

Hannington Parish Council, – Minutes of *Quarterly Meeting* held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, for approval.

**PARISH COUNCIL OF HANNINGTON, HAMPSHIRE**

**Date and time of Meeting:** 7.00pm, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**Present:** Chair, Cllr. Alex Lowrie (AL),  
Cllr. Jon Whitfield (JW)  
Cllr. Nick Joslin (NJ)  
Cllr. Judy Henry (JH)  
Cllr. Pat Coneley (PC)

**Apologies:** None.

**Clerk:** Sue Wright (SW)

**Guests:** Cllr. Mike Bound, BDBC  
Sgt. Martyn Evans, Neighbourhood Policing team for Basingstoke Rural.

**Members of the Public:** None.

**December 2023, Quarterly Meeting.**

**1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.**

All parish council members were in attendance. SW confirmed the declarations of interest to be up to date – and nothing additional was being made for the purposes of the quarterly meeting.

**2. Police matters**

AL and the other members of the council gave a warm welcome to Sgt Martyn Evans and thanked him for his attendance, noting that it had been a long time since we'd had a member of the police attend one of our meetings.

Sgt. Martyn Evans, (ME) introduced himself, confirming he was a member of the neighbourhood policing team for Basingstoke Rural and had over 16 years' service. He has been Sergeant for 4 years and has had previous service in Tadley/Yateley area.

ME advised we can expect to see some major changes to police services and a return to a neighbourhood policing, which will provide each rural area with a named contact. These changes have been introduced after a comprehensive review of rural policing by Hampshire Police, noting as a consequence of historic resource-reduction; the safe neighbourhood teams had become disconnected from their communities. The Members welcomed this announcement.

ME explained in 2023 a new chief constable; Scott Chiltern, was appointed - and he has outlined a different approach which includes the above. New chief constable is very keen to reconnect with communities. Basingstoke Rural will therefore be divided into three areas which include 'Basingstoke West' which comprises of Kingsclere area/Burghclere and Ball Hill. New chief constable has also reintroduced the dedicated response vehicles for rural area, (similar to the service previously offered to rural communities enjoyed in the past). The rural response vehicle for our area will be based at Basingstoke HQ.



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- Beat Surgery in Kingsclere will be held in the village club – which is the old stone building to the rear of the public library. The police office in Kingsclere has not been used in recent years – but hoping to reactivate it.

JW commented that perhaps we could look at having a regular day, when the police would be in Hannington, for example; ‘an officer on the Green’ event, so people in the village could come and meet/speak to the police about any concerns they may have. AL confirmed as a parish council, we would be happy to help publicise all the police efforts ME had summarised.

The members thanked ME for his attendance and his very helpful talk about the new police initiatives.

*Action point: SW to invite Lionel to future meetings and update website with new Police details.*

### **3. Borough Councillors**

AL introduced Cllr. Mike Bound from BDBC and thanked him for attending the meeting.

Cllr. Mike Bound Cllr (MB) introduced himself and confirmed he was elected to stand in May 2023. He was previously a borough councillor between the years of 2008 and 2020, but took a career break for a period of time before returning to local politics last year. He currently sits on two committees including the Planning Committee and the development Control Committee – the main task of which is to scrutinise all new planning applications for the Borough.

MB also commented on some of the difficulties they encounter given that the Borough Council does not have a 5-year land supply and as such this makes dealings with developers difficult. Big developments in the area of late include the two proposed developments in Kingsclere – (first stage refused, developer is appealing) and also the very large development proposed for Manydown.

Manydown is a huge project and seeks to build over 4000 new houses plus amenities. It is within the scope of the BDBC Neighbourhood Plan – plan is comprehensive and envisages the redevelopment of the whole site by Developers. MB confirmed they are not expecting to see any construction activity until early 2025. In the intervening time – the developers have banked the land.

Cllr Bounds also commented on the ongoing struggles with County in relation to potholes in the Borough’s roads. JH enquired about fly-tipping which Cllr Bound confirmed remained the responsibility of BDBC – who generally have good response times.

The members thanked Cllr Bound for his attendance and update.

*Action points: SW to continue inviting Cllr Bound and the other Borough, Members to future meetings.*

### **4. County Councillors**

County Cllr. Rhydian Vaughan sent his apologies and a written report to update on his work, which SW prior circulated by email.

### **5. Open Forum**

No members of the public in attendance.

### **6. Draft Minutes of the quarterly meeting held; 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023, for approval.**

The draft minutes for the quarterly meeting held; 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023, prior circulated, were approved. *Action point: SW to add copies of the Approved minutes to the parish council website.*



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- c. **Bank Reconciliation** – AL presented the most recent reconciliation statement for review by the Members. Agreed and approved as a true representation and signed by AL, JW and the Clerk.
- d. **Update on Interest Bearing Account.** AL confirmed that a linked, Lloyds Bank, interest bearing account (3%pa) had been opened and a deposit of £13,000 made into the account. In addition to the budgeted funds in the Council's current account; a contingency of £3000 remains available.
- e. **Banking arrangements** – Additional signatory complete. All the forms and identity checks for the clerk have been completed and submitted (and confirmed as acceptable) – but we are still waiting for Lloyds to add the Clerk as an account administrator.  
*Action point: AL to follow-up on why the process is taking so long.*
- f. **BDBC Parish Council Precept Request 2024/2025** – Application must be submitted by 31 January 2024. AL tabled the completed precept application form which reflects an increase of 5%. For the past 4 years the amount we have requested from BDBC has not altered (or been adjusted for RPI fluctuations). Members agreed and approved the approach that a minor increase should be requested. Total amount of £7324.00 requested. Form signed and countersigned by AL, PC, NJ and the clerk.  
*Action SW to submit the Precept application to Paul Bonner's team at BDBC before the deadline (done).*
- g. **Draft Budget 2024** – AL tabled the proposed budget for 2024, noting the increase in income (from the adjusted precept – as above), and certain additional expenses: including:
  - a. extra Boxxe email licence,
  - b. additional cost of webhosting
  - c. amounts for Member and Clerk training,
  - d. an insurance premium increase for next year
  - e. potential additional expenses for the village Green,
  - f. potential noticeboard replacement.

Audit costs are not expected to increase by much and an external audit is not required as we remain below the threshold. Election costs are expected to be zero for next year (as members will still be in term), and account has already been made for some additional spend with the Lengthsman (see below). An allowance has been made for IT equipment (purchase/or lease) as the council is currently still without its own laptop, (and the clerk is still using her own equipment). The tabled budget permits a working balance of £3000 and a contingency of £2000. Members welcomed the budget and the detail provided by AL and determined to approve the budget at the next meeting in February, which permits time for a considered review and any further questions, Members may have.

**Actions:**

- a) Members to continue their review of the proposed budget for 2024 and
- b) SW to check with Mark Burton to confirm the anticipated costs for mowing the Village Green through 2024.
- c) PC to continue inspecting the footpaths and report back on any which may need to be added to the list of paths requiring assistance from the Lengthsman scheme.
- d) SW to upload a copy of the budget to the financial records stored on the website (after approval by Members).

9. **Roads and Footpaths:** In addition to that noted above, JH reported an issue with the road at the top of Ibworth which continually floods with water/mud/rubble from the adjacent fields, commenting that the piece of road was so worn in places, that it needed rebuilding. The farmer had recently added a 'sink hole' to aid drainage and resolve the flooding – but this has



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would need to be treated as an asset for the purposes of the asset register). *Action Point: SW to investigate the leasing option further and revert with options, as soon as possible.*

**12. Open spaces.**

- a. AL reported that he would continue the dialogue with residents who had expressed concern about safety issues from passing traffic, when using the Green – issues which appear to be more seasonal. Currently use of the Green is much quieter due to winter and seasonal/poor weather.
- b. Members agreed to defer discussion on noticeboards until after JW had completed a H&S review of Parish assets – as that will necessarily require an assessment of their physical condition (and therefore whether they need replacing).

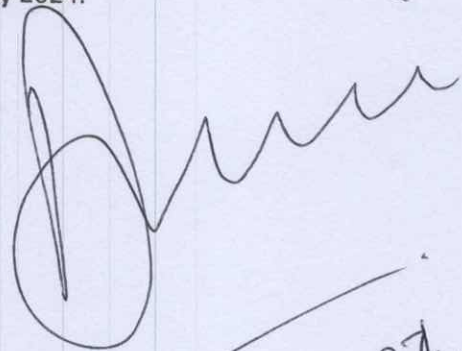
**13. Matters Arising** – and not appearing elsewhere on the agenda: none.

**14. AOB. No further matters raised.** General question raised regarding notifications about planning applications. Members noted that since the change in service provided by Hugo Fox – the auto update facility for planning applications which used to appear on (all) BDBC Parish websites – was no longer available. The Clerk noted that she received emails from BDBC regarding applications made within the Parish and that any member of the public can sign up to the BDBC website for notifications. AL noted that the Parish might only voice concern to the borough council, if complaints were made to it directly, from residents impacted by a planning proposal.

**15. Proposed Dates of next meetings:**

HPC Quarterly meeting – **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024** and  
HPC Annual and Quarterly Meetings – **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

End.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a series of connected loops and a final flourish.

27.02.24.