



HORNDDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON 12 DECEMBER 2022 AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs L Evans (Chairman), D Alexander, T Attlee, P Beck, D Evans, A Forbes, J Lay, S Freeman, D Prosser, B Raymond, Mrs E Tickell, R Veitch.

IN ATTENDANCE: Carla Baverstock-Jones, Chief Officer, Sarah Guy, Office Manager (Minute Taker)

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: No members of the public were present.

HPC 154/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Little and Cllr Mrs I Weeks.

HPC 155/22/23 **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of pecuniary interest were received.

HPC 156/22/23 **TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN UPDATE FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR
MRS M HARVEY REGARDING COUNTY COUNCILLOR MATTERS**

No update received.

The queues of traffic at Catherington Lane traffic lights were discussed, with concerns raised regarding traffic fumes and pollution – Concerns to be emailed to County Cllr Mrs M Harvey.

Update to be requested regarding the upkeep of the roundabout near Morrisons.

HPC 157/22/23 **TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN UPDATE FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS
REGARDING DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

A report by District Cllr D Evans was circulated and noted.

HPC 158/22/23 **TO OPEN THE MEETING TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

No members of the public were present.

HPC 159/22/23 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE
07 NOVEMBER 2022**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 07 November 2022 be signed as a true record of the meeting, following the removal of Cllr J Lay's name in the 2nd paragraph of minute HPC 150/22/23, due to him not being present at the meeting.

All agreed.

HPC 160/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE ORDERS FOR PAYMENT
(LIST 8 & 9 ATTACHED)**

The orders for payment (lists 8 & 9) were circulated and noted by members.

Clarification was sought regarding lines 14 and 15 – 2x payments to Gas Contracting Services. Chief Officer to update members in due course.

HPC 161/22/23 **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR FORBES AND THE RFO, IN RESPECT OF
THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT FACILITIES EARMARKED RESERVE OF £79.905**

A report by Cllr Forbes and the RFO was circulated and a lengthy discussion took place. The Chief Officer said that both herself and the RFO did not advise that the Future Development Facilities Earmarked Reserve be moved to General Reserves.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Future Development Facilities Earmarked Reserve be left as is, with the disposal of funds being considered at a later date. This was proposed by Cllr D Evans, with a vote recorded as follows.

- 9 Members for.
- 3 Members against.

HPC 162/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AND AGREE THE BUDGET 2023/24, AND TO SET THE PRECEPT**

A report by the RFO was circulated and noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the budget as per column A for 2023-24 with

- a Total Precept of £449,189.
- Tax Base of 5,098.93 (a reduction from 5,127.28 in 2022-23).

This was proposed by Cllr Veitch and seconded by Cllr Lay. All agreed.

HPC 163/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT**

A report by the RFO was circulated and noted by members.

HPC 164/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT (INTERIM) FOR
THE YEAR ENDING 2022/23**

The Internal Audit report (Interim) for 2022-23 from Auditing Solutions Ltd was circulated and noted, with Council declining to close the Lloyds Bank Account.

HPC 165/22/23 **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE IN RESPECT OF THE TENDERING
PROCESS/PROJECT AND CONTRACT MANAGEMENT, OF THE
REPLACEMENT PLAY EQUIPMENT AT FIVE HEADS RECREATION GROUND**

Cllr Mrs Tickell gave a verbal update, confirming that 7 tenders had been received, with the score sheets being ready to use. She said that the Working Party would be meeting on 19 December to go through them, with all parties being notified of the decision on 23 December. The standstill period ends on 09 January 2023 and the contract will be awarded to the successful tenderer on 10 January 2023.

HPC 166/22/23

TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE FROM THE GREEN LOOP WORKING PARTY, IN RESPECT OF THE PLANNED PROJECT.

Cllr Mrs Tickell gave a verbal update. She said that the Working Party had met with the Communications Officer at EHDC and said they would be looking at meeting in January, with the Officers involved in the Bordon and Whitehill Green Loop. It was confirmed that the Working Party could now start the process for CIL Funding.

HPC 167/22/23

TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE FROM THE SOLAR ENERGY WORKING PARTY, IN RESPECT OF THE PLANNED PROJECT.

Cllr Attlee provided an update, saying that the current system is old and in need of replacing. She said the Working Party had met 3 times and will next be looking at a spec to put to suppliers for Jubilee Hall and the Office, so quotations can be obtained and funding investigated. Cllr Attlee updated members on consumption of electricity in Jubilee Hall and electricity and gas in the office. The Working Party will be looking at what is required and will be inputting data into the solar generation calculator to look at the number of panels that may be required to help mitigate actual cost.

HPC 168/22/23

TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE ON THE 21 NOVEMBER 2022, IN RESPECT OF REPAIRS TO PLAY EQUIPMENT AT DEEP DELL PLAY AREA

It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with repairs to play equipment at Deep Dell Play Area as per the recommendation from the Grounds Committee, as follows.

