

Upper Beeding Parish Council

Minutes of the Upper Beeding Parish Council meeting held at Beeding and Bramber Village Hall on Tuesday 26th March 2024 commencing at 7pm

Present: Councillors: F. Bull, P, Bull, S. Birnstingl, J Cannon, C Deadman, F Heaver, B Harber (UBPC Chairman), T Kardos, S Teatum and C. Warren.

Parish Clerk: S Keogh.

Greening Steyning – Mr & Mrs Barnard, Michael Owen

Presentation By Greening Steyning

Presentation by Greening Steyning – Local Cycling & [Walking Infrastructure Plan](#)

C: 0324:01 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Cllr. P. Linehan.

Cllr Kardos arrived at 7.09pm

C: 0324:02 Declaration of Councillors personal or prejudicial interest

The Chair reminded councillors that previous declarations still stand (as defined under the Localism Act 2011).

No further declarations received on this occasion.

C: 0324:03 Minutes of the last meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on [Tuesday 27th February 2024](#)

Proposed: Cllr C Warren seconded: Cllr. Heaver and agreed.

C: 0324:04 Public Adjournment

No Public in attendance

C: 0324:05 Report from District Councillors.

Cllr R Noel:

Food waste collections: Cabinet have agreed more funds for the project.

There are 1851 business customers; 10% have signed up to the project.

£1.4m to be allocated for vehicles to be purchased for business locations

£2.6m to be allocated for the community vehicles and caddies.

Proposed start date is April 2026.

£157, 000 allocated for smaller refuse collection vehicles for isolated properties

Capital Theatre – Contractor selected, works to commence in 2025.

HDC to bid for the Swan Walk Shopping centre as the freeholders have entered administration.

£16m is available. There may also be the possibility of the Drill Hall being sold and the HDC moving into Swan Walk for its offices.

Cllr Warren asked if this was what the residents wanted the Council to concentrate on.

Cllr Noel and Croker explained that their groups were not in favour.

The Green Strategy has started.

The Bramber Brooks plans have been agreed and the works will commence in June with a planned completion by September.

River recovery project to be funded by DEFRA.

Saltings Field walk with HDC officers arranged for 23rd April 2024

Cllr Warren asked if the Food Waste Digester was in the local area. Cllr Noel and Croker explained that there would be a more local digester in the future, but currently the food waste is moved to Basingstoke.

Cllr Birnstingl asked if the HDC were managing Horsham District Homes? The District Council did set this up, but it is a separate company.

Started up small and after 4 years has 22 homes. More will be built, and the plan is to reduce the way that council homes were compelled to be sold off in the past. The company may be able to reduce the occasions when the houses need to be sold and can buy up empty properties.

C: 0224:06

Neighbourhood Wardens Report

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the monthly report for 2024 provided by the Neighbourhood Wardens.

Proposed: Cllr C Cannon, seconded: Cllr. F Bull and agreed.

The Clerk reported that at the recent Wardens meeting it was proposed that they attend one Parish Council meeting a quarter. In addition to the report from the Warden meeting this means that the Wardens are in contact with the Council more regularly.

C: 0224:07

Report from County Councillor

Due to the non-attendance of WSCC County Councillor, Paul Linehan, there was no report on this occasion.

Cllr F Bull commented that although the County Councillor is not present all concerns should be passed to him directly by e-mail or through the clerk.

The Clerk commented that all serious issues have been passed to Cllr Linehan.

C: 0224:08

Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report circulated with the agenda was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.

The Clerk confirmed that the site visit and walk of Saltings Field was now at 1.00pm on 23rd April meeting at the Saltings Way gate/entrance.

C: 0324: 09

Draft Meeting Dates – To Consider the meeting dates for [2024/25](#)

The draft Meeting Dates circulated with the agenda were **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.

Proposed: Cllr C P Bull, seconded: Cllr. Birnstingl and agreed.

C:0324: 10

Community Committee Meeting –

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on [5th March 2024](#)

Proposed: Cllr C Warren seconded: Cllr. Heaver and agreed.

C: 0324: 11

Community Committee Meeting Recommendations –

Councillors **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the [Recommendations](#) from the Meeting held on 5th Marh 2024

The Clerk reported that the Village Hall was not available on the preferred date and therefore Thursday 23rd May has been booked.

Andrew Griffith, MP has been invited as have Greening Steyning.

The local School and other speakers will be invited.

The event will be advertised in the area as well as the Facebook and other social media.

Proposed: Cllr C Kardos seconded: Cllr. Warren and agreed.

C: 0324: 12 Planning Committee Meeting –

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Minutes from the meeting held on [12th March 2024](#)

Proposed: Cllr Kardos seconded: Cllr. Harber and agreed.

C: 0324: 13 Staffing Meeting –

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **ACCEPTED** the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting held on Minutes from the meeting held on [12th March 2024](#)

Proposed: Cllr Harber seconded Cllr. Cannon and agreed.

C: 0324: 14 Staffing Meeting Recommendations -

Councillors **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the [Recommendations](#) from the Meeting held on 12th March 2024.

Proposed: Cllr Harber seconded: Cllr. Teatum and agreed.

C: 0324: 15 Climate Actions –

- i. Declare a Climate emergency. ([JPCAG Minutes](#))

It was **RESOLVED** that Parish Council would Declare a Climate Emergency and take steps to communicate this to the residents and the local community.

Proposed: Cllr C F Bull seconded: Cllr. Cannon and agreed.

- ii. Parish Council support for [Climate and Ecology Bill](#)

Upper Beeding Parish Council notes that:

The Climate and Ecology Bill has been introduced in the UK Parliament on four occasions since 2020, including most recently in the House of Commons 10 May 2023. The Bill is backed by [180] cross-party MPs and Peers, [237] local authorities, alongside the support of eminent scientists, such as Sir David King; NGOs, such as the Wildlife Trusts, the Doctors' Association, Oxfam, the W.I. and CPRE; businesses, such as The Co-operative Bank, Riverford and The Body Shop; and 42,000 members of the public. The CE Bill would require the UK Government to develop and achieve a new environmental strategy, which would include:

1. Delivering a joined-up environmental plan, as the crises in climate and nature are deeply intertwined and require a plan that considers both together.
2. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5°C to ensure emissions are reduced in line with the best chance of meeting the UK's Paris Agreement obligations.
3. Not only halting, but also reversing the decline in nature, setting nature measurably on the path to recovery by 2030.
4. Taking responsibility for our overseas footprint, both emissions and ecological.
5. Prioritising nature in decision-making and ending fossil fuel production and imports as rapidly as possible.
6. Providing for re-training for those people currently working in fossil fuel industries; and
7. Giving the British people a say in finding a fair way forward via a temporary, independent and representative Climate & Nature Assembly, as part of creating consensus and ensuring that no one and no community is left behind.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the Bill and in doing so will:

1. Support the Climate and Ecology Bill.
 2. Inform local residents and inform local press/media of this decision.
 3. Write to Andrew Griffiths MP to inform them that this motion has been passed and urge them to sign up to support the CE Bill—or thank them for already doing so.
 4. Write to Zero Hour, the organisers of the cross-party campaign for the CE Bill, expressing Upper Beeding Parish Council's support (councils@zerohour.uk).
- Proposed: Cllr F Bull seconded: Cllr. Cannon and agreed.

C: 0324: 16 Skatepark Project – To Consider the start of [phase 1](#)

i. Agree to Phase 1.

Members discussed the project and were pleased that the last of the funding was now in the FoSDSP bank account for use to deliver the first phase.

Members **RESOLVED** to the first phase of the project being taken forward.

Proposed: Cllr C Warren seconded: Cllr. Harber and agreed.

ii. Confirm selection of Contractor.

Following the further discussion and report from the Clerk outlining that three quotes had been sought.

It was **RESOLVED** that Raddi Ramps would be the best value contractor and that they would be invited to carry out construction of the first phase of the skate park, subject to Insurance, risk assessments and contractual documents being in place.

The Members asked that the Clerk get a firm commitment from the company that the price was accurate, and that ramp frame was not to be boxed in.

Proposed: Cllr C Warren seconded: Cllr. Harber and agreed.

C: 03214: 17 Riverside Walk Project – Update on the [Project](#).

The Parish Clerks Verbal Report was **NOTED**.

C: 0324: 18 Finance Reports –

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the income and expenditure ([summary](#) and [detailed](#)) for year ending 31st March 2024.

C: 0324: 19 Bank Reconciliation –

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the bank reconciliation for reconciliation for [February 2024](#)

C: 0324: 20 Payments List –

Councillors **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** the [payments](#) made in February 2024 totalling £12,826.08 in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

C: 0324: 21 Correspondence –

Councillors **NOTED** the [correspondence](#) received.

C: 0324: 22 Chair's Announcements – to receive any announcements and matters from the Chair. Cllr Harber Noted the receipt of the SDNP Survey and asked Cllr F Bull to complete it for the Council.

C: 0324: 23 Matters raised by Councillors - to receive matters for information or for discussion in future agendas.

Cllr P Bull

Asked that the empty allotment plots be filled as soon as possible, as some were looking overgrown.

The Clerk explained that currently there was no waiting list, and all plots should be filled by the end of April.

Cllr C Warren

Was concerned that the proposals for the solar farm, on the former Small Dole waste tip, had stalled and was further aware that the trees within the location may not have Preservation Orders on them.

Cllr J Cannon commented that the most recent documents had shown that the trees would be added to rather than removed.

Cllr Birnstingl

Had been made aware that there are some potential housing developments in the same area as the previous 'Mayfield' proposals that are causing some concern to local residents and commented that these should be monitored in case the practices there are copied.

Cllr Heaver

Asked the District Councillors to ask why a property which was out of keeping with the High Street, by having grey window frames, was approved when black would have been much better.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed:

Date: