



**Minutes of the Meeting of Billingshurst Parish Council
at Adversane Hall
Wednesday 7 September 2022
7.30pm**

Present

Cllrs Ken Peters (Vice Chairman in the Chair), Barry Barnes, Edna Benger, Phillip Day Garry Commins, Dave Homer, Sandy Duck, Doug Waller and Sarah Wilson.

In attendance

G Burt, Clerk to the Council
County Cllr Mrs Amanda Jupp
1 members of the public

79/22 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman advised that Cllrs wishing to speak should raise their hand and speak loudly and clearly.

80/22 Apologies for Absence.

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

81/22 To Receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for a dispensation.

None.

Adjournment for...

82/22 Reports from

a. County & District Councillors

Apologies had been received from District Cllrs Nigel Jupp & Mrs Kate Rowbottom.

County Cllr Mrs Amanda Jupp reported that the costs of social care continued to impact upon West Sussex County Council (WSCC) finances, particularly the costs of residential care; several providers had failed whilst WSCC had managed to help others stay afloat. There had been some changes in staffing in the highways department; she was sure that those new in post would be happy to come to a future

meeting. The Parish's Community Highways Scheme (CHS) application ref. traffic calming in High Street and East Street had passed phase one of evaluation. She was hopeful that a CHS bid for a new footway in Marringdean Rd, linking two existing footways, would be successful, but it depended on the willingness of a landowner. She thought the final grass cut would be needed this year, now that grass had started to grow again. WSCC was looking to designate libraries as Warm Hubs this winter, to help the heating cost crisis. She said some village halls were also doing similar. The current budget was on track, but the next 2 years could be difficult for obvious reasons.

Although not a WSCC issue, she and District Cllr Nigel Jupp had walked the bypass path since it had been pruned in advance of surfacing improvements. Cllr Sarah Wilson felt the pruning was drastic but was reassured that flailing was standard practice for cutting back large rural-type hedges and that it will grow back. Members hoped that in future it would be pruned regularly so such drastic pruning was not required.

Members and the Clerk said the idea of using the Billingshurst Centre as a Warm Hub could also be looked at.

b. Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Cllr Sandy Duck reported on a forthcoming Community Gardening Day at Station Road Community Gardens (SRCG).

83/22 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).

None.

Resume Meeting

84/22 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 July 2022.

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 6 July 2022, previously circulated were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Ken Peters, seconded by Cllr Doug Waller, **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly.

85/22 Matters Arising – that are not separate agenda items.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Gale had recently met with Highwood Group, the Parish Council's solicitor and the planning advisor. It was intended to have a workshop in the very near future to which all Cllrs are invited along with all these parties, so Highwood can present the vision for Jubilee Fields, the Planning Advisor can tell us what he thinks, and our Solicitor can advise us. The idea is to deal with all aspects and all questions in one place at once.

86/22 To receive Minutes as approved by the following Committees:

- a) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Garry Commins, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee of 9 June and 6 July 2022 be received.
- b) On the proposal of Cllr Ken Peters, seconded by Cllr Barry Barnes, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP Committee of 29 June 2022 be received.

87/22 Neighbourhood Wardens - to receive Wardens' Report for July – previously circulated.

NOTED.

88/22 Any other matters for information only.

Members expressed appreciation to Adversane Hall and Mrs Phillips for accommodating the meeting.

89/22 Date of Next Meeting – 2 November 2022.

Meeting finished at 7.52pm.