

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council
Minutes of the Meeting Held in the Village Hall, Braeside Road,
on Thursday 29th September 2022 at 7pm

Present: Cllr JB Parker, Chair

Cllr N Hindmarch	Cllr A Davies	Cllr S Marshall	Cllr B Goringe
Cllr M Goringe	Cllr C Johnson	Cllr JW Parker	Cllr M Dyer (left at 7.25pm)

In attendance: Mr. Jonathan Ross, Parish Clerk

Public Open Forum:

In the region of 25 residents attended the meeting. They raised several issues concerning the recent council ruling that dogs should remain on leads whilst on Braeside Road recreation area. The issues raised were:

- Residents felt the ruling was unfair as it penalized the vast majority of dog owners for what was perceived to be the failings of just a small minority of dog owners.
- They felt the Parish Council hadn't consulted with residents or carried out an equality impact assessment before taking their decision.
- Many dog owners use the park to exercise their dogs off leads. Most live locally and can walk there. Some can't get to other areas where dogs can be let off their leads.
- Owners having to keep their dogs on leads meant many wouldn't continue to use the park and could struggle to get to areas where they could let their dogs off due to mobility issues or time constraints.
- Dogs and owners enjoy the social interaction they get with other dog owners. It gives them a chance to engage with other residents. For some residents this may be their only chance to meet and socialise with other people.
- It is considered a safe area because it is floodlit. Other areas such as the country parks and the heath are not lit, and residents don't feel safe using those areas in the dark. This particularly affects those who work all day.
- Residents agreed that the park should be a shared area and that something should be done to allow everybody to use it together safely.
- Residents indicated a keenness to form a group that could ensure the park was used properly. The group could be called 'Friends of Braeside Park'.

106. Pecuniary Interests: No pecuniary interests were declared.

107. Apologies: Apologies were received: Cllr R Bryan, Cllr U Lucas, Cllr K Gawler and Cllr B Waugh. Members voted to accept apologies from those councillors listed. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed. **RESOLVED: That the apologies from the Councillors listed were accepted.**

108. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 31st August 2022. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr C Johnson, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 31st August 2022 were adopted.

109. Matters arising from the minutes:

109.1. Update on requests to improve traffic safety on the Horton Road.

Update received from Cllr Bryan. He has challenged officers in Dorset Council Local Transport Plan (LTP) Team to come up with a plan for potential action on the road. He has also arranged for the footways to be sided? back from the Ashley Heath roundabout to Three-Legged Cross roundabout which will improve the narrow footway issue. He will report back to full council in October.

109.2. Control of Dogs on the recreation ground. Councillors listened to the points raised by the residents attending the meeting. They agreed that something should be done to allow the park to be used safely by everybody. Discussion took place on the various options that had been suggested. The Clerk suggested one option was to create a fenced area where dogs could be let off leads. In addition, suitable signage would be displayed. The creation of a 'Friends of Braeside Park' group was thought to be a good idea. The Clerk said that he was to meet with two members of the Urban Heath Partnership (Dogs of Dorset) on 4th October to obtain advice and guidance on what could be done. A resident attending the meeting was invited to that meeting. The Clerk was tasked with putting together a package of options based on the points raised by residents, the evening's discussion and advice received from the UHP. He is to then consult with residents on this and bring the results back to full council for discussion and possible action.

110. Correspondence to be noted:

110.1. Several emails have been received from residents requesting action be taken to improve the safety of Horton Road. Update given at Minute.109.1.

110.2. Request received to remove the noticeboard from the Post Office building in St Ives. This is due to the Post Office closing and the building no longer remaining as a shop. The notice board has been removed and will be relocated within the parish area.

111. Finance:

111.1. Payment Schedules. Members reviewed and approved the schedule of payments for September 2022. Copies of the schedule appear at Appendix A to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED: The schedule of payments for September 2022 were approved.

111.2. Bank Reconciliations. Members reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation for September 2022. A copy of the reconciliation appears as

Appendix B to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr JW Parker. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The bank reconciliation for September 2022 was approved.

111.3. External Audit. Members received the conclusion of the external audit report. Members noted there were no findings or matters arising from the report.

111.4. Option to Opt out of the SAAA Central Auditor Appointment Arrangements. Members received a letter from the SAAA offering the option for the Parish Council to opt out of the current external audit arrangements. Members agreed that they do not want to opt out. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr C Johnson. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The Parish Council will not opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements.

111.5. Cyber Insurance Renewal. Members received and approved the annual cyber insurance renewal quote of £369.20 due on 13th October 2022.

RESOLVED. The renewal of the annual Cyber Insurance for £369.20 was approved.

112. Grants to Outside Bodies:

112.1. Grant for the Village Hall Management Committee for 2023/24.

Members received the grant request from the VHMC for £10,000. Members discussed and approved the grant request. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed. Cllrs B Goring and M Goringe abstained from the vote.

