



**Minutes of the Meeting of Billingshurst Parish Council
Wednesday 6 July 2022
7.30pm**

Present

Cllrs Paul Berry (Chairman), Barry Barnes, Edna Benger, Dave Homer, James Marchant, Sandy Duck, Ken Peters, Steve Thomas, Doug Waller and Sarah Wilson.

In attendance

G Burt, Clerk to the Council
3 representatives of Gillings Planning
2 members of the Public

65/22 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman advised

1. That the meeting was being streamed to the internet.
2. That Cllrs wishing to speak should raise their hand and speak loudly and clearly.

66/22 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Gary Commins, Phillip Day, Craig Gale, Roy Margetts and Caroline Beresford Pratt due to prior engagements. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Ken Peters, **RESOLVED** that the apologies and reasons given be accepted.

67/22 To Receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for a dispensation.

None.

Adjournment for...

68/22 Presentation by Gillings Planning, reference development at Bridgewater Farm, Billingshurst.

The Chairman welcomed Anne Gillings, Verity Wood and Philip Williams of Gillings Planning who had asked if they could present initial ideas for land at Bridgewater Farm, which is south of *Platts Island*. They then took questions from those present including the suggestion that the village lacked bungalows which would allow older residents looking to downsize to remain in the parish. They did stress that it was very much in the early stages, and they were looking to bring the site forward for consideration for this forthcoming Local

Plan and thought the site could accommodate 200 homes. The Chairman thanked them for sharing and hoped they would keep the Council informed of future progress.

69/22 Reports from

a. County & District Councillors

Apologies had been received from District Cllr Nigel Jupp and County Cllr Mrs Amanda Jupp who had sent a report.

b. Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

None.

70/22 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).

None.

Resume Meeting

71/22 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 June 2022.

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 15 June 2022, previously circulated were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Dave Homer, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly.

72/22 Matters Arising – that are not separate agenda items.

None.

73/22 To consider report on seeking planning advice ref. Land West of Billingshurst.

Members reviewed a fee proposal to provide specialized planning advice to assist the council in agreeing HoT for the release of land at Jubilee Fields, to accommodate new community sporting facilities to be delivered as part of the strategic housing development known as West of Billingshurst. The developer, the Highwood Group, was willing to meet some costs, but disagreed with the scope (and fee) proposed by the planner.

On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the Clerk:

- a. be authorised (accompanied by Cllr Gale) to meet with Martin Hawthorn of Highwood Group to firm up what is required from this study;
- b. appoint Stuart Cooke from Urba accordingly, but only if the Highwood Group is willing to meet all costs.

74/22 To receive Minutes as approved by the following Committees:

- a) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee of 5 May 2022 be received.
- b) proposal of Cllr Ken Peters, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP Committee of 28 April and 25 May 2022 be received.
- c) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Working Practices Committee of 16 March 2022 be received.

75/22 Neighbourhood Wardens - to receive Wardens' Reports for May and June – previously circulated.

NOTED.

76/22 To receive a report on recent Platinum Jubilee events in the parish and costs incurred.

Members considered a report summarizing the Council's involvement in the recent Platinum Jubilee activities in the parish including costs and impact upon staff. Councillors spoke highly of all the events and thanked all those involved, particularly Council staff.

NOTED.

77/22 Any other matters for information only.

The Chairman, supported by all Cllrs, congratulated all those involved in the recent Billingshurst Show and Carnival, possibly the best and biggest for many years.

78/22 Date of Next Meeting – 7 September 2022.

Meeting finished at 8.14pm.