HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON MONDAY 12 JANUARY 2015 AT 7.15 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs L Evans (Chairman), Councillors D Alexander, M Burridge, A Forbes, Dr Mrs C Jacobs, J Mach, B Mowatt, H Pickett, P Beck, Mrs S Schillemore, R Veitch, Mrs I Weeks and Mrs E Tickell.

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IN ATTENDANCE: Carla Baverstock-Jones, Executive Officer and Clerk to the Council, Sarah Guy, Senior Administrator (Minute Taker) and Simon Ritson, Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public and a representative of the local press were in attendance. District Councillor G Shepherd and County Councillor M Harvey were also present.

HPC 185/15 **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Evans and J Murray.

Apologies were also received from District Councillor D Denston.

HPC 186/15 **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

HPC 187/15 **TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR M HARVEY REGARDING COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

A report by Cllr Harvey was circulated.

Cllr Beck asked for an update on the traffic lights at Catherington Lane. County Councillor Harvey stated that Hampshire County Council need to go back and ask some more questions. Cllr L Evans mentioned that on occasions busses have been going down the bus lane, causing the traffic lights to re-set, and queried if this could be a software issue as it was about time this issue was fixed. Cllr Harvey responded by asking for this to be written in an e-mail to her.

Cllr Burridge said he was looking forward to the traffic calming measures going forward and asked Cllr Harvey if it was imminent and how hopeful she was about it. Cllr Harvey stated that money would be made available and she would keep us informed of any progress. Cllr Harvey also mentioned that she was unsure of who is dealing with the issue of the lay by for Havant Road and is still trying to find out. She said the lay by should not have been taken away but will try and get this resolved with the County.

Cllr Dr Jacobs asked what would happen if the Emergency Services rejected the White Dirt Lane Consultation. Cllr Harvey stated that as soon as she hears anything, she will come back to HPC and that closing the road was not an option. Cllr Harvey said that a questionnaire was done and traffic calming measures came out on top, and she thinks something needs to be done. She informed us that she didn't vote for a road closure or for doing nothing.

Mr Evershed asked if the Catherington Village Residents Association (CVRA) could be made aware regarding the developments relating to the granary and to be informed that residents remain just as concerned with regards to speeding. Mr Evershed congratulated the Parish Council on their Draft Budget for 2015/2016.

Mr Steward endorsed what Mr Evershed had said. Mr Steward asked if the Council was aware that the subsidised taxi route does not include Petersfield which has a station and Minor Injuries Unit. He asked if the Council would endorse a request to extend the taxi service to Petersfield. Cllr Harvey asked us to email her regarding this.

The Chairman to forward her concerns regarding the traffic lights at Catherington Lane. The Clerk to forward concerns regarding White Dirt Lane consultation to Cllr Harvey via e-mail.

HPC 188/15 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

District Councillor Shepherd provided an update on the White Dirt Farm Application which he said was rejected by EHDC over the Christmas period. He also provided an update on the Allocations Plan consultation recently approved by the District Council. He said that it is important that communities view and comment.

He also provided an update on the Land East of Horndean development, stating that the development will bring in 700 homes, if approved, and that the development (including the school, shops, care home, and business) brings in 700 jobs. He said that these need to be pitched at a level that suits our community which is generally professional, qualified and well paid.

The chairman asked if the public had any questions for District Councillor Shepherd.

Mr Evershed thanked both the District and Parish Council for the work done regarding White Dirt Lane. District Councillor Shepherd brought it to the attention of the public and Council that a lot of work was done by Councillor Schillemore and Cllr Dr Jacobs.

Cllr Mach said that there is a dispute on the web-site regarding the Gales Brewery redevelopment site regarding a breach of planning permissions. District Councillor Shepherd informed Cllr Mach that during the consultation period, the Parish Council was consulted on how it should look with regards to an accessible car park and the materials used.

District Councillor Shepherd gave a detailed overview of the issues regarding the Gales Brewery redevelopment site, explaining that the car park was built too low hence the need for a wall and railings. He spoke about the issues regarding 8 car park spaces being too small due to the tree's being planted in-between the spaces and also 1 space being too small due to the position of the diagonal wall. Councillor Shepherd also said that the paving should carry on up to Horndean Car Services. District Councillor Shepherd said that to put the car park at the correct level, would cost a lot of further money and that in June concerns were put forward to Linden Homes, which was not dealt with before the Spa shop was put in. District Councillor Shepherd reported that due to the lack of response from Linden Homes that EHDC will be taking the issue to the Planning Committee to see what should be done. He feels that it is very simple and should have been built as per the plans initially.

