

BAUGHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting held on Thursday 17 March 2016, 7.30 pm
Heath End Hall, Baughurst

PRESENT: Cllrs M G Slatford, (Chairman), C I Curtis, P E Garrett, C Grenville, J Peatman, S E Terrett, R Ward
Also present: County Councillor W Lovegrove, Borough Councillor R Tate, Pc J Dullingham and colleague, and 4 members of the public
Apologies for absence received from Cllrs J Hewitt, F Langley, G Porter, Borough Councillor M Bound
In attendance: Mrs P J Waterfield, Clerk

96. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of 18 February 2016, copies of which had been circulated, were taken as read and approved.

97. Declarations of interest

Councillors were reminded that for those with any interest to be disclosed in relation to any 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).

98. Matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting of 18 February 2016

(84) Speedwatch

Baughurst had completed an outing during the last week, when 5 offending vehicles had been recorded and reported to Police, one travelling over 40mph on a 30mph limit road.

(84) Retractable posts

Clearance has now been given by SEB and Southern Water concerning the siting of cabling, and the installation is now imminent.

(87) Baughurst Post Office

Has now re-opened under the logo of 'W H Smith'.

(89) Clerk's training

Clerk had undertaken the first of two-day training sessions with HALC, refreshing and updating her knowledge base. A report was given to Councillors.

(89) Council copier

Clerk reported her increased aggravation caused by the malfunctioning of the machine. A quotation from our current provider at £1195, which includes all replacement parts, call out fees and labour charges, toner cartridges and cost of 0.8p per page, was noted. Alternative quotations are to be sought.

(92) 90th birthday of Her Majesty

Agreed that £150 should be approved for payment of Tadley Band, who are prepared to play at an afternoon event on Sunday 12 June 2016. Heath End Hall, Heath End WI and St Stephen's church are all prepared to help with the event, which, it is hoped, will include a selection of memorabilia from the reign of Her Majesty.

99. County, Borough, Police and BDAPTC reports

a) County Councillor Lovegrove reported:

- He had attended BDBC Transport Forum and reported on the failure of Hampshire buses to maintain time schedules due to the roadworks outside Basingstoke Hospital. Consultation between the appropriate authorities had allegedly not taken place. The works are destined to be completed in April.
- He continues to report potholes on the HCC website, but little progress appears to be made, and the works appear to be of an inferior quality
- The Assistant Highways Engineer for this region has been promoted, and no replacement is currently in situ, although recruitment is currently taking place

- Devolution has been accepted in the southern area of Hampshire, but northern Hampshire has resisted the change thus far
- Home Tree children's centre in Tadley is closing down, in common with others in Hampshire
- Education – the recent Budget advised that all schools will become Academies by 2020, and that parent governors may become obsolete
- Burnham Copse Primary School had recently had an OFSTED inspection, with the result awaited
- Water leak in Heath End Road (shops) had been repaired by Southern Water, but not known whether cost will be borne by shopowners
- £500 had been given to Homestart as a grant

b) Borough Councillor Tate reported:

- BDBC Local Plan – still looking positive, and acceptance by the Inspector is imminent, with a letter due shortly outlining any issues. There is no reason to believe that the Plan will not be accepted.
- Local Infrastructure Fund – to be revised in April. Funds will become available to groups of Councils who have not had development in their parish, and it may be sensible for these to look at longer term plans which may be applicable for funding.
- Public Space Protection Orders – a new structure will be in place, linking with HCC's plans, ensuring continuity – eg with respect of dog fouling in open spaces, where fines may be levied.
- Devolution – BDBC had declined to join the southern authorities, but continue to discuss the basic proposal of building an integrated authority. Issues for discussion include the concept of an overall Mayoral responsibility, and finances.

c) c) Borough Councillor M Bound reported:

