



**Minutes of the Meeting of Billingshurst Parish Council
Monday 1 November 2023
7.30pm at the Billingshurst Centre.**

Present

Cllrs Ken Peters (Chairman), Edna Bengier, Paul Berry, Phillip Day, Sandy Duck, Trevor Leonard, Deepak Mahal, Caroline Beresford Pratt, Steve Thomas, Doug Waller and Sarah Wilson.

In attendance

G C Burt, Clerk to the Council
County Councillor Mrs Amanda Jupp
District Councillor Mark Baynham
District Councillor John Trollope
7 Members of the public.

92/23 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman advised that

1. The meeting was not being streamed to the internet due to technical problems.
2. Cllrs wishing to speak should raise their hand and speak loudly and clearly.

93/23 Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Faye Algar, James Marchant and Roy Margetts due to prior engagements. On the proposal of Cllr Ken Peters, seconded by Cllr Doug Waller, **RESOLVED** that the apologies and reasons given be accepted.

[Cllr Craig Gale's apologies were received after the meeting.]

94/23 To Receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for a dispensation.

None.

Adjournment for

95/23 Public Session (Members of the Public may speak for up to 3 minutes at the discretion of the Chairman).

Chris Henson, Melanie Holliker and Murray Hughes asked questions about the Council's position on the Local Plan. The Chairman advised that the Council had not changed its position and would very likely have an extraordinary meeting to discuss the Local Plan once published by Horsham District Council (HDC), in the New Year, which would be well publicised.

96/23 Reports from:

a. County and District Councillors.

County Cllr Mrs Amanda Jupp reported on the 24/25 budget, highways, Public Rights of Way, children & young people, climate change, bus fares for young people, community involvement and the England Coastal Path. The full report had previously been circulated. There were no questions.

District Cllr Mark Baynham reported on the HDC Council Plan, the Local Plan timetable and the budget. On the latter, he highlighted that whilst the district currently had good reserves the interest from which was used to help fund services, future demands on this to undertake works to leisure centres and *The Capitol*, would mean that there would be fewer returns to put into services.

District Cllr John Trollope reported that he and fellow District Cllr Sam Bateman had recently had a guided tour of the Billingshurst Sports and Recreation Association demise at Jubilee Fields so were now better versed in what works, etc. were required in the future.

b. Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Cllr Sandy Duck reported on several events she had attended including Community Gardening Days at Station Road Community Gardens; this had attracted new volunteers and a sponsor had been found to update the entrance signs. She had also attended meetings at Dauxwood Pre-School and Adversane Hall. The WSALC AGM & Conference she had attended with Cllr Phillip Day had included some excellent presentations on planning, *Instant Justice*, AiRS, Fire Service and the County Record Office. Full report circulated to all Councillors.

*Resume Meeting***97/23 Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 September 2023.**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2023, previously circulated were taken as read. On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Sarah Wilson, **RESOLVED** that the minutes be accepted and signed as a correct record accordingly subject to the deletion of Cllr Phillip Day as being present.

98/23 Clerk's Report.

The Clerk reported that a response had been received from Jeremy Quinn MP, accompanied by a letter from Michael Gove MP, in response to the letter from the Council regarding housing numbers and allocation. NOTED.

99/23 To receive Minutes as approved by the following Committees:

- a) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Deepak Mahal, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee of 17 August & 14 September 2023 be received.

- b) On the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Sarah Wilson, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the F&GP Committee of 26 July & 26 September 2023 be received.
- c) On the proposal of Cllr Phillip Day, seconded by Cllr Ken Peters, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Property Committee of 31 May 2023 be received.
- d) On the proposal of Cllr Doug Waller, seconded by Cllr Edna Bengier, **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Working Practices Committee of 14 June 2023 be received.

100/23 Neighbourhood Wardens - to receive Wardens' Reports for August and September 2023 - previously circulated. NOTED.

101/23 To receive update overview of major projects.

An executive overview of updates on major projects had been circulated. Councillors thought it was very useful to show where we were with schemes and also how active the Council was. NOTED

102/23 To receive final expenditure report on Coronation events and activities.

Details of the cost of activities organised by the Council for the Coronation in June had been circulated. £3,301 had been spent out of a budget of £7,066. Members commented on the variety of activities and how they had brought the community together. NOTED

103/23 Date of Next Meeting – 3 January 2024.

Post meeting note: Date changed to **10 January 2024**

Meeting finished at 8.10pm