HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GROUNDS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON MONDAY 10th November 2014 AT 6.00pm

PRESENT: Councillor Tickell in the Chair,
Cllrs Mrs L Evans, B Mowatt and Mrs S Schillemore.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jack Caine, Democratic Services Officer, Havant Borough Council.
Carla Cotton, Executive Officer and Clerk to the Council.
Sarah Guy

Gps 080 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Veitch and Burridge had offered their apologies.

Gps 081 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

Gps 082 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Resolution: To approve the Minutes of the Grounds and Property Committee meeting held on the 1st September 2014 subject to the following amendments:

'The appointment of Head Ranger was made to Ms Carole Burnett.'

All agreed and was duly **RESOLVED.**

Gps 083 TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS EXPENDITURE SINCE 1ST SEPTEMBER

The Chairman advised that there was no update at the time.

Gps 084 TO OPEN THE MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

There were no questions from the public.

Gps 085 TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE SALE AND REPLACEMENT OF THE COUNTRYSIDE TEAM VEHICLES.

The Committee agreed that further research and investigation would need to take place before a decision could be made on the purchase of new vehicles. It was agreed it would be beneficial to include the input of other Parish Councillors in the decision making process.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to the Council that:

A working party is formed to investigate the purchase of new vehicles and gather more estimates for each current vehicle's saleable value.

Gps 086 TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE DRAFT TREE POLICY.

The Committee thanked the Clerk to council for drafting the policy and discussed some aspects of the report and vocabulary employed.

It was commented that it would be prudent to use the same terminology as the 'Tree Safety Survey' in order to shore up and maintain consistency between the two policies.

Members commented that the policy be subject to the following amendments:

- The policy would be called "Horndean Parish Council Tree Policy".
- Section regarding subsidence changed to read;
  "Trees that are proven (beyond reasonable doubt) to be the cause of subsidence".
- Section regarding receipt of complaints be changed to read;
  "A site inspection will be undertaken within 4 weeks of receipt of the complaint and the customer will be notified of what action is considered appropriate".
- Omission of the last sentence of the paragraph regarding **Subsidence.**
- The pertinent information in the *FAQ* section regarding overhang of branches be included in the bulk of the policy.

It was duly **RESOLVED** that the chairman and the clerk would revise the policy to take to the following meeting.

Gps 087 TO DISCUSS THE CONSIDER THE BUDGET IN RESPECT OF TREE MANAGEMENT

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 088 TO CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF A COMPUTER FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE TEAM.

The Committee received a report regarding the purchase of a new computer for use by the ranger and office manager. The clerk advised that the laptop currently in use was not available for both members of staff to use and it was causing a delay in work being completed. It was also commented that for health and safety purposes, the laptop was not suitable for continued use by both post holders. Due to the nature of the work involved within the remit of the ranger

It was **RECOMMENDED** to council that:

The council purchase a Dell desktop computer for use by the Office manager and ranger with the current laptop kept to be used as a secondary option.

Gps 089 TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE QUOTATION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF FENCING AT WAGTAIL COPSE

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 090 **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE TREES AND HEDGES AT HEATH CLOSE**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item would be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 091 **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER FUNDING IN RESPECT OF THE CORRAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF GRAZING ON CATHERINGTON DOWN**

Members queried what winter grazing would include and how this would benefit Catherington Down. The Chairman advised that Winter Grazing involved keeping cattle on land to enable a healthy life cycle of natural shrubbery and loosening of ground and soil.

Concerns were raised over the necessity of the corral as there had not been one before and how large the corral would be. Members suggested that there was not enough information and evidence present at the time including size, location and number of cattle to be kept and that further investigation would be needed.

RESOLVED that

The item be deffered to the next meeting of the grounds and property committee so that further investigation and research could be gathered.

Gps 092 **TO DISCUSS THE OPENING OF A PUBLIC CONVINIENCE SITED AT JUBILEE HALL DURING THE WINTER PERIOD**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item would be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 093 **TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TREE MAINTENANCE AT PUMP LANE**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item would be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 094 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE TEAMS GROUNDS MANAGER IN RESPECT OF COMPLETED AND ONGOING PROJECTS**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item would be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 095 **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A DONATION TO CPRE HAMPSHIRE**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

The item would be deferred to the next meeting.

Gps 096 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

It we **RESOLVED** that:

The press and the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following item(s) as the publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or arising out of the business about to be transacted. (Public Bodies (Admissions to meetings) Act 1960).

Gps 097 **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A REPORT ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COUNTRYSIDE TEAM.**

(This item was taken in camera)
The committee considered a confidential report regarding the role of Countryside Team Leader.

RECOMMENDED as set out in the confidential minute.