



BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council,
5 Foreland Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5XN
Tel: 01983 874160 Email: clerk@bembridgepc.org.uk

Minutes of the Full Council meeting on Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7pm in the Cloisters.

Present: Cllr L White (Chair), Cllr I Davis, Cllr M Groom, Cllr HM Humphray, Cllr P Kenny, Cllr S Noyes, Cllr G Stoddart-Stones, Cllr M Sullivan.

Officers: Julia Shorrocks (Clerk)

Public Forum: 5 members of the public. A representation was made by 1 member. Harbour Farm – EA purchased it, had a survey done which highlighted its tourist potential but left it to fall into ruins. Buildings now scheduled for demolition, no consultation with the public. Group would like to see walks and bird hides on the land. Accept that agreement of RSPB is needed for this to happen. Important for people's mental health and recreation. Much support in village. Could be an asset to the area. Please will PC put this on an agenda to talk about these ideas?
Written response will be provided.

1/24 Apologies for Absence

To receive and accept apologies for absence from Cllr C Adams, Cllr H Brabazon, Cllr J Lake & Cllr S Philipsborn

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies for absence from Cllrs Adams, Brabazon, Lake and Philipsborn.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Council

The minutes of 20th December 2023 Full Council Meeting were agreed and signed.

4. Chair's Announcements

Cllr J Robertson and I met a houseboat resident to discuss speeding on Embankment Road following the serious accident before Christmas. A meeting with IRs has been requested but we are waiting to hear.

At the monthly IWALC call with IoW Council, I asked Councillor Jordan for the results of the speed review. These should be available in April 2024.

The Council Speed watch scheme will be kicked started once Cllr Adams is back.

The planning application for 56 houses will be decided on 23rd January 2024.

5. Finance

5.1 To receive bank reconciliation and cash balances to 31st December 2023

RESOLVED: Council received the bank reconciliation and cash balances to 31st December 2023

5.2 To approve schedule of payments to 31st December 2023

RESOLVED: Council approved the payments schedule to 31st December 2023

6. Budget

6.1 To approve and agree the Qrt 3 budget and report.

The report was presented and discussed.

RESOLVED: Council agreed and adopted the Qrt 3 Budget.

6.2 To review and agree the 3 yr business plan.

The plan was summarized: it explains why Council has less revenue, gives the history of the lack of precept increases; lays out projects and explains why the precept needs to increase to achieve them.

Thanks to RFO for all this work.

RESOLVED: Council agreed and adopted the proposed 3 yr business plan

6.3 To approve and agree the proposed budget and report agreed by Finance & Governance Committee for the Financial year 2024/2025.

The budget comes from the report.

RESOLVED: Council agreed and adopted the proposed budget for the financial year 2024/2025

6.4 To approve and agree the precept for the Financial Year 2024/2025

This precept will allow Council to meet all their requirements.

RESOLVED: Council agreed the precept for the financial year 2024/2025 of £245,561

7. Reports from other Authorities

Council received a written report from Cllr Robertson.

8. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

There were no meetings to report on.

9. Height Barrier

To discuss and agree to purchase a height barrier for Steyne Park.

RESOLVED: to purchase a height barrier and installation from Barriers Direct.

10. Electronic Summons

To agree to continue to receive electronic summons and papers.

Councillors who were happy to receive these signed the form.

11. Steyne Park Toilets

To agree the locking of the Steyne Park toilets overnight.

RESOLVED: to trial this initiative until Easter.

12. Confidential Matters:

Members are asked to Resolve that in view of the confidential nature of the following items, the press and public be excluded under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

Clerk left the meeting. It was proposed that Cllr Sullivan be asked to take the minutes for the remainder of the meeting. Cllr Sullivan accepted & the proposal was agreed unanimously.

13. Toilet Cleaning

To discuss and agree awarding the toilet cleaning contract 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2027.

RESOLVED: to defer this decision until more information and better processes in place.

14. Grounds Maintenance contract

To discuss and agree awarding the ground maintenance contract 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2027.

RESOLVED: to defer this decision.

15. Planning Consultant

i) To agree the increased costs and the appointment of a planning consultant to write the Council's submission to the planning authority for application 23/01920/FUL

RESOLVED: to ask Plan Research to write the submission from the minutes of the planning meeting held on 3rd January 2024.

ii) To agree to employ a planning consultant to write the Council's response to the IoW Council's Island Plan Reg 19 Consultation.

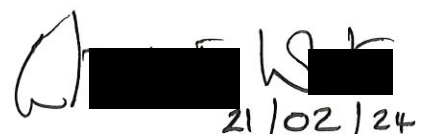
RESOLVED: to defer this decision but ask Plan Research to quote

16. Village Hall Lease

To discuss the requested changes to the VH lease.

RESOLVED: to defer this decision.

closed at 8.30pm

 21/02/24