

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
BAUGHURST PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 22nd February 2023
AT HEATH END HALL AT 7.30PM**

BAUGHURST PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Charlton (Chairman)		✓	
Cllr Cockle	✓		
Cllr Clark	✓		
Cllr Cooper	✓		
Cllr Fletcher	✓		
Cllr Hewitt	✓		
Cllr Higson		✓	
Cllr Porter	✓		
Cllr Slatford	✓		
Cllr Terrett	✓		
Vacancy			

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Karen Ross- Locum Clerk and 3 members of the public

- 133. To receive and accept apologies for absence.**
ACCEPTED and RECEIVED from Cllr Charlton due to sickness and Cllr Higson due to personal reasons.
NOTED from Borough Councillor Bound
- 134. To receive and note any declarations of pecuniary interest relevant to the agenda.**
RECEIVED from Cllr Cooper a declaration of personal interest relevant to the agenda on item 144.02.
- 135. The approve as a correct record the minutes of the Baughurst Parish Council meeting held on 11th January 2024.**
APPROVED as a correct record the minutes of the Baughurst Parish Council meeting held on 11th January 2024.
- 136. To receive any reports and open the meeting to the public.**
County Councillor Mellor
ATTACHED as Appendix A
- Borough Councillor Bound**
ATTACHED as Appendix A



Public Forum

- A resident raised the issue of the state of repair to the play area and the lack of grass cutting of the area.
 - A representative of Southern planning practice and the Estate Manager attended the meeting to address the application as listed in 144.03 on Ewhurst Park.
 - The groundsman for Pineapple Field attended to thank the Parish Council for fixing the electrics. He also requested that the lease for the Pineapple field is extended past 5 years in order that the Football club can apply for FA grants.
137. **To note the current financial situation and the reconciliation of the Bank Balance**
NOTED the current financial situation and the reconciliation of the Bank Balance.
ATTACHED as Appendix B
138. **To approve the request for payments for February 2024**
APPROVED the request for payments for February 2024
ATTACHED as Appendix C
139. **To agree the exit payment from Hampshire Pension at a cost of £28,900**
AGREED the exit payment from Hampshire Pension at a cost of £28,900.
140. **To receive an update on neighbourhood plan and consider a budget allocation of £500.**
RECEIVED an update on neighbourhood plan.
ALLOCATED a budget allocation of £500.
141. **To appoint the internal auditor**
APPOINTED Do the numbers as the Internal Auditor for financial year 2023/2024
142. **To consider projects for S106 funds**
RESOLVED for Cllr Cooper to contact the officer to discuss the ideas from the S106 working group
RESOLVED to promote the ideas from the S106 working group.
143. **To consider applying for a Pride of Place Grant for Bicycle racks**
RESOLVED not to apply for a Pride of Place Grant for Bicycle racks.
144. **To consider the following planning Application**
144.01 **24/00110/VLA**
Upper Farm Bungalow Baughurst Road
Removal of Section 106 agreement dated 27.04.2001 containing agricultural occupancy restriction.
No objection



- 144.02 T/00588/23/TPO**
7 Heathrow Copse Baughurst
A.01 Fell. A.02 Fell. B.03 Fell. C.04 to C.021: prune and remove deadwood
No objection
- 144.03 23/03145/FUL**
Land At Ewhurst Park
Change of Use of land from agricultural to glamping site, including siting of 12 no. tents and 2 no. timber clad containers including landscaping works.
No Objection
- 144.04 24/00083/HSE**
4 Hollybush Cottages Stoney Heath
Erection of two storey side extension
No objection
- 144.05 23/02548/FUL**
La Capanna (Formerly Known as The Pineapple) Little Knowl Hill
Change of use to car sales (Sui Generis) with retention of living accommodation on first floor.
Objection contrary to Policies CN9, EM10 and EM11 of Basingstoke and Deane Local plan.
- 145. To consider the specification for the Withies**
APPROVED the specification for the Withies.
- 146. To consider the routing of Footpath 13b Baughurst**
APPROVED to support the routing of Footpath 13b Baughurst.
- 147. To note the active project list and receive any update.**
NOTED the active project list.
AGREED that each Councillor would review and update where necessary.
Councillors Cooper, Terrett, Slatford and Porter will review the adverse possessions.
- 148. To consider volunteer footpath training conducted by HCC.**
RESOLVED to invite an HCC representative to talk to the Parish Council about the training and how volunteers operate in other parishes.
- 149. To approve the work to the Pineapple field to combat flooding to include installing a soakaway with sand and soil infill.**
Further details and a specification to be submitted to the Parish Council for further consideration.
- 150. To note the resignation of Councillor Mamon and consider co-option.**
NOTED the resignation of Councillor Mamon
AGREED not to co-opt as Elections are within a 6-month period.
- 151. To agree the date of the next meeting**
AGREED as 21st March 2024.