RESOLVED. The grant request from the VHMC of £10,000 for 2023/24 is approved.

112.2. Unallocated Grant Funds. The Clerk informed members that there is a sum of £3500 in the budget for grants which remains unallocated for this financial year. The Clerk presented members with a report proposing how the funds could be reallocated. The report's recommendations were accepted by members. Proposed by Cllr S Marshall, seconded by Cllr C Johnson. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The following grants would be made this year:

- **Ringwood Foodbank to receive £1000 to assist with its provision of food and fuel vouchers.**
- **Greyfriars Community Centre Minibus to receive an additional £400 resulting in a total grant of £1000.**
- **Citizens Advice, New Forest to receive an additional £500 resulting in a total grant of £1500.**
- **Citizens Advice, East Dorset and Purbeck to receive an additional £500 resulting in a grant of £1500.**
- **The Parish Council in liaison with the VHMC to set up a 'Warm Space' for residents to visit once a week. Details to be confirmed. Grant of £2100 given.**

112.3. Other Grants. Members considered grants for 2023/2024 to allow budgetary provision to be made for 2023/24 financial year.

- 112.3.1. Greyfriars Community Centre.** Members approved budgetary provision of a £1000 grant for 2023/24. Proposed by Cllr N Hindmarch, seconded by Cllr B Goringe. Agreed.
RESOLVED. Budgetary provision of £1000 for Greyfriars Community Centre for 2023/24 is approved.
- 112.3.2. Citizens Advice, East Dorset.** Members approved budgetary provision of a £1500 grant for 2023/24. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr M Goringe. Agreed.
RESOLVED. Budgetary provision of £1500 for Citizens Advice, East Dorset for 2023/24 is approved.
- 112.3.3. Citizens Advice, New Forest.** Members approved budgetary provision of a £1500 grant for 2023/24. Proposed by Cllr N Hindmarch, seconded by Cllr B Goringe. Agreed.
RESOLVED. Budgetary provision of £1500 for Citizens Advice, New Forest for 2023/24 is approved.
- 112.3.4. Royal British Legion, Poppy Appeal.** Members approved budgetary provision of £200 to the RBL Poppy Appeal, this includes payment for two wreaths. Proposed by Cllr S Marshall, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.
RESOLVED. Budgetary provision of £200 for the RBL Poppy Appeal is approved.
- 112.3.5. Ex Services Remembrance Day Event.** Members approved budgetary provision of a £250 grant to the Ex-Services Remembrance Day Event. Proposed by Cllr JW Parker, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed. Cllr N Hindmarch abstained.
RESOLVED. Budgetary provision of £250 to the Ex-Services Remembrance Day Event is approved.

113. Clerks Report.

- 113.1. Corporate Emails.** Members approved the introduction of corporate emails. With immediate effect corporate emails will now be used to communicate with members. The website will be updated to reflect members email addresses. Proposed by Cllr M Goringe, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.
RESOLVED. Corporate emails will be used to communicate with members, with immediate effect.
- 113.2. Repairs to fencing.** It has been raised that the fence abutting the scout's recreation area has been missing several panels for quite some time. The nursery also use this area. The missing panels leave the area insecure. Members approved the Parish Council funding the replacement of the missing panels. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr B Goringe. Agreed.
RESOLVED. It is approved that the Parish Council will fund the replacement of the missing panels for the fence abutting the scout's recreation area.

- 114. Community Engagement.** The clerk informed members that the PC is now advertising in 'My Directory' on a monthly basis. The magazine is received by all parish residents. There is no cost to the PC. It is also placing articles in the Homewatch magazine.
- 115. Brief Reports from Dorset Council Members.** Members received a joint report on Dorset Council business from Cllr B Goringe.
- 116. Parish Councillor Reports.** No reports.
- 117. Amenities.** No amenity issues.
- 118. Climate Change.** No climate change issues were discussed.
- 119. Recruitment of a Replacement for the Assistant Clerk.** The Assistant Clerk will leave on 31st May 2023. Members received recommendations for the recruitment of a new Assistant Clerk from the Clerks Committee. Members agreed to replace the Assistant Clerk and agreed the recruitment details and timeline. Proposed by Cllr JW Parker, seconded by Cllr S Marshall. Agreed.
RESOLVED. A new Assistant Clerk will be recruited. The recruitment details and timeline recommended by the Clerks Committee were approved.
- 120. Assistant Clerk Matters.** The recommendations made by the Clerks Committee in relation to the Assistant Clerks matters were approved by members. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr JW Parker. Agreed.
RESOLVED. The recommendations made by the Clerks Committee in relation to the Assistant Clerks matters were approved.
- 121. Exchange of Information.** Next meeting date is Wednesday 26th October 2022.