- Bishopswood Lane application: the ONR have recommended refusal (26 February) and the AWE have also followed suit (11 March). It is believed that Highways are also somewhat dissatisfied at the moment and want changes and clarifications. From this it is inferred that the Officer recommendation would be likely to Refuse but of course, until the report has been written, this is not a given.
- The 'golf course' application does not have these replies from the ONR or the AWE. In relation to these applications the Case Officer has been asked to enquire of the NHS what their position is, bearing in mind the shortage of doctors in the area and the difficulty in retention. Recently it was learned that the local doctors knew nothing of the proposal. The Case Officer has made a contact at the NHS but as of this moment in time has not heard anything of NHS thoughts on the matter.
- The water leak in Heath End road outside the shopping parade has again been repaired. Southern Water was strongly urged to take action if only because of the water wastage; their reply said that they would be contacting the people they held responsible and suggested that legal action would be taken were the problem not rectified. It has been now, but it is not known whether Southern Water solved the problem themselves, or the people they contacted, or a mixture of both.
- County Councillor Lovegrove and I have been active in reporting potholes on the Hampshire website; some have been filled, some are yet to be done. I would have to agree with the Parish Councillor who was quoted recently about the disappointing standard of repairs being carried out – most repairs seem to be sub-standard and not done in such a way that suggest they are not anything other than a remedial fix rather than a permanent one.
- The Borough is still in consultation re the devolution agenda that is being pushed by the Government, but there now seems to be quite a split in the discussion group about the direction of travel, with some Districts, mainly along the south coast, agreeing to accept an elected Mayor with overall responsibility, and others not willing to go down this route. Hampshire County Council, apparently, has somewhat

'flip flopped' on this matter but at this moment in time is not willing to sign on the dotted line with the breakaway southern grouping.

- The BDBC Full Council meeting of the 25th February agreed the Council Plan and the Budget Framework and Strategy; I expect that most households will by now have received their Council Tax demands for the next financial year.

d) Police

Speeding

Figures for February 2016;

FPN – fixed penalty notice, **DAT** – driver awareness training (course), **VW** – verbal warning

| <u>Site</u> (30 mph limit) | <u>Visits</u> | <u>Stops</u> | Results | (speed) |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Baughurst Rd, Ramsdell | 2 | 9 | 2 x FPN 2 x DAT 5 x VW | (42, 44) (39, 42) (35 – 38) |
| Wolverton Rd, Wolverton Cm | 2 | 10 | 4 x DAT 6 x VW | (39 - 42) (36 – 38) |

10 - Suspicious incidents - (from suspicious people to vehicles).

6 - Assault. (not necessarily physical, mostly between partners)

2 - Criminal damage incidents

7 - Road traffic incidents

8 - Anti-social behaviour incidents (environmental, between people known to each other, vehicle, groups of youths)

3 – Public order

1 – Theft of cycle

0 – Dwelling breaks

0 – Non dwelling breaks

1 – Theft from vehicle

2 – Drugs (home owner smoking cannabis at their home address)

Between 1st February and 29th February there were no reported incidents of dwelling breaks in the area. Between 1st February and 29th February there were no reported incidents of non-dwelling breaks in the area.

e) BDAPTC

The most recent meeting had been postponed to a later date.

100. **Open forum**

Clerk distributed councillor application forms to all present, advising that returns must be made direct to BDBC, by appointment only, and before 7 April 2016. Cllr Slafford gave an update provision locally, advising that the area comprising Stoney Heath, Hannington, A339, Baughurst and Ashford Hill would fall within the area of those with no faster broadband provision. Cllr Tate advised that BDBC may have a small grants scheme which would assist with the financing of an alternative capital project. Clerk agreed to contact Stratfield Saye Parish Council, who have a similar problem, for advice.

101. **Planning**

a) to receive and consider the latest planning applications

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 16/00395/HSE | 4 Highworth Cottages, Stokes Lane | Single storey front extension | |
| 16/00381/FUL | Land at West View | 2 detached dwellings, with | |

| | | | |
|--------------|---|--|--|
| | Farm and rear of Beulah, Baughurst Road | associated parking, turning, landscaping private amenity space and creation of shared access | |
| 16/00386/ROC | Manor Farm House and Lower Manor Farm, Baughurst Road | variation of conditions 1 and 5 of 15/02740/FUL (removal of agricultural/equestrian buildings and outdoor manege in order to facilitate the erection of a new detached dwelling, adjoining stable block, the creation of an outdoor swimming pool and tennis court, with associated parking, turning, landscaping and improved access arrangements (part retrospective), and retention of existing dwelling Manor Farm House) to allow the existing outbuilding to be retained and to create alternative access arrangements | |
| 16/00331/ROC | Mulberry House, Inhurst Lane | Removal of condition 16 of 14/00903/FUL to allow works that would normally be possible under permitted development rights | |

b) Decisions by BDBC

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| 15/03786/HSE + LBC | Browns Farm, Pound Green | Demolition of existing extensions and two storey extension (renewal of BDB 77049) | Approved |
| 15/014191/LDEU | Wildermere, Haughurst Hill | Certificate of lawfulness for continued use of land as extension to garden of Wildermere, to include use for children's play and siting of items of play equipment | Part approved, part refused |
| 15/04391/FUL | Land at Ewhurst Park | Extension to residential curtilage of Plot 1 as approved 14/02641/FUL and erection of 5 replacement kennels following demolition of 6 kennels | Approved |

