



EAST WITTERING & BRACKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8th NOVEMBER AT 7.00PM AT BRACKLESHAM BARN, BEECH AVENUE, BRACKLESHAM BAY, CHICHESTER, PO20 8HU

PRESENT:

Cllr. Brian Reeves	Cllr. Tracey Glithero
Cllr. Teri Dixon	Cllr. Dawson Parker
Cllr. Mike Lawson	Cllr. Darren Banks
Cllr. Alan Whitcher	Cllr. Pamela Kensington
Cllr. Adam Christmas	

County Cllr. Pieter Montyn
District Cllr. Susan Taylor

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

District Cllr. Keith Martin

IN ATTENDANCE Parish Clerk, Sam Tate 4 members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting by observing a one-minute silence to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

18.187 Apologies for Absence

District Cllr. Keith Martin
Cllr. Joe O'Sullivan

18.188 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Banks declared an interest in agenda item 4: Charitable Funding Applications

18.189 Minutes of the Council's Meeting Held on 11th October

Cllr Lawson requested that the Village Hall update be added to the meeting minutes. Subject to this amendment the minutes were confirmed as a correct record and approved for signature by the Chair.

Action: Clerk to amend October meeting minutes as agreed

18.189 Matters Arising

None

18.190 Public Questions

None

18.191 Reports from District & County Councillors

Susan Taylor reported that CD would once again be hosting Santa's Grotto in the Novium in December at a cost of £6 per child. The Car Parking team would be introducing digital parking permits to replace the existing paper-based season tickets in the car parks. The Seas the Day project in Selsey is progressing well,

recording the fishing heritage of the town and promoting the modern-day industry. The retail shop front grant scheme is now open to applications from businesses who completed the retail training programme. Up to £4,000 is available for businesses to apply for. A second round of the retail training is expected to begin in July 2019. Within the local plan review, East Wittering has been designated as a village centre, which could help to unlock more support from economic development in the future. The re-designation is currently being considered by the planning inspectorate. CDC has agreed to maintain their Council Tax Reduction scheme at current levels to continue to support vulnerable residents.

Pieter Montyn

Cllr Montyn gave an update on the Bus services consultation that is currently open for comments from residents. The consultation only effects WSCC subsidised services, not commercially run routes. Local routes impacted by the consultation are the 150 service from Selsey-East Wittering/Itchenor. The consultation closes on 18th November.

An update was given on WSCC finances - although not in deficit and in a much better position than many County Councils, WSCC will have to make considerable savings to balance their budget. They are currently reviewing which services are statutory and which are non-statutory and will be undertaking further consultation and reviews over the next six months to ascertain where savings can be made. Cllr Montyn spoke about how WSCC make school place assessments and recognised that this was an area of concern for residents in the light of potential new developments that may be delivered following the local plan review. Finally, an update was given on the A27 scheme. Currently WSCC are awaiting a response from Highways England (HE), which they hope to receive in December. The local MP has been lobbying for an increased budget to fully fund the revised proposals. Budget allocations are likely to be announced by HE in February.

18.192 Reports from Councillors on Committee Meetings and External Meetings Attended Since 11th October 2018

MPP - The chair had attended this meeting and advised the Council that the proposed O Bikes rental scheme was no longer progressing, as the operators did not feel that it could be made commercially viable.

South Chichester CLC - The chair had attended this meeting and commented on the impressive lobbying and organisation of some of the local campaign groups.

Seaward Homes - The chair updated councillors on the meeting held with Seaward Homes to discuss the site at Southdowns. Seaward homes had addressed our concerns and in light of the publication of indicative housing allocations in the revised Local Plan for East Wittering & Bracklesham, the Parish Council agreed that it no longer objected to the application. The Council agreed that the application made good use of a brownfield site and will reduce the burden on new greenfield developments required to fulfil our housing allocation of 350 homes.

18.193 Finance

18.194.1 The chair had previously agreed and signed the bank reconciliation

18.194.2 The council received a statement of the current financial position and a revised forecast for the budget position at the end of the year. The Chair advised the Council that a number of Virements would need to be made in the February meeting to move expenditure between different budget areas due to changes in the running of the council made throughout the year. It was not anticipated at this stage that any monies would need to be drawn from reserves to balance the budget at the end of the year.

18.194.3 The council received the list of payments and receipts made between 21.8.18 and 20.9.18 (see attached)

Proposed by Cllr Lawson, Seconded by Cllr Whitcher, council RESOLVED to approve the payment schedule.

18.194 New Homes Bonus Grant 2018

Council agreed to accept the funding conditions attached to the award of £12,000 for the 2018 New Homes Bonus grant, to be spent on improvements to the public realm at Booker Green.

Proposed by Cllr Parker, Seconded by Cllr Glithero, council RESOLVED accept the grant.

Action: Clerk to return signed agreement to Chichester District Council

18.195 To Consider Funding Requests from Local Charitable Organisations

Councillor Banks declared an interest in this item and withdrew from the room whilst it was resolved.

Funding requests from a number of local Charities were considered by the Council and following consideration of all the applications, awards were made as per the attached final schedule.

Proposed from the Chair, council RESOLVED to make funding awards as per the attached final schedule.

Action: Clerk to advise groups of the outcome of their request and arrange for payment of grants/in-kind donations as per the agreed schedule.

18.196 Response to the Consultation on Cuts to the Local Housing Support Grants

Councillor Banks re-joined the meeting.

The council discussed the background paper prepared by Councillor O'Sullivan and considered the proposed response to the consultation. Following discussion, council agreed to submit the following wording in response to the consultation:

“East Wittering & Bracklesham Parish Council is extremely concerned about, and wishes to express the strongest opposition possible to, the proposals coming from West Sussex County Council to cut the housing support grant. These cuts will have a harmful impact on the parishioners of East Wittering and Bracklesham, as well as placing additional financial pressures on Chichester District Council (as the local housing authority) that the District Council would struggle to meet given the financial pressures and funding cuts already imposed on it by national government.”

Proposed from the Chair, council RESOLVED to submit the agreed response to the consultation

Action: Clerk to submit consultation response

18.197 Chichester District Council Infrastructure Business Plan

District Cllr Taylor requested that the Parish Council fully engage with the consultation and ensure that we feed in all comments and requests.

The Parish Council agreed to review the plan against their project priorities and ensure that it still accurately reflected the community needs and aspirations.

The Chair highlighted the current timescales allocated for junction/roundabout improvement works on the A286/B2210 in Donnington.

Proposed by from the Chair, council resolved to write to CDC to request that junction improvements be brought forward.

Action: Clerk to write to CDC requesting that junction improvements be brought forward as soon as possible.

18.198 Financial Accounting Package

Council noted the clerks report on a new financial/accounting package and accepted the recommendation to appoint RBS as the supplier of the software.

Proposed by Cllr Lawson, Seconded by Cllr Parker, council RESOLVED purchase the RBS Omega software package.

Action: Clerk to arrange purchase and installation of software

18.199 Repair of Play Surfacing at Bracklesham Park

Council considered the quotations and agreed to appoint supplier c (Rhythm & Hues) to complete the work.

Proposed by Cllr Whitcher, seconded by Cllr Banks, Council RESOLVED to appoint Rhythm & Hues to

complete the work.

Action: Clerk to arrange for work to be completed.

18.200 Remembrance Sunday Update

The commemoration event was well in hand, with food and music arranged by Cllr. Christmas. Father Steve will perform a short service on the green at St Annes starting at 6.30pm, ahead of the commemoration activities (Bugler, beacon lighting & bell peal), which would be followed by refreshments and food in the Village Hall.

The fire brigade will attend to help set up and attend the beacon. Posters had been placed in the village to publicise the event.

18.201 Christmas Lights Update

The LBA had a meeting on 9th November to finalise plans for the switch-on event on December 1st. The Christmas tree pit was being installed w/c 12/11/18, and the Christmas tree was arriving on 22/11/18.

18.202 Co-option to fill vacancy

The co-option vacancy had one applicant, Barbara Kott. The Chair invited Mrs Kott to give a short representation, and council then voted 5 votes to 4 to co-opt Mrs Kott onto the council.

Action: Clerk to arrange for Mrs Kott to complete her declaration of office, register of interests and be issued with a Parish Council email address and tablet.

18.203 Urgent Matters

The Chairman advised the Council that we had spoken to CDC regarding the Neighbourhood plan. Valerie Dobson was likely to be our assigned officer from CDC to assist and advise on the plan. We were aiming for a completion date of May 2019 for the plan.

Heartspace had requested permission to plant a willow dome at Bracklesham Park. The Clerk agreed to contact them for more information to present at the December Council meeting.

Clerk to arrange for Heartspace to present more information on the Willow Dome project at December meeting

The Chair requested that Council consider cancelling the January meeting, as the dates meant it would not be possible to prepare the meeting agenda and papers within the statutory notification times due to staff leave and Christmas holidays.

Clerk to add amendment to meeting schedule to December meeting agenda

District Councillor Taylor requested that two members of the council be available to attend the CDC Task and Finish Group looking at Kosy Kot and the sea frontage areas. The group was expected to meet in December 2018. Councillors Lawson and Parker were nominated.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD AT 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 13TH
DECEMBER 2018 AT BRACKLESHAM BARN, BEECH AVENUE, BRACKLESHAM BAY, PO20 8HU**

These minutes are in draft form until approved by the council at the next meeting, and may be amended by resolution. Copies of all unapproved minutes, and agenda and more information about East Wittering and Bracklesham Parish Council can be found on the Parish Council's web site: www.ewbpc.org.uk

Signed

Chair Date _____