Cllr Weeks asked District Councillor Shepherd if Linden Homes don't do anything, then would enforcement action be taken as she does not understand why the building works continued on for so long whilst being done incorrectly. Cllr Shepherd put forward that he thinks it should take 6 months to resolve.

Cllr L Evans mentioned that there are collapsed drains in front of Gales Brewery, which Linden Homes have put protection around.

Mr Evershed asked District Councillor Shepherd if they could make sure there is wheelchair access to the doctors surgery to which Councillor Shepherd responded by saying that a greater level of accessibility for disabled access will be sought.

HPC 189/15 **PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no questions from members of the public.

HPC 190/15 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER 2014**

The Chairman went through the draft minutes from the Council Meeting held on 15th December 2014.

Cllr Tickell asked for Paragraph 195 to be amended to read that the purpose of the furniture is primarily for staff, but occasionally used by members. Cllr Tickell also asked for the 1st paragraph in paragraph 200 is amended to read as follows: In order to obtain a full repair quote, moss to be removed before quote to be obtained.

Cllr Schillemore also asked for Paragraph 200 to be amended to read that the Granary is a grade two listed building rather than just a listed building.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 15th December 2014 be amended and brought back to the next Council meeting on 9th February 2015 for signing.

HPC 191/15 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE ORDERS FOR PAYMENT (LIST 11 ATTACHED)**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Orders for Payment (List 11) be approved, and duly signed.

HPC 192/15 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATIONS – CLYDESDALE AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2014 AND CO-OPERATIVE AS OF 31 DECEMBER 2014.**

Cllr Burridge queried that we are only getting £8.87 in interest on our account and has asked if this is correct and why we get so little. Cllr L Evans suggested that this is because interest rates are currently very low. Cllr Burridge suggested that we look at other banks and accounts to see what they can offer. The RFO informed the Council that this is a work in progress.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Bank Reconciliations for the Clydesdale (£41,796.18) and Co-operative (383,878.38) banks as of 31 December 2014 be approved, and were duly signed.

HPC 193/15 **TO RECEIVE DECEMEBR 2014 ACCOUNTS**

It was **RESOLVED** that the December 2014 accounts be noted.

HPC 194/15 **TO RECEIVE AND AGREE THE BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2015/2016**

The RFO spoke of the draft budget saying that The Chairman had discussed this at the last Council meeting on 15th December 2014.He stated that there were no changes at this time and the Precept is 10% lower than the previous year.

It was **RESOLVED** that the 2015/2016 budget and precept be approved to include the following:

(1) £377,000. Total amount of Precept.

(2) Band D Equivalent Precept - £72.04.

(3) Precept 10% reduction on last years.

HPC195/15 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE WITH REGARDS TO INTERNET BANKING**

A report by the RFO was circulated. Cllr Mach asked how payments would be made if the Clerk was on extended leave. The Chairman suggested this be dealt with should that situation arise.

HPC196/15 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND AGREE THE USE OF A DEBIT CARD**

A report by the RFO was circulated and the Chairman explained that this was suggested by the internal auditor.

Cllr Burridge asked if the £250 maximum daily limit is in addition to the Clerk's spending limit. The Chairman answered this by saying that the purpose of having a debit card is to enable purchases which are currently difficult to be made a lot easier, making petty cash use more sensible and not to increase the Clerks spending limit.

Cllr Forbes asked if the name of Horndean Parish Council would be on the debit card or a named person. The RFO said that it would be a named person but he would investigate having HPC written on it as well.

A Government Procurement card (Service provided by HMG) was suggested.

It was **RESOLVED** that we try the use of a debit card and that the Government Procurement card be investigated.

HPC197/15 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND CONSIDER ACCESS TO CATHERINGTON LITH VIA LITH CRESCENT**

A Report by the Clerk was circulated .There were no questions.

It was **RESOLVED** that the gate remains locked thereby restricting vehicular access to the Lith and that the draft letter be sent out to the relevant parties.

HPC198/15 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND AGREE A WAY FORWARD REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED**

A Report by the Grounds Manager was circulated and The Chairman spoke of how this would be a lengthy and costly business of getting rid of the Japanese Knotweed and she asked if the Council thought they needed to increase control activity or if they should carry on doing what they are doing.

Cllr Tickell said that we usually treat Japanese Knotweed ourselves on site but that this is an exception as it is on a residential property and queried why it has been successful at one property and not successful at the other.

It was **RESOLVED** that we continue with the current level of treatment and not to upgrade to the mortgage compliant package unless the situation arises.

HPC199/15 **TO AGREE TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS, IN THE VIEW THAT 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**

It was **RESOLVED** that the public and press be excluded for the remainder of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:42pm

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Chairman

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Dated