102. **Finance**

a) Financial statement

The latest financial statement was noted. The Clerk advised that expenditure, at roughly £51,000, was in excess of the Precept of £42,000 at the end of the financial year.

b) To consider grant application, CAB

Approval was given to a grant of £650, under Section 137 of the LGA 1972, for the benefit of the area and its inhabitants

c) To consider whether to opt in or out of the External Audit Scheme

Agreed that this Council would opt in to the External Audit Scheme.

d) to consider replacement of Council copier/scanner/printer

Further quotations to be received.

e) to approve reinvestment of half yearly precept

Approval was given to the reinvestment of the half yearly precept.

f) Clerk's pension update

Notification had been given that April 2017 will be the date by which this Council must have considered, and, if necessary, implemented an appropriate pension scheme for its employee. The Clerk also advised that notification from HCC Pension scheme will now take place through a portal to which members are invited to join.

103. **Playing fields and Open Spaces**

a) Wolverton field

- Agreed that EJ Services would, in future, be more proactive within the terms of our existing contract, and incorporate repair or replacement of items which are nearing the end of their useful life. Currently they react only to items flagged by BDBC as being 'high' or 'medium' risk, but they were asked to ensure that 'low' level items are also considered, before these move to 'medium' or 'high' risk. They are also to provide Clerk with details of their visit by email, shortly after the visit, and any works they have completed during their visit
- Moles – AGREED that a quotation for the removal of moles at £75 for the visit, plus two moles, plus £40 per additional mole, would be accepted.
- Younger children's play area:
 - ❖ quotation to be received by EJS for replacement of cradle seat
 - ❖ Bark chippings – consideration to be given to either refreshing the bark chippings, or removal of the whole, and replacement by grass matting or rubber mulch. The latter options could cause problems because this play area is raised by about 6" above ground level, and would cause a considerable drop between the play equipment and the ground.
 - ❖ Play unit – EJS agreed to remove moss between the boarding and stain with preventative
 - ❖ EJS agreed to provide a replacement wooden seat for the area
- Older children's play area:
 - ❖ All the ropes on the two pieces of play equipment are fraying, and, although only identified as 'low' risk by BDBC, will ultimately become a health and safety issue. AGREED that quotations are received from EJS for their replacement

b) Long Grove

Much discussion ensued about the slide unit, which is constantly being fouled by bird droppings. Currently Council has agreed one further steam cleaning session before Easter. One option had been the possibility of the felling of overhanging pine trees, but the tree contractor had advised against this, stating that remedial surgery of overhanging branches would be sufficient. A price of £480 had been quoted for the work to be carried out.

It was suggested that the unit could be turned on its axis, but agreed that, even if this was carried out, it would still lie under the canopy of adjacent trees.

AGREED that:

- ❖ A quotation is to be received for the felling of 3 conifers adjacent to the slide
- ❖ Maintenance contractor asked to sweep the pine needles from the base of units on a weekly basis

c) **Land to rear of Hurst School**

Councillors inspected the recent planting which had been carried out. The cotoneaster appears to have taken, although still in its infancy. Two further areas still need addressing. One, to the left of the planting, is stony, and the maintenance contractor advised that

little would grow there. One option would be to put down topsoil, and either sow seed or lay turf. A 'desire line' path has already sprung up here.

The other is a flat open area to the rear gate of Hurst School, and is very compacted. A mechanical digger would be needed to rotovate the ground before any form of planting is considered, and, in addition, that area of the site is heavily used by children exiting the school, and lies under a canopy of trees, precluding light.

AGREED:

- a) Quotations are to be received for the clearance of both areas of land
- b) Quotations are to be received for provision of topsoil, grass seed and/or turves
- c) Quotations are to be received for the provision of scalplings/hoggin for the area of land to the rear of Hurst School
- d) Consider formalising the desire line path in the first area, laying down hoggin and edging boards
- e) Maintenance contractor to be asked to clear vegetation and leaves from left side of right of way

d) **Open space areas off Long Grove**

- Both open green ways in the space between the curve of Long Grove were walked and no problems found
- The tumulus was walked – rights of way were not clear to the right of the tumulus

f) **Path from Mornington Close to Heath End shops**

This land has not yet been inspected by the arboricultural surveyor. Noted that many trees are ivy-girt, and this should be included in their report. The path which runs through here is not listed as a public right of way on the Definitive Map, but AGREED that this should be considered. More information required on the exact dimensions of the path. Meanwhile, maintenance contractor to be asked to clear overgrown vegetation to make the path more navigable.

g) **Land running from Woodlands Road to Hazel Green**

AGREED that consideration is given to:

- Planting of new trees/shrubs in open areas created by the recent felling of trees
- Widening of public right of way which runs through the site, to encourage walkers to use the designated path rather than the newly created 'rat-runs' which proliferate the site
- Clerk advised that the land which lies at the most southern part of the site is not owned by this Council. To attempt ownership, the land would either need to be totally enclosed for a period of five years, after which application could be made to the Land Registry, or an offer made, should the owner be identified, to buy it.

