



**Minutes of the Meeting of Billingshurst Parish Council
Billingshurst Centre
Wednesday 2 November 2022
7.30pm**

Present

Cllrs Paul Berry (Chairman), Barry Barnes, Phillip Day, Craig Gale, Dave Homer, Sandy Duck, James Marchant, Caroline Beresford Pratt, Steve Thomas, Doug Waller and Sarah Wilson.

In attendance

G Burt, Clerk to the Council
District Cllr Nigel Jupp
1 member of the public

79/22 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman advised 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. He would be laying a wreath at the War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday on behalf of the Council – all welcome.
4. He would be opening the new Lidl store the following day.
5. The new Costa Coffee drive-thru was due to open on the 22 December 2022.

80/22 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Edna Benger, Garry Commins, Ken Peters and Roy Margetts due to prior engagements. On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Sarah Wilson, **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 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).

None.

83/22 Reports from**a. County & District Councillors**

County Cllr Mrs Amanda Jupp had tendered her apologies and submitted the following report:

Apologies that I can't make the meeting tonight - I am in Manchester for the National Adult Services Conference. Apologies also that I haven't had the opportunity to put together my report as yet. I think I copied you in to an email regarding progress on the Community Highways Scheme (CHS) for the High Street and East Street and I am hoping you will hear soon from Highways on this. The other CHS scheme in Marringdean Road for the extension of the pavement/footway between Longhurst Drive and Kingslea Farm is progressing to the next stage of assessment for a feasibility study. I have followed up on the cutting back of hedges along the A29 between Billingshurst and Adversane and have been informed that the landowners in the area have been written to and this will be followed up if no action is taken. If there are any blocked drains in the area, please let Highways know as no doubt with all the recent rainfall, there may be some areas prone to flooding or pooling of water. As always, if there is anything you or the parish councillors would like me to follow up, please let me know.

District Cllr Nigel Jupp relayed apologies from District Cllr Mrs Kate Rowbottom and reported that: Horsham District Council (HDC) was making £300k to support groups such as the Citizens Advice Bureau and Horsham Matters to assist those likely to struggle with the imminent cost of living crisis. Luckily, HDC had reserves of >£13 million to help cushion any drop in income etc. It was still progressing the roll out of new council houses. The Local Plan was still moving forward. In response to questions from Parish Councillors, he described the difficulties in making a vehicular or pedestrian route from the soon to be extended Sainsbury's (rear of Lloyds Pharmacy) car park through to Jengers Mead due to objections from the owners of the latter. He also said HDC was holding back on the introduction of a domestic food waste collection service due to the cost. The Chairman highlighted the need for a meeting to discuss the SPD.

b. Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Cllr Philip Day reported that he had attended a very interesting climate change workshop at HDC along with representatives of Billigreen; he would circulate a report by e-mail in due course.

Cllr Sandy Duck reported that Dauxwood Pre-School was planning to fund raise to make further improvements to their outside area so it could be even more user-friendly.

Cllr Craig Gale reported on the continuing improvements in the running of the Billingshurst Sports and Recreation Association (BSRA). Their recent firework evening had been very successful and well-supported.

Resume Meeting

84/22 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 September 2022.

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2022, previously circulated were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Barry Barnes, **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly.

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

None.

86/22 To consider practicality of holding September Council meetings at Adversane Hall.

Members discussed the practicality of holding the Autumn Council meeting at Adversane Hall. It caused much work for the Bookings Secretary to ready the hall, given that it was permanently set up for its main hirer, a pre-school nursery. On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Paul Berry, **RESOLVED** that the Council no longer visit Adversane Hall annually, but would hold meetings there in the future if there was something major on the agenda that affected Adversane.

87/22 To receive the External Audit Report for 2021-22, consider any issues and refer to F&GP Committee if appropriate.

On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry seconded by Cllr Philip Day, **RESOLVED** the External Audit Report for 2021-22 be received and referred to the F&GP for consideration of any matters raised.

88/22 To receive Minutes as approved by the following Committees:

- a) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Steve Thomas, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee of 4 August and 8 September 2022 be received.
- b) On the proposal of Cllr Craig Gale, seconded by Cllr Sarah Wilson, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP Committee of 27 July and 28 September be received.
- c) On the proposal of Cllr Sandy Duck, seconded by Cllr Barry Barnes, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Property Committee of 15 June 2022 be received.
- d) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Sarah Wilson, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Working Practices Committee of 18 May 2022 be received.

89/22 Neighbourhood Wardens - to receive Wardens' Reports for August and September 2022.

NOTED. The need to report all crimes was emphasized.

90/22 To review appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies, etc.

There were no changes but, on the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale, **RESOLVED** that Cllr Sandy Duck be an additional voting representative for the forthcoming WSALC AGM.

91/22 To appoint Cllr to undertake the Clerk's *End of Year Review*. (Standing Order 19b).

On the proposal of Cllr Paul Berry, seconded by Cllr Craig Gale, **RESOLVED** that Cllr Doug Waller undertake the Clerk's *End of Year Review*.

92/22 Any other matters for information only.

None.

93/22 Date of Next Meeting – 4 January 2023.

Meeting finished at 8.06pm.

Chairman

Date