152. Admission to meeting to pass a resolution in accordance with the public bodies (Admission to meetings) act 1960 to exclude the public and press from the remainder of this meeting as publicity will be prejudicial to the confidential nature of the business.

152.01 To consider staffing matters.

Cllr Fletcher updated the meeting and confirmed second interviews will take place on 2nd March.

RESOLVED that the HR committee would appoint the successful candidate and advise full council.

152.02 To consider the rent of the Pineapple field.

RESOLVED that the monthly rent of the Pineapple field would be increased to £95.

RESOLVED that there would be no increase in the occasional hire fee.

Meeting finished at 9.53pm



Appendix A

Hampshire County Council Report Feb 2024

1 Budget Consultation

There has been widespread coverage of the consultation document seeking the public's views on where there can be cuts in the budget for 25/26 when, given the current situation, HCC expects there to be a shortfall of c£125M. Unfortunately, the media seemed to take this as a "given" with all the options being taken as a certainty! Far from it, HCC still pursues the Govt for full funding on issues and is hopeful that this will be achieved. Still, as opposed to the likes of Birmingham, Southampton, where the Govt has had to step in because of serious shortfalls in the past year(s), the strategy of the Council is one of working two years ahead to ensure budgets will be met with minimum inconvenience to the residents.

Hampshire County Council is in reasonable shape- would be one of the last of the local Authorities to seek some Section 114 action. HCC currently has some £700M in reserve- committed reserve for some expenditures and HCC will dip into that if necessary for the 24/5 budget which will be approved this week. HCC has the lowest Council Tax of the shires and it could be debated that had we not frozen Council Tax for 5 years in the period of austerity circa 2011/2-16 then perhaps we would not be forecasting a deficit; perhaps too had the county not borne some share of HMG'S £400BN additional generous expenditure during COVID with benefits, furlough schemes and at times bordering on recession, then the current priority of reducing national debt would have not been so dramatic as to affect everything the Govt can do. Suffice to say, many expect the Govt to be more generous in compensating County Councils for some of its enforced expenditure such that the sought after savings will not be so large.

I would ask all PC members and residents to give some thought to the consultation. Obviously some of the Councils £2.3Bn turnover is for statutory issues...the Childrens Services including education and Adult Social Care are difficult to consider further savings on an ever growing budget; however there are areas such as Home to School Transport where the costs will have escalated from £32M to est.£70M per annum by 2026- some unnecessary but enforced by long outdated legislation. This is largely resultant from commitments to transport SEN students where we will probably need to 'cut' or rather find other ways of financing. There are some smaller items being considered such as HWRC where some small tips, mostly close to other tips, could be shelved or replaced by very large tips more in line with recycling requirements (again, my ward is not involved in that) and also the subject of lollipop ladies/gents being formally reduced; there are some 111 vacancies not filled as difficult to find replacements nor do schools regularly say they want them. Alternative ways of protecting the children are available. In Tadley Baughurst and the other villages in my ward, we do not employ them and safety has not been impaired nor has there been any negative comment re the need.

2 Bus Back Better and/or Active Space transportation.

HCC is committed to better public transport along with more Active Space Mobility, be it Cycle and walking paths or e.g. better bus schedules. Normally, where a service is justified but unlikely to break even, subsidies have to be used to ensure the likes of Stagecoach in Basingstoke and Deane can operate viably. Am pleased to advise therefore that the high frequency No 2 service from Basingstoke to Tadley/Baughurst is not subsidized, the loads have



only just got back up to those enjoyed pre pandemic and the most encouraging news is that we now expect 2026 to see the implementation of a full electric fleet replacing the low emission buses we currently have on the route. Of course the route has the benefit of many passengers alighting/joining at the hospital; irrespective of the outcome of the decision as to where the new hospital will be built , we see a steady improvement in the bus services in our area; a bit odd therefore that the pan Hampshire consultation features possible savings. The extension of the £2 flat fare is welcomed and although we believe, as do the passengers when surveyed, that the Senior Citizen Concession could possibly bear a small administration fee (– the law would have to change), we do not foresee much change there. Perhaps we will be looking at more small bus operations to serve the villages; having mentioned that, demand for Community Transport is not high be it Dial a Ride , Taxi share etc. I have nothing to report re the joint Link service on the A339.

The cycle /walking path network has been comprehensive in the South of the County and now things are starting to move in the North. We still have not fully finalized the network in the Tadley /Baughurst area– again there is a budget limitation on what can be done but still anticipate work to start in 2024/5.

Highways

A further statistical report on progress was dispatched in January. The news of budget increases for Highways Maintenance by HMG grant to appease the national issue of potholes is very welcome and will be used extensively. This was on top of the divergence of some funds for projects such as major road resurfacing on the A roads to pothole filling etc and will only be realized once additional maintenance crews are recruited etc . The drop in pothole reports/updates is pleasing yet surprising considering the weather issues since December with record rainfall (a plus being little frost) precluding some work and possibly damaging recent activity. The rural areas admittedly lose out in frequency of coverage due proximity and the problem being that the haunches cannot benefit from the technology– nor are a priority as they tend to be C /unlisted roads. Once there is sufficient work in the area then Highways Ops dispatch. When the crews have their allocated duty, we now find that the 'Find It, Fix it' scheme where some early repair work is undertaken on non reported surface issues seen during their coverage of the allocated work is very productive in cutting down calls. Still though the issue remains; the road structure in rural areas is old; the problem of haunches not being filled is now being looked at and of course we anticipate more flood activity as the effects of Climate Change continue. It was good to see lengthsman activity clearing some of the ditches in the past few weeks to steer more water from the road surface. The cooperation of the landowners in this respect is very welcome. Where there are banks/bunds precluding surface water from returning to the gullies, then HCC has been creating a relief; in some areas where there are no banks/bunds between the road and the ditch and only natural drainage then we have a real problem. The water table is very high, landowners have nowhere to pump the water too. Responsibility for the drainage issues like this is explained on the website.



Finally, in respect of Highways, the issue of speed limits continues. I reported last year on the outcome of an HCC Working group that reviewed dropping the 30mph limit to 20mph in some residential /urban areas. The outcome of the report /consultation with response from 10000 residents/councillors etc was pretty much to extend the usual areas but focus on enforcement at 30mph rather than any 20 limits outside the current areas. There is though going to be an opportunity for Parishes to introduce speed limits at their expense; this awaits finalization but of course would be dependent on those parishes securing good developer contributions be they CIL or S106 to contribute to the cost of the Community Funded Initiative.

Clearly the agenda focus is moving from potholes etc to EV charging and , should there be any developments in legislation, pavement parking.

Health and Social Care

HCC is to spend some £173M on new Care Homes with a focus on dementia . These will add capacity and modernize the facilities we offer at a much lower cost than private care homes levy. Social Care in Hampshire costs in excess of £1Billion pa and with the population that is over 85 years in age increasing by 1000 per annum in the County, this programme is essential. Locally in B & D the Oakridge facility will be replaced and expanded.

Childrens Services

Hampshire CC is one of the very few Childrens Services that is overall Outstanding. As to whether this can be continued with a new Ofsted system for inspection now in place , only time will tell. January registrations were as expected and with 97%of the children getting their 1st or 2nd choice in my ward. HCC continues to plan/open another 12 schools in the next five years, some as a result of new development sites, others due upgrading requirements. More on that in March.

Climate Change

The annual HCC report on Climate Change activity was published in December and it is an excellent document. Whilst every decision in Hampshire has to consider the effects on Climate Change, the output is clear that economic development does have a role to play. Worth a read; locally too I have supported some green activity with my County Councillors Devolved Budget. Always happy listen to any new projects in the Division, be they 'Repair Shops or school Farm projects etc.

A big thank you to Ashford Hill Headley for their new initiative re Rights of Way; to Baughurst PC for their work on the Repair Shop; to Ecchinswell/Bishops Green for their backing the local Community Association and of course Tadley TC for the help and understanding the difficulties caused by the land grab activities in their patch which have certainly occupied some of my time in the past 3 months.



