

WOOTTON ST LAWRENCE WITH RAMSDELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 18th March 2024 at Ramsdell Village Hall, 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Sarah Curtis, Chairman
Cllr Jane James, Cllr Jenny Englefield,
Cllr Chris Fenner, Cllr Greg Childs, Cllr Jay Ganesh,
Kirsty Shaw - Parish Clerk, PC Simon Denton, Four members of the public

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Abigail Compton-Burnett, Cllr Simon Minas-Bound and Cllr David McIntyre

2. Register of Interests

There were no updates to the register of interests.

3. Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes

The Parish Council website and email address has been updated to reflect the updated name of the Parish Council.

6. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Vaughan circulated a report prior to the meeting giving updates on the priorities for HCC. The Parish Council have received a further £950 grant from HCC to support the funding for the speed monitors in the villages.

7. Police Report

PC Simon Denton attended the meeting to give an update. PC Denton has been working from Tadley since 2019 for the Rural Team. He is very aware of rural issues and he has an agricultural diploma. Crime wise is low in the area, there was a dwelling burglary on 5th March, there have been litter issues, suspicious incidents and speeding. Cllr Childs advised there was an intruder recently looking at agricultural equipment, he contacted the Police who were helpful. The Chairman thanked PC Denton for attending. PC Denton advised he will bring personal alarms to the next meeting. He noted keyless car theft is big at the moment so you need to be aware of this.

8. Play Area Updates

The play areas have continued to be inspected by BDBC. The fence in Ramsdell needs replacing due to rot.

9. Borough Councillor's Report

Cllr Jay Ganesh gave an update. He reported the Local Plan has been consulted on. Maria Miller MP is working on a petition to slow down house building, currently there are 4000 signatures and this has to be debated in May. If debated there will need to be a resolution.

There is a £15k grant opening in the next financial year for strengthening community projects. BDBC have agreed a grant of £2k for the Parish Council towards the purchase of speed indicator devices. There will be other grants coming up.

Cllr Ganesh advised if there are any events coming up in the villages the Borough Councillors are happy to attend and have a stall. PC Denton confirmed the Police would be happy to do this also.

Cllr Ganesh noted there has been an improvement in pot holes being fixed in the last three weeks. Residents and the Parish Council need to report pot holes and if they are not being fixed let the Borough Councillors know they can chase this. Sometimes there are temporary fixes until they can come back to undertake a permanent fix. The Chairman highlighted there is a problem in Lloyds Lane, Cllr Fenner added an issue with the verge on A339 Basingstoke Road too. Cllr James will forward the details to Cllr Ganesh to chase HCC.

The Chairman highlighted the Jubilee Trees have not arrived yet but BDBC have been out and they have decided on the sites. Cllr Ganesh confirmed he would chase this.

10. Lengthsman's Scheme

There are no funds left in the scheme for financial year 2023/24. The Parish Council agreed to join the scheme again in 2024/25.

11. Highways

11.1 Highways and Footpaths

The Chairman asked about the bridleway at Holly Bush Lane. Cllr Englefield advised this has been looked at and they would like a team of volunteers to help cut it back.

The Chairman noted the bus shelter has books in and there is a need for extra shelves, someone in the village said they could put up some shelves. The Chairman will find out the cost and get agreement from the Parish Cllrs to fund this.

Cllr James advised there are two pot holes in West Heath that have not been fixed and there have been some discussions about whether the status of the road could be changed to a single track. Cllr Childs advised this would mean any satnav directions would be changed. It is thought the road is too wide to change the status but people have been passing in any place so this has affected the verges.

There was a discussion about big contractors using the village roads. It was suggested whether the local companies whose vehicles use the lanes could contribute to passing places. Cllr Fenner suggested Manydown are asked to create pulling in areas. Cllr James confirmed she would organise a meeting.

11.2 Speed Monitor

Cllr Fenner gave an update. Three tenders were received from good suppliers, there were two received in the region of £8k and a lower one from Elan City of £4500. Information from other Parish Councils who have used Elan City have been sought and they were satisfied with the equipment and service from Elan City. Cllr Fenner gave the recommendation that the Parish Council agree to the tender from Elan City. These would need to be installed, agreement from HCC is needed and possibly a planning application submitted. The Parish Council has received a total of £3950 in

grant funding. The Parish Council agreed in principle to the tender from Elan City pending further information from HCC, BDBC and the insurers.

12. Financial Matters

12.1 The financial statement as at the end of December, January and February and bank statements were agreed and signed. There was a total of £13,867.05 in the bank at the end of February. The Parish Council received £921.51 VAT reclaim for 2023/24.

The Parish Council now has an online banking facility to transfer funds so cheques will no longer be needed. Payments will be agreed at the Parish Council meetings but the Clerk advised that when a payment is needed during other times she would email the Parish Councillors to confirm the payment can be made to ensure there is a clear audit trail.


12.2 The following payments were approved:

Clerk Fee and HMRC - £227.50
Ramsdell Village Hall Hire - £70
Haines Planning Consultancy - £420
Vision ICT - £21.60

12.3 The Parish Council will look at the budget outside of the meeting and bring to the May meeting to finalise and sign off. Further suggestions of budget items were solicitor fees for the cricket club lease £1k, speed monitor budget to increase, contingency for play areas, pot holes in the drive at the recreation ground in Ramsdell. The Parish Council agreed to set aside some funds for local community groups to apply for small grants for projects.

13. Planning Applications (please refer to BDBC website or click on the links below)

To receive and discuss planning applications. The Parish Council comments can be found on Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council website or click on the links below.

- [Variation of condition 3 of 22/02684/HSE \(Upgrade of store and garage/Conversion to part of carport to habitable accommodation; installation of new doors to remaining carport; replacement doors and windows\) to allow change from aluminium to use composite frame windows/doors](#) 

Manor Barn Ibworth Lane Upper Wootton Hampshire RG26 5TH
Ref. No: 24/00365/ROC | Received: Mon 19 Feb 2024 | Validated: Fri 23 Feb 2024 | Status:
Registered

14. Correspondence

There will be Parish Council elections in May. Nomination forms for Councillors need to be submitted to BDBC by 5th April at the latest.

15. Date of next meeting and items for the agenda

Annual Review Meeting - Monday 13th May 2024 - Ramsdell Village Hall - 7.00pm

**Next Parish Council Meeting – Monday 20th May 2024 – Ramsdell Village Hall –
7.00pm**

Speed monitors

Budget

Cricket Club

Asset Register

Update on Grant requests

The meeting ended at 8.00pm