

DRAFT

BAUGHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 21 April 2022
Heath End Hall, Baughurst
7.30 pm

PRESENT: Cllrs M G Slafford, R Cockle, J Hewitt, P Markwick, E Page, S E Terrett
In attendance: Mrs P J Waterfield, Clerk to the Council
Also present: 5 members of the public

146. **Minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2022** (copy herewith)
The Minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2022, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read, and approved, with two minor amendments – (139) 'local' replaced by 'parish'. (139) 2 Portway to refer to Minute Ref 92(m).

147. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence received from Cllrs G Porter, P R S Postance. No apologies recorded from Cllr A Sciarretta.

148. **Declarations of interest**
Councillors were reminded that for those with any interest to be disclosed in relation to an item included in the agenda for this meeting, it was their duty to do so at the appropriate agenda item (as required to be disclosed by Section 96(1) of the LGA 1972, and in accordance with the Parish Councils Order 2001. Councillors had each received a form, which they are required to complete with any declarations of interest on an annual basis.

149. **Matters arising from the Minutes of 24 March 2022**

- Deeds – Clerk had met with HCC and set the ball rolling with regard to registration of land. HCC will advise us of any additional costs which have not already been agreed before proceeding.
- AWE site visit – Clerk had attended, and found the visit useful in terms of both witnessing the onsite activities, and also networking with local councils.

150. **County, Borough, BDAPTC and Police reports**
No reports are available for this meeting. County Councillor Mellor had provided a report for the Annual Meeting (7 April) which is also annexed here.

151. **Open forum**
The owner, and agent representatives, gave a brief description of a local housing application for a site with both affordable and market value housing in Wolverton. Various questions were raised. Cllr Hewitt gave an overview of her recent meeting at Whitchurch PC regarding Housing Numbers Allocation and planning.

152. **Planning**
a) to receive and consider the latest planning applications

22/01035/HSE	75 Portway	Two storey side extension	No objection
22/01000/HSE	22 Fair oak Way	Front porch and single storey side extension	No objection
22/0091/FUL	Land adj George and Dragon, Wolverton	2 affordable dwellings and 3 market dwellings	Objection
22/00701/FUL	The Beeches, Baughurst Road	Dwelling and associated works	No objection

22/00860/LBC and 22/00794/HSE	Browns Farm, Pound Green	Alterations to farmhouse, rection of rear extension following demolition of existing rear extension. Alterations and extension to barn, extension to store building	No objection, but concern raised over proximity of wall to highway
22/00833/FUL	Gibbys Farm, Browning Hill	Detached garage and room over (in connection with 20/01336/FUL)	No objection
22/00831/HSE	Ewhurst House	Construction of glass roof and alterations to existing sunken garden terrace and stairways, with associated soft landscaping.	No objection
22/00725/ROC	Gibbys Farm, Browning Hill	Variation of condition 1 of 20/03194/ROC to amend plan numbers to allow an alternative dwelling design with 5 bedrooms	No objection

b) Decisions by BDBC

21/03519/FUL	Land adj George and Dragon	8 dwellings	Withdrawn
22/00232/HSE	10 Portway	Single storey front porch	Approved
21/03163/FUL	Land north east of Wildermere, Haughurst Hill	1 dwelling with associated parking, turning, landscaping private amenity space and access	Approved
20/03234/HSE	Gibbys Farm, Browning Hill	Side extension	Withdrawn

153. **Finance**

- Financial statement
 - The latest statement was received and noted.
 - The accounts were approved.
 - Audit Return for 2021/22 was signed.
 - Report from internal auditor also received and noted.
- Grant aid request, Heath End Hall

Approval given to £5000 as a grant towards the Hall, using Community Infrastructure Levy monies.

- Hampshire Association of Local Councils
- Approval given to payment of annual subscription and NALC levy at £491.50 and £147.85 + VAT.
- Approval given to reinvestment of half yearly precept
- Approval given to payment for internal audit, £500
- Approval given to safe disposal of computers; Cllr Porter to be asked to 'clean'
- Approval given to payment to Nash Services of £4290 + VAT

154. **Playing fields and Open Spaces**

- Railings, adjacent Hurst Leisure Centre

Works had been carried out.

- Tree Survey

Plotting of trees on Parish Online had been accomplished.

- Autospeedwatch

Machine had been purchased at a cost of £549.

- Tarmac paths

All Councillors to identify any other possible areas before quotations requested. Clerk to arrange a site meeting.

- Wolverton field quotations
- Pedestrian gate – quotation to be received for supply of hoggin beneath the gate, following its adjustments, to raise the surface level.
- Bark chippings

A further quotation to also be received for replacement with rubber crumb with simulated bark chippings effect.

- Fencing

The lowest of two quotations was accepted at £1550.

- Works

Vitaplay to be contacted regarding the current situation with remedial works destined to be carried out.

- Pavilion - flooring and surveyor

Quotation received for lifting of the floor accepted at £583 + 116.67. Surveyor to be asked to return to inspect at the same time, after which quotations to be received for remedial repairs to be carried out.

- Five year contract

Calleva FC had been asked whether they would wish to take over lighting commitment, but no further information received as yet.

- Community Infrastructure Levy

£5000 of CIL monies to be granted to Heath End Hall.

- War Memorial – quotations to be received for repair of crack in central tower
- Bracken and nettle had been cleared from Hurst School rear gate.
- Trees – area of land to right of 79 Woodlands Road – Agreed that a small oak tree should be removed; leave the beech tree; and remove scrub adjacent and keep clear. Quotation received of £230.00 + VAT was accepted.
- Removal of overhanging branch at 14A Wellington Crescent at £230 + 46 was accepted.
- All councillors to inspect laurel in area between bus shelter, Woodlands Road, and 79 Woodlands Road.
- 71 Long Grove – tree contractor has advised no further action other than remedial removal of ivy.

155. **General Purposes Committee 15 March 2022**

- Sustainable Baughurst – original interested party had been contacted with a view to possibly progressing further. Clerk also to enquire of Silchester and Kingsclere PCs, who are reported to be setting up their own systems. Pertinent officer at BDBC also to be asked for assistance.
- Councillor vacancies – two vacancies still available.
- Speed Limit Reminder signage – manufacture of metal mounting kits for original machine still in progress. Agreed that purchase is made of an auto speedwatch machine at approximate cost of £549.
- Email provision
Seiretto advised that we wish to terminate the contract. Approval given to payment of setting up the new account with Vision ICT, and payment of £216 agreed in order to do so.
- Newsletter provision
Newsletter had been distributed successfully.
- Banking for Community Infrastructure Levy monies
No separate account available with BDBC, although these monies could be added to it. Still awaiting confirmation from BDBC that this is acceptable to the CIL team.

156. **Platinum Jubilee Working Party – notes from meeting**

Event

- a) PW had chased both GB and the Scout Association for further information regarding the loan of Scout uniform over the decades, but no response received. Others present offered their Scout/Guide memorabilia for the exhibition.
- b) PW had advertised the need for entertainment provision on both Facebook and web page, but had received no response. She is to try again asking for help, but not until May. A flier advertising the events over the weekend is to be inserted in the local Church magazine.
- c) The Parish Council had agreed a float of £500 to help support the event, although it is hoped to be self funding. In addition, Bewley Homes plc had granted £1000 towards the event, and PW had applied for a grant of £500 from BDBC, both of which awaited. A brief description of possible income and expenditure is listed below.

Possible income		Possible expenditure		
Sales from walk/run/ride	£300	Rosettes? Red Cross/similar	£100 ?	
Teas, cake and coffee	£100	Tea/coffee/sugar/milk/squash	£30	
Sale of curries	£250	Printing	£80	
Rock Choir Newbury			£100	
Bewley Homes	£1000	Medical cover	£500	
BDBC	£500			
	£2150		£810	

2. Beat the Bounds walk

- a) Disclaimer entry forms to be given to all participants. It is proving difficult to use the PDF form from 2012, so CS is to investigate starting again, with help from Tadley Runners. Printing of these is another issue to be explored by her.
- b) Red Cross provision no longer exists. St John's Ambulance declined to help. Agreed that commercial organisations should be approached.
- c) SH advised that the walks coming under the aegis of a 'Ramblers Special Event', which would also help with insurance, and will be advertised on the Ramblers site.
- d) No confirmation from Lord Hay regarding the opening of the metal gate between BR502 and FP18 for use on the day. Brenda to chase. She will also contact the owners.
- e) Printing of certificates for completion of the course to be included in any printing package.
- f) Local nurseries to be asked to organise a small local walk for small children, buggies, wheelchairs, etc.

