

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALLBROOK AND NORTH BOYATT
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2017
AT CRESTWOOD SCHOOL
(7:00pm - 8:35pm)**

PRESENT: Councillor Sollitt (Chair); Councillors Symonds, Bain, Barham, Carney and Clarke

Apologies were received from Councillors Betts and Freemantle

25. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident of Twyford Road raised the issue of HGV's breaking the weight restriction on Twyford Road. The Chair advised that this was something that could be enforced by the Police. She was unhappy with the response she had received from the Police who asked her to take photographs of the vehicles and report it to the Company. Councillor Clarke advised although this may seem like they were not interested the Police are stretched and cannot patrol all areas all of the time so if there were regular offenders it may help to build a file of evidence with members of the public assisting the police in the matter. Members of the public could note times and regular offenders and the more this is done the more evidence the Police have and can act on.

A member of the public also raised an issue with the lack of pavement at the top of Twyford Road and Allbrook Hill between the bus stop and the roundabout. She advised that she had raised it with the County Council but had no response. Councillor Clarke felt this was logical to have a pavement here but with £140 million of cuts to be made it may not be top of the County's agenda. As County Councillor he advised that he would raise it with the County.

Another resident raised an issue with the Allbrook Knoll open space area as most of the grass was a foot high and the sign was now three metres into the undergrowth. She advised that the land there was in an awful state and required some attention. The Chair would raise this at the Eastleigh Local Area Committee team meeting she was due to attend on 21 September 2017. She also advised that they would discuss the area of land behind the bungalows in Allbrook Hill as a possible asset transfer to the Parish Council.

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Mrs Kathleen Symonds declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 4, Allotment Update, because her husband rents an allotment from the Parish Council.

These Minutes are in draft format until they are signed by the Parish Council as a correct record.

27. MINUTES**RESOLVED –**

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 26 Ju 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record.

28. ALLOTMENT UPDATE

The Allotment Officer advised that 14 people had expressed an interest in attending a first aid course, 12 from Broomhill and 2 from Lincoln's Rise. The Parish Council had agreed to fund the course run by the St John Ambulance at £25 per delegate. Councillor Betts offered to head the course. The Allotment Officer would establish suitable dates.

The Allotment Officer reported that a substantial branch had fallen off one of the large Oak trees at the north end of the Broom Hill site and damaged the boundary fence. This is one of the trees that the Tree Officer from Eastleigh had inspected and felt there was no danger of falling down.

There was currently a dispute about the ownership of the tree and the County Council had suggested that if it was included in the ancient boundary the Parish Council would own the tree. It had been agreed at the Site Representative meeting that the Allotment Officer would seek some quotes for the three large oak trees on the site to be inspected. She advised that she had received two quotes one for £295 + VAT and one for £200 + VAT. The Site representative explained the difference between the quotes were quite significant as the more expensive one would provide a written report and come with indemnity insurance whereas the cheaper quote would simply be a walk by inspection with a verbal report. With that in mind Councillors agreed that there was a duty of care involved and the trees needed to be inspected thoroughly. They agreed that the more expensive quote was the best option and agreed that the report once received would be emailed to all Members to make a decision via email on any work that had been recommended.

The Allotment Officer also reported that a quote had been sought for the removal of the branch at a cost of £150.

Lincolns Rise Allotment mower had broken down so the Allotment Officer advised Members that the Site Representative would be getting some quotes for a new mower and would present them to the next meeting.

The Allotment Officer confirmed that the annual invoices had all been sent out.

These Minutes are in draft format until they are signed by the Parish Council as a correct record.

RESOLVED –

- 1) **That the Tree Inspections be carried out at a cost of £295 + VAT and the report be emailed to all Members to make a decision on how to proceed;**
- 2) **That the outcome of the report and subsequent action be reported at the next meeting;**
- 3) **That the Allotment Officer proceed with the removal of the fallen branch at a cost of £150; and**
- 4) **That quotes be sought for a new site mower for Lincoln's Rise.**

29. MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Clarke updated Members on John Darling Mall. He advised that it was now on record that the County Council had committed to redevelop the site for young adults with learning and physical disabilities. The project appraisal would be determined by Hampshire County Council.

30. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Clarke reported that he was still yet to receive many grant applications and wanted to remind members of the public that applications could be made via the County Council website. He would like to spread the grants as fairly as possible across the area and give smaller amounts to more causes if possible.

He advised that County Engineering Officers had been out to investigate the issues raised by the residents of Park Lane. Although the substance had been deemed safe they had taken it for analysis and had agreed to revert back to using gravel in the future.

Councillor Clarke reported that the County Council had announced that they would need to make £140 million worth of cuts in the transition to 2019. This would now start to impact on vulnerable people. He advised that the Borough administration had saved youth services in Eastleigh as this was cut by the County.

Cuts to library services would be made. He advised that libraries were something that parishes could get involved in helping and bringing them back to the community if they were able to do so financially.

He advised that there would be a £640,000 cut to the country parks budget. Archive services were to become more commercial. There would also be a £450,000 reduction in the arts, museums and sports budget. There would be £4 million cut in the transport budget which would affect the dial-a-ride service. They would be ending bus subsidies completely and £500,000 reduction in the winter salting budget. Childrens services

These Minutes are in draft format until they are signed by the Parish Council as a correct record.

would be affected by cuts and they would be removing the financial support for music services across the County.

He advised that with the massive amount of cuts the County Council were having to make it may be that the Parish Council could step in and provide some funding for particular projects that they felt were important to their residents. He would have a fuller picture at the next meeting but advised residents to make objections to any cuts they felt strongly about.

Councillor Carney added that there were so many cuts it was overwhelming. He felt very strongly that the dial-a-ride and community bus services could be cut leaving many elderly people vulnerable and lonely. He advised residents to make their voices heard and object to the cuts being made by the County Council. There was a petition to sign to help save these services, which people were invited to sign. However the Chair advised that if residents could take the time to object individually it would have greater impact as a petition with 500 signatures counted as one objection but 500 individual letters of objection counted as 500.

RESOLVED –

That the Parish Council would provide a template letter on the website for residents to send to the County Council to object to the many cuts the County were making.

31. ALLBROOK MEADOW OPENING

Councillor Sollitt advised that as Chairman of the Parish Council she was invited by Bargate along with the Leader of Eastleigh Borough Council to open Allbrook Meadow to the public on Thursday 31 August 2017. Several Councillors were there and some local residents.

Eastleigh Borough Council had accepted the land from Bargate on 12 months maintenance contract. If this was kept up by Bargate the land would then pass to public ownership run by the Borough Council who intended to pass responsibility of the public open space to the Parish Council.

There were still a few issues that needed rectifying, including the installation of dragons teeth but this was at Bargates expense.

A member of the public advised that he had noticed since the meadow had been open he had seen professional dog walkers using the land with 4-6 dogs each. He asked if some signage could be installed regarding dog fouling and also for some bins to be installed.

The Chair advised that it would be Bargates responsibility to install the dog waste bins and signage. She would raise this issue at the Eastleigh Local Area Committee team meeting and would also advise the PCSO that the area would need to be given priority in the parish for patrolling.

These Minutes are in draft format until they are signed by the Parish Council as a correct record.

32. LOCAL PLAN ISSUES/PARISH COUNCIL POSITION

A local resident questioned whether the Borough Council had asked Network Rail and Southern Water their thoughts on the plan for the road under the railway bridge in Allbrook as he found it hard to accept that they had no issue with it. He also queried the amount that had been advised by the Borough Council that the road was going to cost to build.

