



## **Minutes of the Meeting of Billingshurst Parish Council**

**Wednesday 2 March 2022**

**6.45pm**

### **Present**

Cllrs Paul Berry (Chairman), Barry Barnes, Edna Benger, Gary Commins, Phillip Day, Sandy Duck, Craig Gale, Doug Waller and Sarah Wilson.

### **In attendance**

G Burt, Clerk to the Council

County Cllr Amanda Jupp

District Cllr Nigel Jupp

### **15/22 Chairman's Announcements.**

The Chairman reminded Members that

1. The meeting was being streamed to the internet.
2. Cllrs wishing to speak should raise their hand and speak loudly and clearly.
3. This is the last meeting of the municipal year. May is the Annual Meeting where all chairs, vice chairs and committees etc stand down and are re-elected. Please give some thought to which positions you may wish to volunteer.

### **16/22 Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Graeme Acraman, Dave Homer, James Marchant, Ken Peters and Caroline Beresford Pratt due to prior engagements. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale **RESOLVED** that the apologies and reasons given be accepted.

An apology was received from Cllr Roy Margetts before the meeting but not seen until after the meeting.

### **17/22 To Receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for a dispensation.**

None.

*Adjournment for*

### **18/22 Presentation by SP Broadway and Hallam Land Management on potential development to southwest Billingshurst.**

The Chairman welcomed Charlie Reynolds and Nathan Edwards from Hallam Land Management and James Newhall from SP Broadway who had asked if they could present initial ideas for land to the south-west of the village. The site was between the A29 and Lordings Road and to the west of the sewage works. They then took questions from those present. They did stress that it was very much in the early stages, and they were looking to bring the site forward for consideration for the next new Local Plan, not this one! The

Chairman thanked them for sharing and hoped they would keep the Council informed of future progress.

**19/22 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).**

None.

**20/22 Reports from:**

- a. County Councillor Mrs Amanda Jupp reported on the 2022-23 WSCC budget. Although Storm Eunice had delayed a lot of routine maintenance, she asked Cllrs to let her know of any faded white lines, missing signs and blocked/overflowing watercourses. Cllr Doug Waller queried the status of paths and cycleways at Amblehurst Green and the Cty Councillor would consult the WSCC IMAP. She understood that the resurfacing of the Five Oaks roundabout was on a *to do* list.
- b. District Cllr Nigel Jupp reported on the 2022-23 HDC budget; the current and next years' budget looked promising but future years might be more difficult due to Government grant reductions. A new CEO had been appointed: Jane Eaton. HDC may be making small grants available to parishes to help them with their Jubilee celebrations. Work was ongoing into trying meet the water neutrality target ref. the Local Plan. He suggested caution in looking at school rolls; talk of the Weald being oversubscribed failed to take into account that many of their number is made up of students from outside the parish. He commented that the current east of Billingshurst development made provision for a one-form entry primary school; the next east of Billingshurst development was looking to provide for a two-form entry primary school. He thought the two pledges might materialise in provision of a three-form entry primary school. In answer to a question from Cllr Sarah Wilson, he believed funds were earmarked to improve the *Running Track* but would remain *on the case*. He was pleased that planning permission had been given to create 16 new car parking spaces to the t/o Lloyds Pharmacy, but he understood that an easement was awaited from Sainsburys across whose car park access was required. Following a request from the Clerk earlier, he had requested the Chief Exec. at HDC to notify parishes of licensing applications as a courtesy.
- c. Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.  
Cllr Sandy Duck reported that the next community gardening day at Station Road Community Gardens was Saturday 23 April – all welcome.

Cllr Craig Gale reported that the BSRA had had several productive meetings with the West of Billingshurst developers.

*Resume Meeting*

**21/22 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 January 2022.**

The draft minutes of the meeting held 5 January 2022, previously circulated were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Doug Waller, **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly.

**22/22 Matters Arising – that are not separate agenda items.**

None.

**23/22 To consider draft response to *Futureproofing our water supplies – WRSE's emerging regional plan consultation.***

Councillors had been invited to send their comments on this to the office in advance of the meeting. The Assistant Clerk had drafted a collective response based on these which had been circulated prior to the meeting. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale **RESOLVED** that the draft response be approved and sent accordingly.

**24/22 To consider RECOMMENDATION from the F&GP Committee of 26 January 2022 that the Council's Corporate Risk Assessment be approved. (Minute 11/22 refers).**

On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry seconded by Cllr Gary Commins **RESOLVED** that the Council's Corporate Risk Assessment 2021-22 be approved.

**25/22 To receive Minutes as approved by the following Committees:**

- a) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller seconded by Cllr Gary Commins, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings of 2 December 2021 and 13 January 2022 be received.
- b) On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale seconded by Cllr Doug Waller **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting of 15 December 2021 and 26 January 2022 be received.
- c) On the proposal of Cllr Sandy Duck seconded by Cllr Sarah Wilson **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Property Committee meeting of 17 November 2021 be received.

**26/22 To review appointments to committees etc.**

No changes.

**27/22 Neighbourhood Wardens - to receive Wardens' Report for December 2021 and January 2022.**

NOTED.

**28/22 To receive a verbal update from the Platinum Jubilee Working Party.**

The Clerk reported that the Working Party continued to meet regularly, with a modest program in the offing; each element was being led by a local community group and was largely self-funding. The F&GP Committee had agreed that the Council would underwrite the cost of the beacon at Adversane and a band to lead the walking procession, if current efforts to attract sponsors were not successful.

NOTED

**29/22 To receive a verbal report on the recent public consultation on traffic calming proposals.**

The Clerk reported that following the recent public consultation on draft proposals to try to reduce and slow traffic in High Street and East Street, a mammoth 441 responses had been received: 76.4% supported the proposals and 23.6% were against. There were some excellent suggestions and points made, which will all be collated and sent to WSCC as highway authority in support of our request that they take forward all or part of the scheme.

NOTED

**30/22 To note date of Annual Parish Meeting of Electors – Wed 13<sup>th</sup> April 7pm.**  
NOTED.

**31/22 Any other matters for information only.**

None

**32/22 Date of Next Meeting – 4 May 2022.**

*Meeting finished at 8.14pm*

**Chairman**

**Date**