3. Catering

- a) JB had agreed to ask WI about pricing for refreshments, but no further information received. Some discussion ensued about possibly offering refreshments to those returning from the walks/run/ride – to be discussed between Jane and Judith.
- b) Mr Lais from Tadley Tandoori had very kindly offered to provide curries (from his own establishment, if he has sufficient workforce), or from another if not. If the latter, the food would not be pre-packed in containers, and would need people to serve, etc. Pricing would need to be agreed. Tadley Muslim Society had also offered £50 towards the cost of rental of equipment.
- c) Agreed that MS's offer of his services (plus boater, striped blazer and small freezer) to provide the ice cream should be accepted.
- d) Hog roast – Hall committee have decided to offer this with their evening entertainment.

4. Entertainment

a) After much difficulty, PW had managed to obtain the following:

U3A Guitar Group	2.15 pm	Free
Dancephaze	2.45 pm	Free
U3A Ukelele Group	3.15 pm (possibility of two sessions)	Free
Newbury Rock Choir	3.45 pm	£100

The timetabling is still ongoing, and yet to be confirmed, but the above is suggested. PL and PW to meet at the Hall to identify the electrics network and availability. Power required for up to 8 guitars, and a microphone needed.

b) The Art Club is still on track for an exhibition of their work, plus colouring templates for children. Coloured pencils will be required – receipt to be presented to PW for payment.

c) Memorabilia exhibition – PW to ask for items on loan to display via social media.

d) No response from Punch and Judy man by email, so PW to phone.

5. **Programme for the weekend thus far**

Saturday 4 June	11.30/11.45/12.00	Walks, run, ride
	Lunchtime	Curries available; drinks?
	2.00 pm	Tea party open
	3.45 pm	Newbury Rock Choir
	6.30 pm	Hog roast
	7.00 pm	'Party in the Palace' screened in hall, with hog roast, bookable and ticket-able
Sunday 5 June	12 midday	Street party on the hall green (hall if wet), possibly bookable if inside
	6.30 pm	Service of Thanksgiving, St Stephen's

6. Stalls

Thus far, U3A, Scout Group, British Legion and WI had requested stalls. Others to be asked are Calvea Football Club, and Air Cadets. Fire Engine attendance had been requested, and they will attend if possible.

7. Service of Thanksgiving

All changed since the last meeting. The church are putting together a Flower Festival, and asked for the time of the Service to be changed. This is now at 6.30 pm, and in the presence of the Deputy Mayor of Basingstoke, David Leeks. PW had re-typed the Order of Service, and printing is requested at 60 copies.

157. **Annual Parish Meeting 7 April 2022**

The meeting had been well attended, and the guest speaker from Greenham Trust both interesting and informative. No actions arose from the meeting.

158. **Basingstoke and Deane Code of Conduct**

To be deferred, if necessary, to General Purposes Committee.

159. **Highways and Rights of Way**

- FP21 rear of St Stephen's church is very waterlogged, HCC had been notified of its condition
- Brock Copse – a notice advising 'Notice of Landowner Deposits under Highways Act 1980' had been investigated, and guidance sent to all Councillors.
- '30' repeater sign missing outside Highworth Cottages, Baughurst Road
- 'The Badger's Wood' to be asked to clear their forecourt/pavement of debris.

- Wolverton Road from 'The Badger's Wood' to A339 will be closed for 6 weeks whilst replacing the main drain
- FP15 – already churned after remedial works had been carried out. HCC to be informed.
- Storage of rights of way finger posts to be moved from Malthouse Farm to Church Farm. Clerk to liaise with councillors to arrange removal.

160. **Open forum**

Agreed that continuation of annual Norton Antivirus programme should be investigated, and an alternative sought. Consideration to be given to alternative source for Office 365. Item to be brought to General Purposes Committee. The Council's insurance company had advised that its scheme provider has declined to offer protection, and a new provider had been sought. Various questions to be asked of insurance company for consideration at May meeting.