104. **Highways and Rights of Way**

a) Footpaths Committee

a) Footpaths booklet

Approximately 200 copies remained of the 2012 booklet. AGREED that consideration is given to the production of a further booklet – any remaining circular walks may be difficult to identify.

b) Rights of Way

- Footpath 7 – damage to the bridge had been reported to HCC, who had advised that they had found no damage to either bridge or walkway. It is suspected that anomalies exist with the perception of the route of FPs 7 and 8 (referring to existing footpaths maps owned by this Council), and further investigation is to be made
- Footpath 19 – fingerpost missing

- Footpath 2 – waymarking is to be added by HCC at the end of the cul de sac behind the electricity station, as a fingerpost is not considered suitable for this area
- Footpath 20 – a resident had spent the summer clearing the path, but it was agreed that demarcation of the right of way is difficult, as, despite a fingerpost, no suitable trees or posts exist for waymarking purposes. Thanks were recorded to Nigel for his sterling work
- Footpath 51 – the resident had also spent many hours clearing this bridleway, and several residents had commented on the vast improvement the pruning had made
- Footpath 9 – possibility of barbed wire adjacent to this right of way
- Footpath 13 – junction of Violet Lane – kissing gate is hanging open. Either Cllr Grenville or maintenance contractor to effect repair
- Footpaths 28 and 30 remain problems, with the right of way passing through gardens of residents, and thus a possible deterrent to walkers
- Suggested that advertising 'Walking for Health' in the next parish newsletter may be useful
- Following the transfer of land adjacent to 105 Long Grove, AGREED that the area is first cleared (Playing Fields and Open Spaces committee to consider), and then application made for the extension of Footpath 3 to HCC. Footpath 3 is currently unusable because of decades of seasonal growth etc., and it is suggested that the whole line of the path should perhaps be moved – application to be made to HCC.
- Footpath 17 – broken stile to be reported to HCC

c) Any other business

Suggested that BDBC's 'Green Week' in September to be considered by appropriate committee. Noted that the Footpaths maps distributed to Councillors are elderly and may be out of date. Consideration to be given to replacement of maps for all.

105. Open forum

Items raised included HCC Briefing Budget notes donated by County Councillor Lovegrove, and a discussion surrounding devolution and the slashing of central funding.

106. Accounts for payment

Received: Calleva £73; Calleva Cubs Pineapple rental £18

To pay:

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|------|----------------------|
| Inland Revenue | Tax and NI March | BACS | 152.78 |
| Clerk | Salary and allowances March | BACS | 997.3 |
| Regency | Payroll – March | d/d | 13.50 + 2.70 VAT |
| A D Gibbs | 249 hrs @£8.30 plus materials | BACS | 2552.56 |
| A D Gibbs | Clearance, Baughurst Common | BACS | 250.00 |
| SEB | Pavilion | BACS | 43.28 + 2.16 |
| Southern Water | Pavilion | d/d | 1.00 |
| Datasharp | Copier service March | d/d | 27.50 + 5.50 VAT |
| HCC | Pension March | BACS | 274.38 |
| HALC | Clerk's training session | BACS | 75.00 15.00 |
| Clerk | Petty cash | BACS | 150.00 |
| | Newsletter delivery | p/c | 65.00 |
| | Newsletter postage | p/c | 127.44 |
| | Phone 3 mos to 31.3.16 | p/c | 63.12 + 6.53 |
| | Postage 3 mos to 31.3.16 | p/c | 62.77 |
| | Mileage 70m @ 60.1 | p/c | 42.67 + 4.50 parking |
| | Norton antivirus | p/c | 49.99 |

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|-----|----------|------|---------|
| CAB | Donation | BACS | £650.00 |
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107. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting of **BAUGHURST PARISH COUNCIL** will be the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, to be held on Thursday 7 April 2016, 7.30 pm, Heath End Hall, Baughurst. Agreed that the June meeting, which currently clashes with the Referendum on Europe, will be held on Tuesday 21 June 2016, Wolverton Hall.