Councillor Clarke advised that the Borough Council were still in the process of gathering evidence and no one had accepted any plans yet. The Council's figure of £40 million had been suggested for the whole road. Councillor Clarke went on to report that the Borough Council's previous local plan had been deemed unsuitable by the Inspector due to the lack of housing identified in it. Therefore the critical point to the Borough Council's Local Plan is identifying the housing numbers.

There were lengthy discussions about the financial viability of the road and that of the Chickenhall Link road. Many members felt that Allbrook village would be cut in half which was not a good prospect for residents in conjunction with the extra traffic the road would create they were very unhappy.

Members questioned how the Council arrived at the £40 million estimate for the road as talking to residents some of who were experts in the field had said it the road could not be built for £40 million. Councillor Clarke reported that the estimate had come from the latest estimate from the Borough Council Officers and the developers. He also suggested that they were still in the evidence gathering stages so further work would need to be done to determine the cost of the road.

Councillor Bain explained to Members that she was now an independent Liberal Democrat and with her Parish Councillor view felt that this option would be catastrophic for Allbrook village and would have a major impact on the ancient woodland and wildlife in the area in particular the Barbestella bats.

Residents were all unhappy with the plan for the road through Allbrook village and claimed that it would destroy the village. One resident suggested a road on stilts above the village, similar to those found in Europe however Councillor Clarke explained that due to the road being funded by the County Council and developer's contributions that option would not be financially viable.

Councillor Symonds expressed surprise that the County Council had not objected to the road and welcomed Councillor Clarke's intervention at the County Council on that point. She also asked that the Parish Council could be provided with a full cost breakdown of the £40 million estimate as well as one for the £150 million for the Chickenhall link road in order that Members could compare the two and identify whether the estimates are

These Minutes are in draft format until they are signed by the Parish Council as a correct record.

viable. Councillors Sollitt and Bain agreed to get the information asked for by Councillor Symonds to be reported at the next meeting.

RESOLVED –

That Councillors Sollitt and Bain obtain the requested information regarding the financial breakdown of the estimates for the road through Allbrook and the Chickenhall link for presentation at the next meeting.

33. CONCLUSION OF AUDIT

The Clerk advised that the external Auditors had now completed the audit and the accounts for 2016/17 had been closed.

34. FINANCE MATTERS

The Parish Council considered the papers on expenditure which detailed cheques to be issued and budget monitoring. Members agreed to endorse all cheques presented in the report as listed below:

| Chq No | Payee | Details | Amount |
|---------------|--------------------------|---|---------------|
| 100395 | E-Mango | Annual service, hosting, support and backup | 576.00 |
| 100396 | J Humphry Associates Ltd | July Payroll | 24.00 |
| 100397 | HMRC | July Income tax | 66.20 |
| 100398 | L Greenslade | July Salary | 105.97 |
| 100399 | A Thorne | July Salary | 264.64 |
| DD | British Gas | BH Allotments Electricity | 14.31 |
| DD | British Gas | BH Allotments Electricity | 11.70 |
| 100400 | Hampshire Pension Fund | Pension payments APR17-AUG17 | 453.00 |
| 100401 | HMRC | August Income tax | 66.20 |
| 100402 | L Greenslade | August Salary | 105.97 |
| 100403 | A Thorne | August Salary | 264.64 |
| 100404 | J Humphry Associates Ltd | August Payroll | 24.00 |
| 100405 | D Ward | Allotment Expenses inc mower service | 346.80 |
| 100406 | Datacenta | Email Addresses | 60.00 |

These Minutes are in draft format until they are signed by the Parish Council as a correct record.

| | | | |
|--------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| 100407 | Steven Crooks | 103B BH Key Deposit Return | 20.00 |
| 100408 | Mobile Mini UK Ltd | Container Hire BH Allotment | 124.35 |

RESOLVED –

- (1) That authority be given for the payment of cheques 100395 – 100408; and**
- (2) That the budget monitoring statement and Council’s financial position be noted.**

35. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on 29 November 2017 at 7pm at Crestwood School.