

HURN PARISH COUNCIL

The Meeting of Hurn Parish Council was held on Monday, 14th March 2022 at Hurn Bridge Sports Club at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr Mrs M Phipps, Chairman
Cllr H Greenman, Vice Chairman
Cllr I Evans
Cllr Mrs J Jones
Cllr M Cranham
Cllr Mrs H Balkaya Shore

Mrs N Shaw, Clerk
Mark Harding, Enviromena

28/22 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

29/22 APOLOGIES

None.

30/22 SIGNING OF THE MINUTES

Cllr M Cranham proposed that the minutes of the meetings held on 14th February 2022 were a true record, this was seconded by Cllr I Evans, and it was **resolved** that they be signed by the Vice Chairman.

31/22 CODE OF CONDUCT OF LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS

The Chairman reminded members of the need to declare their interests at all meetings where matters being discussed, or to be discussed, affected their interests.

32/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting closed at 7.32 pm.

Mark Harding, Enviromena presented an update on proposals for a Parley Green Lane solar farm.

He explained that since the last meeting he attended, the full planning application had been submitted with some significant design changes. A new planning officer has been assigned and he is arranging to speak to her.

Hurn Parish Council had objected to the proposal. The main objections to the proposal were, flood risk, impact on the green belt, ecology and visual impact. The response from the Environment agency is being chased. BCP Council have proposed a cycle path along the edge of the site.

They are working to address some of the issues raised. The design has been changed to reduce the number of modules; they will be more spread out over the same area. The maximum height of the modules has been reduced to 2.5m by the panels tracking the

sun, which makes them more efficient. They can also be stowed at a height of 1.6m when flooding is predicted.

They are in discussions with a flood risk consultant to ensure the most suitable fencing is used due to the risk of fencing catching debris.

7.42 Cllr Mrs J Jones arrived.

Cllr Mrs M Phipps commented that any obstructions in the flood plain have a cumulative effect. How would you benchmark the current biodiversity and how you will achieve a net gain? Mr Harding responded that measures such as bird boxes will be installed, and areas set aside. Nesting birds and lapwings have been flagged. Additional surveys will be carried out. These will be included in the resubmission document and the measures that will result in net gain. Cllr. Mrs. Phipps commented that next boxes were not natural and no substitute for the real environment.

Cllr Mrs J Jones asked if the aim of the fencing was to keep deer out and what damage did, they do? Mr Harding said it would keep deer out as they could damage the equipment. The site would be set up so sheep could graze. Cllr. Mrs. Phipps commented that it had been said that this would happen on other sites, but mainly no sheep were grazed.

Cllrs asked how many jobs would be created? Most would be during the construction phase with some ongoing maintenance staff.

Cllrs were very concerned about the visual impact particularly from the Stour Valley Way on the other side of the river. Mr Harding responded that some areas would be landscaped and trees would be planted to provide screening in other areas. Some areas would still be visible. Cllrs recommended that Mr Harding contact Throop and Holdenhurst Parish Council as they would be most affected by the visual impact. He agreed to do so.

Cllr I Evans suggested the structures such as the transformers be painted an appropriate colour to blend into the landscape as much as possible.

Cllrs asked about noise, as the solar farm near Chapel Lane has resulted in an ongoing buzzing. Mr Harding said there had been no problems with noise at their other site and he did not expect any with this site.

Cllr Mrs M Phipps asked if the energy produced could be stored. Mr Harding explained that there will not be any on site, but his company were working on storage projects which will become more common as the technology improves over the next 10-15 years.

Mr Harding said the next phase was to submit the additional information to the planners. He expected there to be another consultation, when the Parish Council could comment again.

Cllr Mrs M Phipps explained that the Parish Community fund had received a financial contribution from other solar farms in the parish. Mr Harding said he would look into it as they wanted to work with the local community.

Cllr Mrs M Phipps thanked Mr Harding very much for coming back to give Cllrs an update and to answer their questions.

33/22 GENERAL PARISH MATTERS.

a) Open Spaces: Town Common/Sopley Common/Ramsdown, Hurn Forest:

Cllr Mrs M Phipps reported that the GM Collective had contacted her to inform her their music event in the field next to the Airport had been postponed.

Cllr Mrs J Jones commented that the wooden posts by the boulders into Hurn Forest car park had been removed. One of the boulders budges into the gap and cars are catching it. Mrs M Phipps agreed to ask the Forestry Commission to replace the wooden posts.

Leave on Agenda for May meeting.

b) Gravel Extraction

Cllr H Greenman reported that the settlement ponds required by the planning permission for the Hurn Court quarry are now operational with gravity fed pipework. As a result, there is less sediment in the water exiting the site, but still some sediment from time to time. Planning enforcement is monitoring the situation.

