

LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27th February 2024.
The meeting was held at Holy Trinity Church Rooms, Lower Beeding.

Present: Cllrs Bamford (Chair), Allen, Mercer, Scrase-Dickins, Smith, Keen, Lillywhite, Fitzpatrick, Cannom.

Also present: Peter Knox (Clerk), Cllr Livingstone and two members of the public.

The Chair began the meeting at 19:30 hours.

027/24 Apologies for absence: Cllr Nagel.

028/24 Approval of minutes for:

- January 2024 Parish Council Meeting.
- February 2024 Planning Meeting.

Proposed by: Cllr Keen Seconded by: Cllr Scrase-Dickens

029/24 Meetings attended by Councillors.

Cllr Keen met Mr Lee Goosens of Hunter Nash Group who have purchased Stonehouse Farm.

030/24 Declaration of Interests.

031/24 Report from District Councillor.

Cllr Livingstone reported the following:

- HDC approved the Council budget for the coming year 2024/25. HDC will continue to assist vulnerable residents who are struggling through this cost-of-living crises and to take action to meet the environmental challenges of the climate emergency as well as invest in significant capital projects which will bring benefits to residents and businesses.
HDC continues to charge the lowest Council Tax in West Sussex and remains in the lowest quartile in the UK whilst maintaining a high quality of services. With a 2% rise in Council Tax (£170.28 for Band D).
- The Local Plan (LP) feedback will close at 5 pm on 1st March. The LP requires new developments to have an average water use of 85 litres pppd. This is an average. A figure of 125 lpppd is being stated by others as the level Horsham should have under national planning rules. The figure was previously 110 lpppd as Horsham was already listed as a water stressed area.

032/24 Report from County Councillor.

The County Councillor was not present at the meeting.

033/24 Other matters arising which are not covered elsewhere on the agenda – The Clerk.

Updates:

Photograph rights on LBPC website.

- Following a recent case of problems on the proprietorship of photographs on Thakenham PC website. The LBPC discussed the ownership of photos on the LB website. A discussion followed on the how to move forward with the website. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Vision ICT about options and rights of the images on the website.

Potential new Councillor

- The Clerk circulated an application for the position of Councillor. The Clerk informed the applicant that currently there were no vacancies on the Council.

Recreation land acquisition – Cllrs Allen & Keen.

- A discussion ensued on the best use of the acquired land. The PC decided that the residents should have an input into the use of the field. They decided that a maildrop was the best method on engaging the Parish. Cllr Scrase-Dickins volunteered to design the leaflet for the drop. The Clerk will contact the school to find out if they had any ideas.

034/24 Planning Applications

DC/24/0088 Leonardslee Gardens, Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, West Sussex RH13 6PP.

Installation of three (non-illuminated free standing) banner signs.

The LBPC strongly objected to this application on the following grounds:

- The proposed signs are not in keeping nor consistent with the AONB.

DC/24/0231 Selehurst Gardens, The Cottage, Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, West Sussex.

Application to confirm the use of The Cottage as ancillary accommodation (Lawful Development Certificate - Existing)

There were no comments from the PC.

035/24 Public Adjournment

To include Transport Working Party (TWP) feedback.

Cllr Fitzpatrick and Jacqui Dunning reported the following:

- West Sussex Highways have informed the TWP that they were successful in their application for a Transport Regulation Order (TRO). The TRO is currently under a consultation period with WSCC Highways and the extent of the TRO will be forwarded to the TWP in the near future.

The PC would like to thank both Jacqui Dunning and Cllr Fitzpatrick for their dedication on this project.

036/24 Chair's announcements.

The Chair discussed the following with the PC.

- The Clerk has applied for a portrait of King Charles III with the intention of hanging it in Church Rooms if approved by the Church Council.
- The PC had no objection to hanging the picture.

037/24 Accounts status as at end of February 2024.

Date	Accounts February 2024	AMOUNT £
Balance at 30th January 2024		
	Treasurers Account - Balance	£48,377.79
	Business Account - Balance	£10,359.08
	32 Day Notice Account	£10,218.03
16-Feb	MAS Networks	£104.39
26-Feb	Clerk Salary - February	£1,233.55
27-Feb	Clerk Expenses - February	£46.54
	Total Costs	£1,384.48
	Business Account	
09-Feb	Interest	£11.44
	32 Day Notice Account	
22-Feb	Interest	£21.15
Balances at 27th February 2024		
	Treasurers Account - Balance	£46,993.31
	Business Account - Balance	£10,370.52
	32 Day Notice Account	£10,239.18

038/24 Outstanding payments.

There are no outstanding payments to make.

Date of the next meetings:

039/24 Planning Meetings –Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 7:30 pm to be held in the Church Rooms Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding

Please note that the planning meetings will only take place if there are any applications to discuss.

040/24 Parish Council Meeting – Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 7:30 pm to be held in the Church Rooms Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding

The meeting closed at 21:15 hours.

Peter Knox

Clerk to Lower Beeding Parish Council

Email: clerk@lowerbeeding.com