- Work to be carried out by Scandor Landscape Contractors Ltd, at a total cost of £878.40 + VAT.
- Reinstatement of moving side panel on the baby Mammoth play equipment. The moving panel will be disconnected and then reinstated to make the equipment stable and safe again.
- The support post will be refixed into the ground if needed and then all sections will be re-fixed back onto the new support.
- Preliminaries: Provide all Health & Safety, site security and the cost off all plant/equipment hire for the duration of the phase.

HPC 169/22/23

TO ELECT A MEMBER TO THE JUBILEE HALL WORKING PARTY, IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE AND APPROPRIATE FORM OF HEATING.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Beck be elected as a member of the Jubilee Hall Working Party, in order to ascertain the most cost effective and appropriate form of heating.

HPC 170/22/23

TO NOTE THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON THE 09 JANUARY 2023

The next scheduled meeting of the Council was noted as 09 January 2023. This meeting will be held in Jubilee Hall.

HPC 171/22/23

TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND THE 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. (PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

None present.

Public Meeting closed at 20:32pm

HPC 172/22/23

TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE STAFF COMMITTEE ON THE 06 DECEMBER 2022, IN RESPECT OF THE STAFF SALARY REVIEW

It was **RESOLVED** that staff salaries remain as is, and will be reviewed at the usual time in April 2023.

HPC 173/22/23

TO RECEIVE THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE GROUNDS COMMITTEE ON THE 21 NOVEMBER 2022, IN RESPECT OF THE BOUNDARY ISSUES WITHIN CATHERINGTON LITH

It was **RESOLVED** that legal advice be sought.

Confidential Meeting closed at 20:38pm

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Signed - The Chairman

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Date

District Councillor Report to HPC meeting on 9th January 2023

Cllr D Evans, EHDC Horndean Kings and Blendworth ward

13th Opening of Pinewood Lodge and report on ITV

As I mentioned this last month, this innovative project with its ten individual 'pods' will serve as much-needed temporary accommodation for people without a home of their own. It was unveiled to the Press on 13th Dec. You can find more information [here](#) and watch the piece on ITV News [here](#)

The EHDC is actively looking for suitable buildings that could be re-purposed in this way and provide much need assistance for the homeless. At our Full Council meeting on the 15th I asked Cllr Butler if Officers could have a look at the redundant Public library building in Horndean, which has been empty for some time, to see if that might be suitable and she agreed to do so.

Press Release 15th Dec : Community Farm Project reaps £1m

Plans for a community farm in East Hampshire have been backed by £1 million of Government money.

The funding is a big boost to our ambitions to support the rural economy, bring communities together and help people connect to their local environment.

Called **Grow Up!**, the project will improve welfare, social cohesion, economic development and a huge range of other priorities.

The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) announced last week it had approved funding worth £1.02 million through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

We have also applied for a further fund of £490,000, this time from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Cllr Richard Millard, EHDC Leader, said: "Grow Up! will include a series of bold and ambitious plans that will provide so many benefits to so many parts of our community.

"This is a project unlike any other in the sheer breadth of opportunities it opens up, from welfare to economic development through to our environmental aspirations.

"I am seriously excited by the possibilities the community farm offers us and I am delighted the Government has awarded us more than £1 million to help us get it off the ground. What a fantastic start to this incredible journey!"

The emerging vision for Grow Up! is to provide places where local people can learn new skills, pursue apprenticeships and find work in the rural economy.

It will create opportunities to improve people's health and wellbeing and will help us look after our environment by promoting biodiversity and supporting our green ambitions.

The funding will be phased over three years, delivering more services and opportunities on each year through a collaboration between EHDC and local experts, businesses and communities.

Press Release 16th Dec: More Council Tax Support for some of the district's poorest households

A more generous Council Tax Support Scheme will help hundreds of households

More than 600 of East Hampshire's most disadvantaged households will have over £280,000 taken off their Council Tax bills if a new scheme is given the green light.

The proposed changes to our Council Tax Support Scheme come as the council steps up its work to help people struggling with the increasing cost of living.

The new, more generous scheme, discussed and recommended by our Cabinet yesterday, will see more people pay zero Council Tax, more people eligible for a reduction and will allow people to earn more before it affects their Council Tax Support.

The scheme will go to Full Council in January and, if approved, it will be implemented ahead of next year's Council Tax bills in April 2023.

Cllr Julie Butler, EHDC Portfolio Holder for Community Engagement, said: "This is really good news and it comes at just the right time for many families who are finding it tough to cope with the soaring cost of living.

"Thanks to this scheme more people than ever before would receive some sort of support with their Council Tax, putting money in the pockets of some of our most vulnerable residents.

"Our Council Tax Support was already one of the most generous schemes around, but these proposals take it one step further. I am so pleased we have been able to find a way to help more than 600 local households to the tune of around £280,000."

The scheme will offer help in four ways.

- Currently we disregard the first £20 of a couple's earnings every week, and £10 of a single person's earnings. We are raising this to £70 and £35 respectively.
- We will completely remove non-dependant deductions – that means if you have anyone over the age of 18 living at home (for example an adult son or daughter), their earnings will not affect your Council Tax Support
- We will increase the amount of savings you can have before it affects your Council Tax Support from £6,000 to £10,000
- Backdated support will be easier to claim and you can backdate it further