Cllr M Cranham agreed to arrange a site visit before the next meeting. Cllrs reported that test bore holes have been completed in the Events field off Parley Lane and other local sites at the end of Pussex Lane. **Leave on Agenda for May meeting.**

Roads

Cllr Mrs H Balkaya Shore reported oversize vehicles using the Avon Causeway to the police. Cllr M Cranham reported that the bollards on the footpath between Moors Close and Greywell had been pushed over and a car was driving along the path to avoid Matchams Lane. Cllr Mrs M Phipps agreed to report the problem to BCP Council highways department. **Leave on Agenda for May meeting.**

c) Playground

The annual inspection has been completed and some issues identified. Cllr M Cranham had oiled the gates and adjusted their closing time. He will cut the undergrowth back. The bark chippings need to be topped up. It was agreed the Clerk would check when the Parish Council last received funding from the Airport Community fund and get an application form to request a grant to help with the cost of the chippings. **Leave on Agenda for May meeting.**

d) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Mrs M Phipps updated Cllrs. The consultation has now finished. 44 responses have been received. Two drop-in sessions were held. The consultant, Jo Witherden will collate the responses before a steering Group meeting is held. A large amount of work has gone into preparing the draft plan and carrying out the consultation, thank you to everyone. **Leave on Agenda May meeting.**

e) BCP Local Plan Issues & Options

Cllr Mrs M Phipps reported that most Residents had found they could not respond to the BCP consultation online as it was so difficult to use. Christchurch Independent Cllrs had held drop-in sessions to assist Residents which were well attended. The deadline to respond has been extended to 25th March. Statements will be accepted. Hurn Parish Council will submit a statement.

Cllrs discussed and agreed the Hurn Parish Council response. This included emphasising how difficult it was to respond. Engagement with residents will not be successful when it is so difficult to respond.

The response to the consultation will be submitted. **Remove from the Agenda.**

f) Future Places

Cllr H Greenman agreed to prepare a draft response to the questionnaire. James Croker will make a presentation about Future Places at the Annual Assembly. **Remove from the Agenda**

g) BCP Heritage list

Heritage sites in Hurn were discussed. It was agreed that the wartime building on Ramsdown, Hurn Bridge and the Firgrove Barrows would be recommended to be added to the list. **Leave on Agenda May meeting.**

h) Hurn Bridge Sports Club Lease

Phil Old is trying to obtain an extension to the lease on the Sports Club. Cllrs agreed to support this extension as the Club is an important local facility. **Leave on Agenda May meeting.**

34/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The meeting closed at 9.24 pm. Mark Harding asked if the village had any electric charge points. Cllrs responded that it didn't and the best place for one to be installed would be Hurn Bridge Sports Club. Mr Harding explained that the Chairman of Enviromena was also the involved with another company which supplied rapid charge points.

The meeting reopened at 9.26 pm.

35/22 CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk presented the list of correspondence.

36/22 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cllr Mrs J Jones reported on the Airport Consultative meeting she attended. Eligibility for the Airport Community fund will be changing to cover the area affected by the airport's activity.

Cllr I Evans explained he will be attending the single point of contact meeting next week. He will raise the issue of the Police attending meetings and the need for them to

give the Parish Council a crime report each month. He will invite them to attend the Annual Assembly.

37/22 FINANCE

a) **Cheques Out:**

The following items of expenditure were **resolved**, proposed Cllr H Greenman, Seconded Cllr M Cranham:

- Cheque No 918: £888 to Dorset Planning Consultant Ltd – Consultancy Neighbourhood Plan
- Cheque No 919: £489.34: to Mrs N Shaw for Clerk’s duties and expenses during February 2022: (hours for February 2022 [28.50 hours @ £12.45/hour = £354.83] + £1.99 expenses, printer ink) + £132.53 backpay due to pay increase effective April 2021.
- Cheque No 920: £19.80 to Mrs M Phipps, Neighbourhood plan printing.

b) **General**

The following issues were identified in the annual financial risk assessment:

1. Assess potential flood and tree risks that are the responsibility of the Council
2. Assess the wooden notice board for safety
3. Commence the process of moving to Online banking if it is secure and legitimate to do so.

Cllrs discussed these issues. The trees in the village are all either the responsibility of Sovereign Housing Association or BCP Council and are not the responsibility of the parish council. Cllr Mrs M Phipps agreed to inspect the noticeboards. It has been agreed to investigate moving to online banking.

38/22 SUPPLEMENTARY

None.

39/22 DATE OF NEXT TEAMS MEETING

Monday 11th April 2022, the Annual Assembly

40/22 PLANNING

Cllr Mrs M Phipps reported that a resident of Highcliffe has produced a petition for Christchurch to have its own planning committee. Cllrs. Agree to support the petition.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

Signed: Date: