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The Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Bramber Parish Council that took place at the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall on Wednesday 19th April 2023 at 7:00pm.

Present: Cllr Burstow (Chair), Cllr Croker, Cllr Goodall, Cllr Kitson and Cllr Tilley.

In attendance: HDC Cllr Noel and Paul Richards (Parish Clerk).

Members of the public – None.

52. Apologies for absence – Cllr A. Blakelock, Cllr S. Blakelock, Cllr Day, Cllr Green and WSCC Cllr Linehan.

53. Declarations of interest – none.

54. Minutes of the previous meeting – 1st March 2023 – The minutes, circulated previously, were **AGREED** by the Members, and were duly signed by the Chair.

55. Matters arising.

- Tree – now transported and planted;
- Item 35 – HDC Cllr Noel did contact WSCC Cllr Linehan regarding the submission of updates;
- Item 40 – Steyning Partnership e-posters now on BPC website; and
- Item 49 - election information is now on the BPC website.

56. Public Session – no members of the public were in attendance.

57. Reports.

- a) **WSCC** – no update.
- b) **HDC** – HDC Cllr Noel advised that, due to the pre-election period, limited Council activities had taken place. He would forward his annual report to the Clerk for the Annual Parish Meeting.
- c) **Neighbourhood Wardens** – Cllr S. Blakelock had been on patrol with the Wardens. The Clerk was asked to forward details of the next joint parish Wardens' meeting to Cllr Goodall. Cllr Croker added that he had attended a recent Sussex Police briefing which included the anti-social behaviour of balaclava wearing youths. These seem to be 'copycat' occurrences.
- d) **Joint Parishes Cemetery Committee** – no meeting.
- e) **Joint Parishes Youth Committee** – no meeting.
- f) **HALC** – Cllr A. Blakelock reported that there had been no new meeting.
- g) **Village Hall** – no meeting. New noticeboards had been installed.
- h) **Website** – Cllr Tilley advised that user sessions had risen in the month.
- i) **Steyning and District Community Partnership** – Cllr A. Blakelock reported on the White Bridge Link (Working Party 9). The first drop-in session was held at Beeding Village Hall on 8th April 2023. More than 30 people turned up and although 2/3 were in favour of the project, 1/3 had concerns ranging from:
 - not being able to walk their dog off lead with cyclists on the path;
 - equestrians felt they had been excluded; and
 - residents of Saltings Way felt it would be dangerous having cyclists around as they set off for work.

It was explained that over time people generally get used to their "rights of way" as evidenced on the "Walks for All" path and that with consideration everyone would be able to use the path. It

was also explained to the equestrians that the landowners had agreed permissive cycling but not permissive equestrian rights. This is the bottom line because without permission from landowners this project cannot go ahead. It was also felt that not all dangers can be eradicated, only minimised, and that the route through Saltings Way is less dangerous than The Street in Bramber and Beeding High Street. The next drop-in is scheduled for 29th April 2023 at The Steyning Centre. Friends and neighbours are encouraged to attend because this is a Public Engagement event and WP9 are keen to hear everybody's views

58. Finance and General Purposes - Members **AGREED** that the payments for April 2023 be paid (see appendix A for the payments schedule).

59. Planning.

a) **Applications.**

- **DC/23/0375 - 13 Coombe Drove, Bramber** - Conversion of existing garage and a single storey side extension.

Members voted to SUPPORT the application (5 votes for)

b) **Other Planning matters** – Cllr Croker reported that he had accompanied the HDC Arboricultural Officer to review the trees related to planning application DC/23/0139 (Downland Park, The Street, Bramber). The HDC officer had agreed that his planning report in relation to comments received from BPC were incorrect. He agreed to amend his report and further advised that although replacement trees were usually required following felling of a tree with a TPO, in the one case examined there was insufficient space for a meaningful replacement..

60. Highways and Public Rights of Way.

- Cllr A. Blakelock reported that WSCC Cllr Linehan had advised that "*a renewed application has been submitted for the A283 speed reduction under a TRO application linking it to the previous request to make use of the speed loop data*". He is hopeful;
- There had been no information regarding the traffic speed measurements in Steyning and Bramber regarding the 20mph zone proposals; and
- The Chair reported that she had received a complaint from a resident concerning public urination/defecation and fly tipping in the car park in The Street. Agreed actions were:
 - To request the Wardens to increase their patrols;
 - The Horsham District Councillor will raise the issue of overnight parking of camper vans with HDC's parking team; and
 - The Clerk to send the complainant the link on how to report fly-tipping.

61. Consultations – None received.

62. English Heritage/Bramber Castle – Cllr Green reported that she had reported overhanging trees on the pedestrian access up from The Street, along with the deterioration of the fencing in that area (concerns raised by several residents). She had also asked for clarification as to whether that does fall under the remit of English Heritage as it does seem to get overlooked when they are carrying out maintenance.

