

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALLBROOK AND NORTH BOYATT
PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY, 24 JULY 2018
AT THE SCOUT HUT, BOYATT LANE
(7:00pm - 8:35pm)**

PRESENT: Councillor Clarke (Chair); Councillors Betts (Vice Chair), Barrett, Lee-Potter, Palmer and Whittle

Apologies were received from Councillors Banks and Freemantle

21. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public asked whether Bargate had handed over Allbrook Meadow to the Council yet. She had spoken to the Maintenance people but they did not respond, there were still weeds encroaching on her garden at the bottom of the fence. The Chair advised that Paul Naylor head of Direct Services had been dealing with that. The Management Company HGH now in control of that area. The Chair advised that he would go to see the exact piece of land in question, in order to help her identify who she would need to contact.

A member of the public wanted to know what was in the bank account. The Chair advised that the balance stood at £115, 406. She asked whether the money could be spent on a village hall as was previously mentioned in meetings. He went on to advise that there was £188,000 in developers' contributions from the Allbrook Meadow and other developments and that the Council would need to use this money or it would be taken back by the Developers. He agreed that the Council needed to start the process of developing some realistic options for residents to consider. Once consultation had taken place the Council would make the final decision. It would have to be a relatively modest building for the budget and the Council would need to find some site options around the parish. If the Council were actively looking at the basics the developers could not take the money away. The Council needed to identify type of building, size, where it could go, then consult with residents and then make a decision. Mark Housby – presented the Chairman with possible sites for Hall. Another member of the public asked when was it decided that there was going to be a village hall? The Chair advised that there must have been a lot of demand otherwise the developers would not have paid the contributions they do not give money away easily. There would have been a series of meetings between the developers and the Borough Council that have resulted in the Developers Contributions of £188,000 to be spent on a community facility. Bargate would not have offered that money without good reason. There must have been demand and there must have been a strong case for the community building. The money would have to be spent on a community building or it would be lost.

A member of the public asked whether at the last meeting on 26 June the woods behind Maypole villas had been discussed. He advised that last Thursday Councillor Freemantle indicated that there had been a complaint about the modest development of treehouses in his garden. He wanted to know when this had been discussed by the Council and also that he was not complaining about Councillor Freemantle's conduct. The Chairman advised that he could not talk about a Councillor who was not there. He suggested that the Borough Councils Tree Officer would look at it in terms of the law. He had spoken to the Borough Council after receiving an email. There were no specifics about who it was or people involved he was forwarded an email and consequently forwarded it to Eastleigh Borough Council. It was a difficult situation for Councillor Freemantle and the Chair was in no doubt about her conduct. He confirmed that it would now be dealt with by the Borough Council Tree Department.

A member of the public reported that he had spoken briefly yesterday to Councillor Clarke about the yellow lines in Pitmore Road and asked how he was getting on with his investigations at the Borough Council. The Chair had spoken to Dave Pickett and his understanding was that they were to be implemented in full however Borough Councillors had changed it and shortened them. He and Councillor Tyson-Payne would take the issue up with Borough Council Officers.

A member of the public reported that at the March Meeting a suggestion had been made that the Council were going to make a donation to Against Destructive Development (ADD) and that it had been deferred. He asked whether this was going to be decided. The Chair opposed the donation and had previously questioned membership and the availability of accounts. The March meeting was made up of the previous Council. He advised that anything that would spend public money would have to be on the agenda. In November the Parish Council would take applications from any group for grants. If ADD wanted to apply they could and a decision would be made. Other Parishes had given money and it had been queried by auditors. Section 137 non-profit organisations within the community. Giving public money to a group that are using it to pay highly paid specialists and taking that away from local community groups.

Councillor Betts advised that the previous Chair had been given clearance from the Legal Department at Eastleigh Borough Council and that the donation would not have come out of Section 137 money. He reported that this was a group whose aim was to oppose the Borough Council Local Plan. ADD feel there are better alternatives with views backed up by specialists. A lot of Parish Councils were becoming concerned about the plan if certain things went through.