161. **Accounts for payment**

Profit and Loss Account as at 21 April 2022

Income £		Expenditure £	
Precept		Administration	2867.76
Grant – grass cutting		Grants	
Interest	.68	Free 2p	
Pineapple field	84	Chairman's allowance	
Grants		Pineapple field	5
Jubilee grant	1000	Grass cutting	
Newsletter grant	100	Vitaplay	100.80
VAT claim		Trees Survey	4290 240.00
		Contractor	
		General	
	1184.68	Highways SLR	549
Profit/loss on 1 months	-6867		8052.56

Balance Sheet as at 21 April 2022

£		£	
Balance b/fwd	126449	Current Account	3685
Loss on month	6867	Premier Account	74483
		Petty Cash	129.29
		Reserve Account	48618
		Less: unrepresented	7333
	119582		119582

To pay:

Balance per bank statements as at 21 April 2022

Regency	Payroll April	14.84 + 3.70
HCC	Pension – April	393.76

Clerk	Salary and allowance April	1173.93
Tesco	Mobile contract April	7.50
Microsoft	Office 365 April	17.60 + 3.52
Business Stream	Pavilion April	5.00
Inland Revenue	Tax and NI April	300.59
Hugofox	April	16.66 + 3.33
Nash Trees	Remedial works	2995.00 + 1295 + 858
Vision ICT	Email provision	216.00
Heath End hall hirings	January – March	84.00
Vitaplay	Inspection	84 + 16.80
T Light	Internal auditor	500.00
Autospeed watch	SLR	549.00
Saplings	Tree plotting	200.00 + 40.00

162. **Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of Council, to be held on **Thursday 12 May 2022, 7.30 pm**, Wolverton Hall.

163. **Appendix 1**

County, Borough, DAPTC and Police reports

a) County Councillor D Mellor reported:

- Hampshire is the third largest shire in the country. 85% is rural. Population is c1.4M, as every year adds another 1000 residents into the over 85 category, it is aging and therein lies a problem for us as almost half of our annual expenditure in the County goes on Adult Social Care, an area where we set our standards high and where our options are few. Quite simply, the urge to release hospital beds is one example where HCC is expected to look after the problem; regrettably our bill for Social Care now exceeds £1Bn. And this impacts on other expenditure.
- Our budget for the next two years reflects a shortfall of some £80M; suffice to say the increase in Council Tax still leaves Hampshire with the second lowest shire council tax. To the future ,we now have some real inflation problems. We innovate to reduce the cost e.g using robots in care homes; building our own Extra Care homes to reduce dependency on high cost private sector; have our own joint recruitment operation (with Kent) for social/care workers and apprenticeships now to ensure good coverage in the future.
- Next on the expense side is of course Children's Services, largely focussed around the 480 or so schools we have in the County (7 in my division). Prior to COVID all the schools were rated as 'Good' by Ofsted although a couple of the schools did /do give concern but not on an education basis. Locally, there was an issue with the Hurst Leisure Centre- part of the The Hurst School – as the locations midweek daytime gym facility aimed at the more mature members of the community was restricted. Quite simply, there was an enormous black hole in the accounts that was getting worse by the day; the school wanted the facility returned to their use and subscriptions being paid were so far below market price/cost that following the membership collapse during COVID there was little alternative. Existing local authority facilities offered an alternative. The new school Head is eager to stop any decline in standards and HCC

monitors closely. Other aspects of Children's Service; homes, fostering etc expanded and performance is a leader.