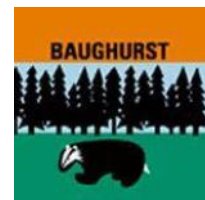
Cllr Mike Bound

I am sorry that I can't be in attendance this evening; your meeting clashes with the BDBC council meeting. This meeting is mainly concerned with the budget for the new financial year. The agenda can be viewed on the BDBC web site.

The Local Plan update has been approved by Cabinet and is now on the BDBC web site for consultation response. The portfolio holder is very keen for parishes and towns to do so, and I would encourage this council to assess the plan and make those responses. The proposal is for 700 houses/annum in the first 5 years of the plan; this will be subject to consideration by an inspector considering government revisions to NPPF (published Dec 2023) and the government's own thoughts on build numbers. Going to public consultation (Regulation 18) gives the Borough additional protection against the speculative development that resulted from us not having a five-year housing land supply. The supply currently stands at 4.6 years (see below – Housing Land Supply Update). Previously this meant that planning officers and Development Control Committee had reduced scope to block unsuitable developments in the Borough. This can now stop as Regulation 18 consultation is under way (going out to the public) as the new NPPF dictates that the Borough only need to demonstrate a four-year housing land supply to get their full planning powers back.

Housing Land Supply Update: The latest Authority Monitoring Report published in December 2023 highlighted a supply position of 4.27 years at the time of publication, with a 5% buffer added. A housing land supply (HLS) position statement was then published in January 2024 setting out an updated position on 1st January 2024, following the publication of the new NPPF in late December 2023 and the movement into a new calendar year which affected the inputs into the Standard Methodology calculations (SM). Due to the revisions contained in the NPPF at paragraph 226 and 77 the Council no longer needs to add a buffer. This highlighted an improved supply position of 4.6 years. However, if the Council was to accept a recent Inspectors finding on an appeal at Wash Common, the impact of the removal of supply from two sites due to the pace of deliverability through the evidence assessed in the Watermill Bridge decision could now reduce the overall current housing land supply from 4.6 years to 4.2 years. This would remain over the 4-year requirement reported previously and as now clarified in the Planning Policy Guidance.

I have nothing of importance to impart regarding Baughurst and Wolverton except to say that I haven't heard anything further regarding Three Corner Plantation and we haven't as yet had the verdict of the inspector looking into the appeal by Mr Doyne regarding the refusal of his planning application at Inhurst Lane. I have noted in my travels around the ward that HCC has been fixing some drainage problems, one in Wolverton Townsend beyond the George & Dragon and they appear to have done a lot of work in rectifying the drainage problem in Ham Lane.



Appendix B Financial Update

Baughurst Parish Council

Bank - Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 28 January 2024

Confirmed Bank & Investment Balances

Bank Statement Balances

31/01/2024	Lloyds Bank - Treasurers Acc	969.13	
28/01/2024	Lloyds Bank Bus Instant	28,098.60	
28/01/2024	BDBC Savings	111,599.59	
21/12/2023	Petty Cash	0.00	
			140,667.32

Receipts not on Bank Statement

0.00

Closing Balance

140,667.32

All Cash & Bank Accounts

1	Current Bank A/c	969.13	
2	Savings A/c	28,098.60	
3	BDBC A/c	111,599.59	
4	Petty Cash	0.00	
	Other Cash & Bank Balances	0.00	
	Total Cash & Bank Balances	140,667.32	

Appendix C

Payment Requests- February 2024

From	Item	Invoice Number	Payment Method	Amount
Karen Ross	Salary	february	Bank Transfer	1,537.14
Nash Services	Tree Maintenance	102477	Bank Transfer	192.00
Alan Gibbs	Maintenace	3077	Bank Transfer	373.75
Chris Martin	leaflet drop		Bank Transfer	140.00
M3 Automation	Electrical work	INV-0276	Bank Transfer	180.00
Parish On Line	Parish on line	24UB003-007	Bank Transfer	108.00
Hugo Fox	Subcription	INV4121	Bank Transfer	23.99
Turbary Allotment Charity	Room Hire		Bank Transfer	49.00
Karen Ross	Mileage		Bank Transfer	9.90
Cllr Cockle	Newsletter expenses		Bank Transfer	58.92
Viking	Finance files	3678174	Bank Transfer	30.00
Total				£2,702.70