Councillor Clarke there were highly paid well qualified people speaking on behalf of ADD but there are also specialists at the Borough Council. Chris

Packham had fingers burnt through backing a plan that he had a financial interest. Councillors needed to think very carefully when putting public money into private companies.

Another member of the public addressed the meeting to explain that local people had felt absolutely helpless with everything going on with the Local Plan and she felt that it was great that there was a collective voice. She had spent 3.5 hours doing the consultation. She felt that the average person would not understand the whole process. She reported that behind her home was the proposed service road, link road, housing. She was frustrated as the plans seemed to change every month. She asked whether the Parish Council were going to look after the Brook and the wildlife within it. She loved the semi-rural nature of Allbrook and this was the reason why she moved there. Councillor Clarke advised that he sympathised with her, however the Borough Council had previously submitted a plan which did not identify any of these sites it was felt to be a good plan. The Borough Council were told the original plan did not have enough housing in it. The Borough Council now had to look at sites that they hadn't wanted to build on but may have to in order to satisfy the housing numbers. Councillors had taken different views, however the Borough Council needed to meet housing numbers but also try and preserve the wildlife and the rural areas. She asked whether the Chair backed the Borough Council's Local Plan and he replied that he did back the Local Plan.

A member of the public asked whether the play area at Allbrook Knoll could be used yet? Councillor Palmer had been promised that it would be cut back and improved and she was to follow this up with the Borough Council. She advised that the play area had been taken out of the strategic gap.

Councillor Palmer requested that it be minuted that not all Councillors held the same view as Councillor Clarke on the Local Plan. Councillor Betts advised that the Council had not taken an official position on the local plan. He also reported that there was no green belt in Hampshire and the green belt does not mean what you think it means. Councillor Clarke suggested that developers hate gaps and that the Borough Council would get targeted if this was used as a defence it is sometimes better going for the least worst option. Need to constantly review them, justification for them being gap. They were developed as we don't have greenbelt.

22. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 26 June 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman reported that Cheryl Gosling does not want to take a formal review and will only give advice on resource issues when asset transfers had been decided. The Council would agree the first assets to be transferred in October 2018.

Some progress had been made on the newsletter it was hoped it would be delivered by Councillors on weekend of 20 September 2018.

The Council's website would be up and running soon the changes that had to be made were due to the Council's compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in relation to items of business on the agenda.

24. ALLOTMENT UPDATE

David Ward reported that due to the very hot weather there was not a lot happening at the Allotments. He thanked the Parish Council for the new strimmer that had been purchased after agreement at the last meeting. There had been some ongoing trouble with rats and wasps at the Broomhill site but this was in hand. There were two vacant plots, however the processes were being reviewed and they were waiting for a new Allotment Officer so options could be discussed.

The Chairman thanked David for taking on the role as main Site Representative in the short term. There would be a lot of activity with that role in the near future and it was hoped that the new Allotment Officer would be appointed soon.

25. REPORT FROM THE COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILS

The Chairman reported that there had been no County Council meetings since the last Parish Council meeting. It was due to be a lively full Council meeting in September at the County due to the proposed cuts to public transport and street lighting. He would report back to the September meeting.

The Borough Local Plan Consultation was ongoing and events had been well attended, assistance was available at the Borough Council offices for people wanting to make comments on the Local Plan.

Places for People Leisure in Eastleigh received an Institution of Civil Engineers South East Award in the Community Benefit category at a

ceremony in Brighton on Thursday 19 July 2018. The award reflected the excellent feedback the Borough Council, who developed the centre and operators, Places for People Leisure, had received from users of the venue.

A day of activities marking the centenary year of the end of the First World War would bring military vehicles and a re-enactment of a field hospital, as well as music, dance and educational events, to the centre of Eastleigh. Eastleigh Remembers, which takes place on Saturday 15 September from 11am to 5pm, is a free family event designed to give a flavour of both the First and Second World Wars. It takes place on the Leigh Road Recreation Ground, the site of a major clearing hospital for casualties during the 1914-18 conflict.

The Chairman advised that the Borough Council had granted permission for a Hotel on Bournemouth Road behind Asda. A sequential test had been completed and other sites were looked at as part of that test this was the only acceptable site.

He advised that Borough Councillors had agreed to increase their allowances by 8% to make it more accessible for people who don't normally take up the role of Councillor. The basic allowance was £7,000 it does incur some costs for people. Regrading ward sizes have increased. There was no increase on the Special responsibility allowances as these were optional. It was a difficult subject to talk about and everyone had their views. He advised there was a need for younger Councillors and it was hoped that the increase would help some who wouldn't normally stand due to incurring costs.

The Chairman noted that Crestwood had got an excellent Ofsted report. Quilley School had been absorbed by Crestwood and standards had been brought up in leadership and management and now offered outstanding personal welfare and outstanding prospects for young people in the Borough.

The Chairman introduced Borough Councillor Sara Tyson-Payne – voting on whether to take a pay rise. Desperately would like us to see younger people stepping forward to be Councillors. Thoroughly enjoying being a councillor got any problems please give me a call email etc. Magistrate chair of governors great support.

26. COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Councillor Lee-Potter reported that she aimed to get the newsletter out to residents during the last week of September. It was hoped that it would be informative and a useful document for residents of the Parish. She asked that people email her if there was anything they wanted in the Newsletter. It was confirmed that going forward the newsletter would become a regular feature.

27. NOTICEBOARD KEYS

Councillor Freemantle had arranged for noticeboard keys to be cut and it was confirmed that all Councillors had now received keys to the noticeboards in order that they could keep them up to date.

28. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL STREET LIGHTING AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT CONSULTATION

The Chairman urged members of the public to look at the Hampshire County Council consultation on its website with regard to street lighting and public transport. In an attempt to cut costs the County were considering the time that lights were switched off and concessionary bus travel.

If the council cut the trees back the lighting might be more useful.

The Chairman advised that he was not opposed to reduced lighting but it should be environmentally led not cost led. The Chairman then went through the questionnaire for views from residents and Councillors. He advised that this was only to consider residential lighting not main road lighting.

With regard to subsidised travel he advised that routes E1 and E2 relied on subsidies. E1, E2 and X9 were used most regularly by the parish. He reported that Roy Perry, County Leader had proposed that if people were willing to pay a small amount of money the County could continue to subsidise buses. There was some discussion around subsidising buses and ideas were raised including: a £5 per year cost for a bus pass, the viability of a minibus and voluntary driver, and whether the Parish would subsidise the Local bus service. The Chairman replied that this was only something the Parish Council would discuss if the County cut the service.

It was noted that if Community transport grants were reduced would isolate vulnerable people and would be a false economy because what is taken from one pot and it would have to come from another. If community transport was cut the NHS would have to pick up the bill to get people to hospital appointments.

It was also noted that there were people that were unable to access online information. So the suggestion was made to include bus times in the Parish newsletter.

29. ASSET TRANSFERS

Councillors held a meeting last week to discuss asset transfers the Chair advised that there would be a vote on the first phase of transfers at the October Council meeting. Several areas were discussed including the land at Allbrook Hill behind the bungalows; Allbrook Hill play area; and Allbrook Knoll play area although it was hoped that the Borough Council would put in improvements before the Parish took it over in order to save the Parish

money. Councillor Palmer was working with the Borough in order to get the suggested improvements underway. The Parish Council would take over Allbrook Meadow once the Borough Council had been satisfied with its condition, this land was already committed to be transferred.

A member of the public suggested that the Parish Council should not take on the land at Woodside Avenue under the pylon. He suggested that this was given to the Borough Council by Cranbury Estates as it could not be developed.

The Chairman requested that residents email their views to Councillors about open spaces that could be transferred to the Parish Council. He advised that the asset transfers would affect the precept. He explained that Special Expenses are highlighted in the Borough Council tax, when an asset was transferred to the Parish the responsibility of that asset also transferred to the Parish, you would not pay any more but would gain better control. It was hoped that early next year there would be new assets under the Parish Council ownership.

A member of the public suggested that there were professional dog walkers using Allbrook Meadow and enquired whether a byelaw could be used to control that. The Chairman advised that when the Parish Council had control of the meadow the problem would be investigated.

30. PARISH COUNCIL RESERVES

The Chairman reported that the Council's reserves were higher than they should be and suggested that the Council could make some traffic improvements in the area. This could be done by the Parish if there was a highways case for it. He suggested that residents advise Councillors by email if there were any improvements they wanted to see around the parish.

A member of the public suggested that since introduction of yellow lines in Pitmore Road it had made the parking situation worse! The Chairman advised that he was pursuing that with the Borough and the feasibility of herringbone parking in the layby. He advised that the County were always happy if Parish Councils wanted to pay for improvements. A member of the public suggested a 20 mph limit or traffic calming on Pitmore Road. It was also noted that Veolia refuse lorries regularly used Pitmore Road and that more and more vehicles were using Pitmore Road to get to the motorway. The Chairman advised that he would enquire at the County regarding the traffic calming measures and suggest that the Parish would pay for the improvements.

Enquiry with HCC to establish whether traffic calming could be installed in Pitmore Road and paid for by the Parish.	Councillor Clarke	Sept Meeting
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31. SECTION 137 GRANTS

The Chairman advised that an application process needed to be developed in order that the Council could give grants to community groups. Residents and Councillors were asked to advise local groups that they could apply for grants from the Parish Council. There was £3000 available in the budget which could potentially increase. The application form would be agreed by the next meeting. It was suggested that it would be advertised in the Newsletter, on the noticeboards and on the website. It was suggested that a participatory process would be developed for the application for grants and a show of hand on the night or postal vote to decide.

Grant application form to be developed and process to be discussed.	All	Sept Meeting
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32. REVIEW OF ALLBROOK AND NORTH BOYATT PARISH COUNCIL'S POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

The Clerk advised that all Members had received a hard copy of the updated Standing Orders and Financial Regulations and all banking arrangements had been updated. It was agreed that the review of the asset register and risk assessment would be reported to the September Meeting.

RESOLVED –

- (1) That the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be adopted;**
- (2) That the bank arrangements had been updated to reflect the new Membership of the Council; and**
- (3) That the Asset Register and Risk Assessment document be reported to the next meeting.**

Asset Register and Risk Assessment to be reported to the next meeting.	Clerk	Sept Meeting
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33. 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:

Date	Chq No	Payee	Amount
20/04/18	100442	Alderwood Consulting	£354.00
20/04/18	100443	Eastleigh Borough Council Rat Treatment	£146.00
20/04/18	100444	HALC Affiliation Fees 18/19	£481.00
14/05/18	100445	A Thorne Laptop, hard drive, Office 2016	£825.88
16/05/18	100446	L Greenslade Petty Cash	£200.00
16/05/18	100447	L Greenslade Office Allowance Q1 2018/19	£87.50
16/05/18	100448	A Thorne Office Allowance Q1 2018/19, Travel	£168.34
10/05/18	100449		£5620.00
30/05/18	100450	A Thorne Office Allowance Q2 2018/19, Travel & Back pay	451.03
18/05/18	100451	A Thorne Ink Cartridges	96.79
05/06/18	100452	Cleansing Services Group Cesspit empty	216.00
06/06/18	100453	Community First Trading Council Insurance 18/19	538.90
21/06/18	100454	HALC Councillor Training	192.00
24/06/18	100455	Lightatouch Internal Audit	650.00
26/06/18	100456	D Ward Strimmer Parts and Repair	157.12
26/06/18	100457	D Ward Allotment Petty Cash	200.00

RESOLVED –

- (1) That endorsement be given for the payment of cheques 100442 – 100457; and**
- (2) That the budget monitoring statement and Council’s financial position be noted.**

34. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on 25 September 2018 at 7 pm in The Scout Hut, Boyatt Lane.