- Highways- Economy, Transport and Environment is involved with £300M+ of new road construction; from Brighton Hill to the M271 and A34 to improve connectivity and remove any congestion. Locally, I am pursuing inclusion of the A340 and possibly A339 for the 'North South' project with Reading Borough/Berks. It is held up as Basingstoke and Deane cannot yet finalise on where all the new housing is going to sit and also the plans to develop Junction 7 of the M3 as a warehouse complex and location for a new hospital. Even more locally HCC undertook full 'resilience' (effectively a complete new road surface) along the length of the Wolverton Road eclipsing some drainage problems and hopefully removing the need for any maintenance for a few years. The A340 was also similarly treated; prior to the recent storms and with traffic much reduced during the pandemic, potholes although still evident were repaired- staffing issues etc meant that they were actioned more slowly than wished as indeed were other minor jobs but all emergencies were met. It may surprise some attending that the majority of repairs one sees on the roads in my division are due to utility issues.* we do however respond to several 'pothole' online reports in a methodical manner and perform as well as any shire in this respect.
- The biggest issue of course is Climate Change and everything has to be assessed for impact on Climate Change. HCC is well on its way to meeting the net zero target for the County by 2050; some challenge as although the County is 85% urban; although we can be self sufficient for domestic energy etc we have to consider points such as Hampshire having the world's second largest cruise terminal; Hampshire is home to Britain's armed forces; Hampshire (Fawley) houses the UK's largest pipeline; we have a lot of other industry not always synonymous with low energy etc . Still, doing well and reducing carbon by the month. HCC website is comprehensive and there are few shire doing better . To the future, there will of course be some more solar farms in the County; perhaps more onshore 'wind farms'. Every aspect of the new Local Transport Plan being presented in the Autumn will be relating to Climate Change. Electrification of all buses; EVCP's and Parking focus; more cycleways/walkways. Of interest is the new Bikeability scheme with the schools; training up some 9000 school students to ride properly. Ultimately there is an objective to reduce car usage in the County but with some c. 480000 journeys to work each working day, only a massive increase in bike usage and improved public transport will make an indent. Electric cars still need roads and places to park and recharge and that is a big challenge at the moment with trials using some 1200 points now in place in addition to the small local facilities as in North Tadley. As to whether the systems are to be ultimately developed by the fuel companies or large car park orientated companies such as the Supermarkets is one of the considerations. Car sales in the South reflected last month as the first where electric cars overtook fossil fuel vehicles in terms of sales; as to when they will be delivered is another matter !
- HCC has continued with a generous grants system for those in need; opened Community Pantries in many locations as well as continued with support to all charities through the centralised Community First section. Free School Meals/vouchers during holidays continues as well as subsidizing Holiday activities are now ongoing. Tadley /Baughurst has good employment statistics; a small amount of FSM vav other areas in the County/Borough. |IOf course current economic conditions with energy costs/ COL etc will mean there is no let up on demand for welfare.
- Public Transport/ during the pandemic of course the bus frequency for the No 2 was cut- with often no passengers on board off peak buses, the cut back was logical and supported. We are now back to a full service-0 odd bus cancellations due driver/COVID problems but nothing of concern. The service remains /high frequency /fast/clean/low emission and quality seating and although of note is a request for the re instatement of the service to Reading, this would be in line with any West Berks wishes. It can be explored; of interest has been the re instatement of a bus service from Fleet/Hartley Wintney to Reading justified by demand. There has been little

demand in Baughurst for any Community Transport although good support for the likes of Basingstoke Neighbour care 'taxi' service, especially to help the older members of the community get to their nearest vaccination centre. I was pleased to help.

- HWRC; 3 years ago HCC had just paid another £180k to West Berks for permits to access Newtown Road. I was very involved in getting HCC to continue with this in the interests of the local community. In 2021, HCC , having consistently offered West Berks (as we do with Dorset and some other communities over the County borders) a reciprocal facility and because we had no financial justification nor had we availability of funds for such, HCC decided it could not continue. Alternative small sites were explored just off the A339; totally unsuitable and believe me the adverse reaction by local residents to having a tip so near to their residence would have been very negative based on initial comments and as the Borough had previously turned down a planning application for development of one of the sites, it was logical not to continue with the exercise. What have we now; Wade Road operating at full speed with an excellent, now permanent, booking system allowing high frequency visit; still access for Baughurst residents to any of the 26 tips in the County; a facility still at Newtown Road (WB) at a cost of £7 for those who found the journey and cost of such to Wade Road prohibitive /too much although we now understand that West Berks access data reflects a figure of more than 50% below what they had estimated when the County was paying for the access; ...and other benefits such as access to Padworth tip in WB for the Tadley and Baughurst residents who prefer that. The Borough has reinstated the garden waste kerbside collection service and general feedback is that there is no longer an issue. Of note the West Berks residents can only use Newtown Road...not Reading etc.
- Future projects in hand.....On Street Parking /EVCP's are going to be a massive item in Tadley and to a lesser degree in Pamber. In respect of the latter, recharging at home has satisfied nearly all owners to date. Strategy expected later this year. Additionally, there is now a major "'20mph review'" underway, more driven by emissions as much as road safety and this will be completed in the Autumn. It will be evidence based and primarily is looking to see if there is any value in reducing in selected areas the current 30mph limit down to 20mph. Of course I am well aware of the input over the years- and the lack of accidents as well- by some members of the Baughurst community and some speed check data will no doubt be part of the evidence.

As a County Councillor, I am assigned other duties as follows;

1. Member of the Hampshire Pension Fund Board which also incorporates a position on the 'responsible investments' committee; a £10Bn fund with several members in Baughurst!
2. Member of the Hampshire Isle of Wight Fire Rescue Services Authority
3. Member of the Audit Committee
4. Vice Chair of the Economy/Transport and Environment Select Cttee.

For the record, I am also one of the three Borough Councillors representing Tadley and Pamber.