

# Upper Beeding Parish Council

## Minutes of the Upper Beeding Council meeting held at Upper Beeding Village Hall, on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 commencing at 7pm

**Present:** Councillors: P. Bull, J Cannon, A. Chilver, C Deadman, F. Heaver, B Harber (UBPC Chair),  
S Teatum, C Warren.

**Also present:** Parish Clerk: Stephen Keogh  
Cllr Mike Croker  
Cllr Roger Noel  
2 x Residents of Small Dole

**C: 0923:01** **Apologies for absence** – to receive and approve apologies for absence.  
Apologies were received from Cllrs Birnstingl, F Bull and Kardos.  
Apologies were also received from Cllr Paul Linehan of WSCC.

**C: 0923:02** **Declarations of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest** – to receive any  
declarations of interest as defined under the Localism Act 2011.  
No further declarations received on this occasion.

**C: 0923:03** **Minutes of the last meeting -**  
It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on [18<sup>th</sup> July 2023](#)  
Proposed Cllr Heaver: seconded Cllr Warren and **AGREED**

**C: 0923:04** **Public Adjournment** – to receive questions & comments from members of the public.  
The two residents were in attendance to speak to the District Councillors regarding  
the creation of a warden assisted care home for young people, at Willow Cottage in  
Small Dole.  
Cllr Noel arrived and discussed this at length regarding the original application, the  
current situation, including the lack of communication, and the concerns of the  
residents.  
They agreed to exchange details and contact Cllr Noel directly.

**C: 0923:05** **Update from County Councillor** –  
Cllr Linehan had provided a FAQ sheet regarding the White Bridge and reported that  
he was awaiting some information before he would contact the Council directly.

**C: 0923:06** **Report from District Councillor** – to receive a report from HDC District Councillors,  
Mike Croker and Roger Noel.

Horsham District Council is looking at ways to alter the current budget, in order to  
purchase more housing, initially to provide some housing for the refugees, but this  
stock of homes would remain in Council ownership.

Land Purchase at Bramber Brooks is at the contract stage, this may be used as  
potential biodiversity net gain and balance out some of the development taking place.

The subject of Biodiversity net gain and the use of it to encourage development in the district is also a topic of interest and would be reported on further.

There is also a site near Henfield which is another nature site and flood plain which may be purchased by the Council which can be used to balance the impact on the biodiversity by developments.

This is one way that the Council can mitigate the impact of the housing developments on the climate.

The local plan is also being discussed at the September Cabinet. It is hoped that the plan can be agreed by Council in December 2023, and this would give the plan some impact on the possibility of developers.

The plan is to be consulted on in 2024 and could be adopted in May 2025

There are also other strategic plans being prepared by the new Council.

Cllr Noel updated the Council on the New Hall Lane, Small Dole appeal. Unfortunately, the inspector was unwell, so the appeal was postponed; no new date has been arranged.

**C: 0923:07 Neighbourhood Warden Report –**

Councillors received and **NOTED** the monthly report for [August](#) 2023 and [Minutes](#) from the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**C: 0923:08 JPYC Meeting Update**

The Clerk gave a verbal update on the Joint Parishes Youth Committee meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

The main issues were the decision to pursue a refund of the monies paid for the second quarter of the Youth Service which had been paid but no service received.

The business plan has been drafted and there is a hope that if agreed the plan could be used to employ some staff to manage a youth service, which could be across the three parishes.

**C: 0923: 09 Clerks Report –**

The Clerk's [report](#) circulated with the Agenda was received and **NOTED**.

Cllr Teatum gave a verbal update regarding the A2037 and A283 crossings and was pleased to inform the Members that work on the Shoreham Road crossing would commence on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Cllr Teatum also commented that he was still working on the Dementia Friendly Village project and has started to plan a Christmas Dinner for the community, both those living with the condition and their careers.

More information will be given at the Community Committee.

**C: 0923:10 Facilities Committee Minutes**

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** the minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on [6<sup>th</sup> September 2023](#).

The Clerk updated the Members regarding the proposed new street column and light in Henfield Road by The Bostal.

The original officer dealing with the project has left the Council and so WSCC are starting again.

Proposed Cllr Warren: seconded Cllr Heaver and **AGREED**.

**C: 0923:11 White Bridge Closure**

Members discussed the closure of the White Bridge noting that they were particularly displeased that the County Councillor had not attended to discuss the issue directly.

Also, that WSCC did not feel the subject was important enough to include in their Scrutiny Committee.

The reports on the bridge were one area of concern as there appeared to be some errors or similarities between the one in 2018 and 2020.

There are concerns that the bridge was serviceable in 2020 and then three years later the structure is in need of full replacement.

Members wanted clarification on why there were not interim repairs.

Members wondered if an independent survey could be carried out.

Cllr Croker explained that WSCC had employed an independent company.

The option of a temporary bridge should be investigated fully by WSCC.

It was **AGREED** that the Clerk should draft a letter which could be shared with the Clerks from the three parishes and sent to the local MP. Copying in the relevant Members of WSCC.

The poor quality report also concerns the Members as other structures may need to be investigated further.

**C:0923: 12 Planning Committee Minutes –**

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on [6<sup>th</sup> September 2023](#).

Proposed Cllr Chilver: seconded Cllr Teatum and **AGREED**.

**C: 0923: 13 Terms of Reference –**

*Cllr Bull Recommended the following wording:*

*‘Under the remit of the Committee, to make recommendations on ways to combat climate change within the community’.*

It was **RESOLVED** to include a reference to Climate change in all Committee Terms of Reference, using the wording agreed at the Community Committee.

Proposed Cllr Harber: seconded Cllr Cannon and **AGREED**.

**C: 0923: 14 Grants – To discuss funding for community Groups**

- i. Small Dole Village Hall - [New Boiler](#).

Following discussion on the merits of the Hall and the issues of the heating. The main advantage may be that the hall is used more as there have been some comments that the hall is very cold.

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the 50% cost of the new boiler £1,230.00.

ii. Football Club.

The Clerks verbal report was **NOTED**.

Members would be willing to discuss a grant for any local group if there was a particular project that needed financial support.

**C:0923: 15 Co -Option –**

The Clerks Verbal report was **NOTED**.

The Clerk will put some notices in the noticeboards and on social media to encourage residents to come forward.

Possible date would be the November Full Council meeting

**C: 0923: 16 Finance Reports**

Councillors received and **NOTED** the income and expenditure ([summary](#) and [detailed](#)) for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

**C: 0923:17 Bank Reconciliation -**

Councillors received and **NOTED** the Bank reconciliation for [July](#) & [August](#)

**C: 0923:18 Payments List**

Councillors received and **NOTED** all payments made in [July](#) totalling £11,134.25 and [August](#) totalling £19,336.22 in accordance with the Financial Regulations

**C: 0923:19 Correspondence**

Councillors received and **NOTED** correspondence received.

**C: 0923:20**

**Chair's Announcements** – to receive any announcements and matters from the Chair. The Chair is now on the Steyning and District Community Partnership Management Board and will be attending the first meeting in September. Will be attending a Village Hall event.

**C: 0923:21**

**Matters raised by Councillors** - to receive matters for information or for discussion in future agendas.

**Cllr Cannon** – The parking on Church Lane close to the Junction with The High Street, affects the Hub and is a danger for those walking and caused concern as the emergency vehicles may struggle to use the road.

**Cllr Heaver** – The Towers School has had a poor report from Ofsted, one of the comments included a lack of interaction with the Community.

One example is the poor condition of the overgrown foliage which affects those walking near the paths towards the school.

They have promised a great deal but not delivered.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:

Date: