

EAST WITTERING & BRACKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8th DECEMBER 2022 AT 7.00PM AT BRACKLESHAM BARN

EWBPC COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Brian Reeves (BR)	Richard Ford (RF)
Alan Witcher (AW)	Joanna El-Batal (JEB)
Joe O’Sullivan (JOS)	Mike Dicker (MD)
Toby Wilsher (TW)	James Salamon (JS)

OTHER COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Susan Taylor (STT) (CDC)

APOLOGIES

Doug Holden (DH)	Elizabeth Hamilton (EH)
Emma Cox (EC)	Parish Clerk
Pieter Montyn (PM) WSCC	Graeme Barratt (GB) CDC
Pamela Kensington (PK)	

IN ATTENDANCE Deputy Clerk, 2 members of the public

22.125 Minutes of the Council’s Meeting Held on 10th November 2022 ([Appendix 1](#))

The minutes of the meeting held on 10/11/22 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

22.126 Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

None

22.127 Chairman’s Announcements

None

22.128 Update on actions from previous meetings

All completed

22.129 Public Questions

None

22.130 District and County Councilors reports

STT – Statement made by the DLUHC Secretary of State Michael Gove is currently just a ministerial statement not law and some items in the statement will require primary legislation passing through parliament. Other items will require an amendment to the NPPF which will require public consultation.

Local Plans –STT read from the statement “...Where authorities are well-advanced in producing a new plan, but the constraints which I have outlined mean that the amount of land to be released needs to be reassessed, I will give those places a two-year period to revise their plan against the changes we propose and to get it adopted. And while they are doing this, we will also make sure that these places are less at risk from speculative development, by reducing the amount of land which they need to show is available on a rolling basis—from the current five years to four.” Currently CDC are unsure what well advanced refers to and are seeking clarification from government.

22.131 Reports from Parish Councillors on Meetings attended since 10/11/22

Planning committee 28/11/22 - Considered the two Barratt applications for Stubbcroft Farm.

The Parish council objected to both on the basis of the advice from National Highways and West Sussex County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority. We have requested the right to be reconsulted should either of the statutory consultees change their advice.

PPG – AW has circulated his report nothing to add

Village Hall Committee – Nothing reported

South Chichester Police Focus Group 18/11/22 - The Clerk had attended and expressed concerns with level of service. A new district neighbourhood policing commander has been appointed and the PCSO team is being restructured.

Neighbourhood Police Meeting 7/12/22 The Clerk had attended. Meeting notes had been circulated to the council. The new commander has agreed to ensure better communication between PCSO's and the Community Wardens.

GLAM - attended by TW – looking into opening up coastal path along the West Sussex stretch – TW suggested a commuting route for cyclists directly into Chichester asked if all 11 parishes in the Manhood could out their heads together to try to reconcile – will be discussed at later meetings.

22.132 Budget update

Council noted the current budget position which was in line with expectations.

*Council **RATIFIED** the list of payments from 1/11/22 to 30/11/22 totalling **£21,618.17***

22.133 To Agree the Annual Budget and Precept for 2022-23 ([Appendix 3](#))

The Clerk had circulated the draft budget to councillors and held a briefing meeting to explain the forecast position next year. A baseline assumption of 6% annual inflation had been added to all costs except salaries costs on which an assumed of 4% had been added (on the basis of this year's local government pay deal) and for streetlighting costs, which are an unmetered supply and an increase of 30% had therefore been budgeted.

This would leave a projected shortfall of £37,000.

Following the briefing meeting with councillors, the Clerk had recast the budget to reduce the Christmas lighting costs from £12,000 to £1,800 by retaining the costs of the village Christmas tree only and removing the contribution to CDC for the CCTV monitoring. This reduced the shortfall to £23,700 and resulted in a precept requirement of £192,000 for FY 2023-24. This would result in an increase of £10.50 per year per Band D property or 14%.

*Council **RESOLVED** to set the precept for 2022-23 at £192,000, equivalent to £84.07 per Band D property. This is an increase of £10.50 per Band D property on the previous year.*

Councillor Dicker requested that his objection to the resolution be minuted and that he would prefer to limit the precept increase next year and take more money out of the general reserve.

22.134 To Approve Skatepark Design and Agree to Proceed with Planning Application

Following a written request to the Clerk from three councillors to call an extraordinary meeting of the Council to consider this item, the Chairman moved that the item be deferred to a meeting to be held on Monday 12th December at 1.00pm at Bracklesham Barn which would solely consider this item.

*Council **RESOLVED** to defer the item until the meeting until Monday 12th December at 1.00pm.*

Councillor Dicker requested that it be noted that this was inconvenient to those that work.

Members of the public requested that it be minuted that they were unhappy at the change of date.

22.135 To Agree Proposals for Booker Green and Seek Quotations for Works ([Appendix 4](#))

As requested, the designs had been adjusted to incorporate a flat wall on the sea edge. The proposed benches had been changed from concrete to recycled plastic which is both durable and low maintenance and considerably cheaper with a shorter lead and delivery time. The revised design also incorporates a small memorial structure for the inclusion of plaques.

*Council **RESOLVED** to approve the design proposals for the wall only and seek quotations for completing the works.*

Council agreed that they still wanted to spend money on benches but another meeting should be held to finalise which benches should be used. The installation of a memorial structure should also be considered at the additional meeting.

22.136 *To Approve Refresh of Bracklesham Park Play Equipment ([Appendix 5](#))

Following the recommendation of the Assets and Open Spaces Committee, quotations had been sought to upgrade Bracklesham play park to provide more inclusive and diverse equipment.

*Council **RESOLVED** to appoint contractor Rhythm & Hues to undertake the upgrade, with the funding coming from Bracklesham Park earmarked reserve.*

Minute ref	Action	Responsible
22.133	Clerk to advise CDC of 2023-24 precept requirement.	CLERK
22.135	Prepare project information and seek quotations for works to construct retaining wall at Booker Green.	CLERK
22.135	Set up a meeting with Councillors to agree benches and plaques For Booker Green and seek quotations of the sea wall	CLERK
22.136	Advise Rhythm & Hues to proceed with Bracklesham Park Play Equipment.	CLERK