63. Environment –

- Cllr Burstow advised that the land at Bramber Brooks is up for sale by the company that owns it. Cllr Tilley advised that the assets of the business were being sold but 3-4 acres would be kept privately. The remaining circa 30 acres would be sold and included the nature reserve, the community orchard, and the paths/stiles. The company had advised that they had explored various sale options including to HDC as part of their Wilder Horsham project. HDC Cllr Noel agreed to investigate this and report back. Cllr Croker reported that HDC had initially thought to purchase land in Henfield parish for the Wilder Horsham initiative, but these plans had fallen through. He thought these resources might be re-directed to purchase all or part of Bramber Brooks. Cllr Tilley reported that the Environment Agency were still planning to install several ponds at Bramber Brooks; and

- Cllr Tilley advised that the Bramber Society had confirmed that they would fund the purchase of the village flowers for 2023.

64. Climate Emergency and Steyning Greening 2030.

- a) **Greening Steyning** – Cllr A. Blakelock advised that details of forthcoming events were on the Greening website including dates for the Repair Cafe, Community Fridge, Home Energy Help Desk and Greening Café.
- b) **20 mph zone project** – as discussed at item 60.
- c) **Climate Change and AR6** – Cllr Croker referred to HDC's Climate Change Action Strategy and proposed that the BPC website emphasise the issues related to it. He had also been exploring if the toilet block could be fitted with solar panels to meet fund its electricity demand. This would need grant funding, but a cost-effective pay-back model would be hard to achieve given the relatively high peak power (hand washer / drier) consumption at the toilets which would require battery storage. HDC Cllr Noel suggested that the HDC Climate Change Officer might assist with these issues and hoped that the HDC Strategy messages could get through to parishes. Cllr Goodall asked why there were delays in fitting an EV charging point in the car park. Cllr Croker advised that this is a WSCC led project being executed by the private company Connected Kerb.

65. Correspondence – the report was noted.

66. Items for inclusion on the next Agenda – none.

67. Date of the next meetings.

- The **Annual Parish Meeting** (residents meeting) will take place on Wednesday 17th May 2023 at the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall commencing 6:30pm. This will be followed by the **Annual Council Meeting**;
- The next **Ordinary Parish Council meeting** will be on Wednesday 14th June 2023 at the Beeding and Bramber Village Hall commencing 7pm.
- **Planning Meeting** – TBA subject to receipt of planning applications.

The meeting closed at 20:30.

Signed..... Chairman

Date.....

Appendix A – Payments

Payments 19th April 2023				
Income since last meeting	Amount			
None	£ -			
TOTAL INCOME	£ -			
BALANCES ON ACCOUNT				
Current Account (Treasurers)	£ 12,228.78	31/03/2023		
EARMARKED RESERVES				
NHP reserve	£ 380.00			
AVAILABLE RESERVES	£ 11,848.78			
Paid since last meeting (to approve)	Invoiced Services	Voucher	Chq Nos	Amount
Paul Richards	Clerk's salary - March 2023	1	BACS	£ 549.28
HMRC	PAYE/NI - March 2023	2	BACS	£ 144.60
NEST	Pension - March 2023	3	DD	£ 86.75
Chichester Payroll Services	Payroll costs - March 2023	4	BACS	£ 15.00
Julie Bakter	Toilet Cleaner wages - March 2023	8	BACS	£ 156.00
TO APPROVE	Invoiced Services			£ 951.63
Upper Beeding & Bramber Village Hall	Meeting 08/02/23	5	BACS	£ 20.00
Starboard Systems	Scribe accounting software - annual licence	6	BACS	£ 414.72
Perry's Plumbers	Replace outside tap	7	BACS	£ 176.40
HDC	Annual Dog bin emptying	9	BACS	£ 151.84
WSALC	Annual subscriptions	10	BACS	£ 287.41
Gallagher Insurance	Annual insurance	11	BACS	£ 408.50
Upper Beeding & Bramber Village Hall	Meeting 01/03/23	12	BACS	£ 20.00
Business Stream	Water supply 06/12/22 to 05/03/2023	13	BACS	£ 44.99
SCYP Ltd	Youth services - first quarter	15	BACS	£ 1,132.17
Paul Richards	Rexternal hard drive	16	BACS	£ 40.99
REGULAR PAYMENTS				£ 2,697.02
EDF	Electricity to public toilet - APRIL 2022	14		£ 35.00
			TOTAL	£ 35.00
	Position at bank on 31/03/2023	£ 12,228.78		
	Uncleared	£ -		
	New payments to approve	-£ 3,683.65		
	CASHFLOW POSITION AS AT 13/04/2022	£ 8,545.13		
	Earmarked reserves	-£ 380.00		
	RESERVE/BUDGET POSITION AS AT 13/04/2022	£ 8,165.13		