

Beeding In Bloom

**CC: 0323:10 Projects and Priorities**

The proposed [speed limit](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/ES0Zq-4eGnRNpADvRVcTcpQB5HY5hLjMhM_0sy2_jtwUbw) restriction application and [crossings](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EWsmO-PIaY1Djddaow1mxE0BGLpAZeBWdp-COo0lzPEY2A) were discussed.

WSCC were in the process of collating the speed information for the road and had reported an average speed of 33mph.

The WSCC Highways officer has reported back that there may be some changes to the road layout, which may slow the traffic so it may be better to wait until after the works on the crossings was completed.

The Clerk’s report, circulated with the agenda was **NOTED.**

At a recent virtual meeting, Cllr Teatum the Clerk and a resident were informed of the three crossings which are proposed for Shoreham Road, A283 and Dacre Gardens.

Currently they are all at the design stage and so this is looking promising.

**CC: 0323:11** [**White Bridge Link –**](https://upperbeedingpc.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/UBPC/EWPsBt4dWrdFvZaf-EenyOwB8Er2XcA_wu7esq8cC1HhxA) **To consider financial support for the EA Application.**

The Chairman explained that the project has reached a point where the Steyning and District Community Partnership is looking for a bespoke permit for the works along the riverbank, with the Environment Agency working alongside the preferred contractor.

The two neighbouring Parish Councils have each agreed to give a donation of £300 as their part of the costs for this permit application.

It was **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council that the Parish Council pay £300 towards the Environment Agency bespoke permit.

**CC: 0323:12 Matters raised by Councillors**

Cllr Harber reported that the Beeding in Bloom AGM was to be held on Wednesday 15th March ay Gladys Bevan Hall.

The Clerk was asked to display the posters and the Maintenance Manager will be encouraged to attend or contact the group regarding the Rose Bed and the Planting at the NISA.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed: Date: