



# BREAMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Victoria Eden  
24 Lyster Road, Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 1QY  
Tel: 01425 655707  
Email: parish.clerk@breamore.gov.uk  
Website: www.breamore.gov.uk

## **Minutes of the Breamore Annual Parish Meeting Held in Hulse Hall on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm**

**Acting Chairman:** Cllr Peter Turner in the Chair  
**Councillors:** Cllrs Michael Hulse, Paul Harling, Anthony Swift and Hilary Bowen  
**In Attendance:** Vicky Eden (Clerk), parishioners, speakers and guests

**1. Welcome by Chairman** – The Acting Chairman welcomed parishioners, speakers and guests (14 people as per attendance book). PCSO Stephen May and PC Rob Morant left the meeting at 8.28pm following their update (item 5)

**2. Apologies for absence:** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Lynne Aggas, County Cllr Edward Heron, Paul Hammond - Flood Warden, Emma Clark - Headteacher and apologies received following the meeting from Rev Nicky Davies

**3. Minutes of previous meeting:** Following review, it was agreed that corrections to numbering were required and Clerk is to action accordingly. The minutes of the Parish Assembly held on 8th May 2017 were then unanimously agreed as an accurate record and signed by the Acting Chairman.

### **4. Guest Speaker – Linda Nunn, Cranborne Chase AONB – ‘Cranborne Chase AONB – What it means to you’**

The Acting Chairman introduced Linda Nunn (not Lynne, as reflected on the agenda).

As an introduction, Linda gave a brief overview of her talk: it will include historical information relating to the set up of AONBs followed by an update in relation to current projects within Cranborne Chase AONB. She also presented leaflets to all present giving more detailed information.

AONBs currently cover 18% of the UK and there are 46 AONBs at present. They are not charities but QUANGOS. Cranborne Chase AONB covers 380 sq miles of countryside overlapping the boundaries of Wiltshire, Dorset, Hampshire and Somerset and has 1028 miles of public Right of Way. It is a diverse landscape, dominated by farming, but offering areas of rolling chalk grassland, ancient woodlands, chalk escarpments, downland hillsides and chalk river valleys each with a distinct and recognisable character. 7 employees (4.2 full time) are responsible for overseeing these rich and varied landscapes. There are many farm clusters within this area and Cranborne Chase AONB organises various training events for farmers.

It was highlighted that Cranborne Chase AONB has to work with planning departments – it is not a separate planning authority and has no legal right to request enforcement. It can however offer planning training to parish councillors. It was also noted that, at present, there are no laws on light pollution.

Funding for AONBs can be challenging as it is dependent on 25% funding from local authorities in order to receive 75% funding from DEFRA. However, AONBs also offer possible funding for local communities for projects that help to look after the Cranborne Chase & West Wiltshire Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty via their Sustainable Development Funds and more information can be found on the website <http://www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk/funding/sustainable-development-fund/>. Previous successful projects have included litter picks, PAWS walks, and WRENS Community Shop.

A Farmland Bird Advisor employed by Cranborne Chase works alongside farmers to promote The Arable Six - this project is focusing on the conservation of six species of birds declining most

steeply in the UK due to the change in farming practices. Corn buntings, lapwings, grey partridges, yellow wagtails, turtle doves and tree sparrows are now all seeing their numbers gradually increasing.

Linda concluded her talk by detailing various other ongoing projects including natural history projects, arts trails, and the current bid for International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) Reserve status. It was reiterated that Cranborne Chase AONB very much needs support for these projects (including volunteering with Landscape Partnership Scheme activities) and further information can be found online at <http://www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk>

The residents were then given the opportunity to ask questions before the Acting Chairman thanked Linda for her interesting and informative talk

## **5. Reports from Local Organisations, Schools and Individuals**

**Hampshire Police - PCSO Stephen May and PC Rob Morant** – Hampshire Police opened their talk by referring to the crime figures for 2017-2018 that had been produced for the Downlands and Forest area. Certain items had been reported differently (e.g. Burglary Residential) which is why some figures appear higher than they did in the previous year. PCSO May also highlighted the ongoing progress of the Farmwatch group. In total, 62 incidents have been reported within the Breamore area with 9 recordable crimes over the last twelve months. These figures were felt to be low (with less than one crime per month) but PCSO May reiterated that all crimes must continue to be reported to ensure future figures are accurate. Questions were then taken from those present.

A concern was raised relating to the problems in reporting incidents using 101. It was felt that the volume of calls outweigh the number of call takers. Hampshire Police are looking at ways to make reporting easier (e.g. online, apps) but PCSO May encouraged those present to contact him with regards to any further concerns with 101. It was reiterated that stats are based on what is reported. One villager said that he was unsure whom to contact if a crime is being committed. PCSO May advised that if there was immediate threat or harm, 999 should be called.

The response by Hampshire Police to incidents reported was also felt to be a concern. PCSO advised that if there were no lines of enquiry, the matter would be filed (although assaults will always have police deployed). All enquiries or concerns reported will always be followed up but the police may not deem it necessary to return to original complainant.

Hampshire Police were then asked about their continuing presence in the community. PCSO May advised that he does attend Fordingbridge Library and Woodgreen Community Shop on a regular basis. He was also invited to forthcoming Breamore Brunches. His contact details will be forwarded to the Clerk so that they can be displayed on the parish noticeboard.

The Acting Chairman thanked PCSO May and PC Morant for their talk. They then left the meeting after their update.

**Hulse Hall – Adam Elphinstone** – Adam introduced himself as the new Chairman of Hulse Hall Management Committee. He thanked Dennis White for all work as previous Chairman and for staying on the Committee.

There is currently a strong committee in place and funding is looking encouraging with many diverse groups using the hall. The Parish Council was thanked for its contribution towards the insurance costs.

Questions were then taken from those present and one villager asked if there were any future projects in the pipeline. Adam advised that maintenance may be required in relation to the floor, heat pumps and roof externally but otherwise the hall is looking better and is much warmer.

**Avon Valley Partnership – Rev Nicky Davies** – Unfortunately as Nicky Davies was not present, a report was not given at the meeting (although report is now reflected on the website [www.breamore.gov.uk](http://www.breamore.gov.uk))

**Breamore Primary School – Cllr Anthony Swift** – As a Breamore Primary School governor, Cllr Anthony Swift gave an update. A very well organised governing body is currently in place. An Ofsted inspection is due in the near future as last inspection was in August 2015. At present there are 115 pupils on role with 15 applications for reception in September 2018. Anthony then explained how the sugar levy was helping towards the Sports Premium. Pupils are encouraged to actively participate in a greater range of sports and one member of staff at the school focuses on this area. A festival of sports is due to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018 for the Forest Edge Learning Foundation (Hale and Breamore Primary Schools). Breamore Primary School is also disappointed with the decline of preschools in the local area, which may be due to the success of the larger nurseries that are organised in sourcing government funding. It was also noted that the school is no longer using Hulse Hall and Anthony was advised that one table tennis table belongs to the school and the children are warmly invited to use it in the future.

**Flood Warden – Paul Hammond** – Unfortunately Paul Hammond was unable to attend the meeting so the Clerk read his report aloud. The background of the role of the flood warden was explained together with the event history in Breamore. Outstanding issues include the culvert under the A338 and replacement of a trash screen on North Street. A webpage dedicated to Flood Management has been created on the Breamore Parish Council and parishioners were encouraged to contact Paul with any concerns via the following email address: [breamorefw@btinternet.com](mailto:breamorefw@btinternet.com) (full report is reflected on the website [www.breamore.gov.uk](http://www.breamore.gov.uk)) The Acting Chairman advised that the watercourses are being inspected at the current time and the Parish Council will await response following assessment. There has been a delay as consent was required prior to the survey taking place.

**Rook, Doddington and Johnson Charities – John Forshaw** – John Forshaw gave a short report in relation to the charities that he has represented for over 30 years. The Doddington charity was originally set up to help with apprentices for poorer youngsters in the village (with the Johnson charity providing similar funding) but it is now open to anyone for educational purposes and £100 is available. Last monies were paid out two years ago but there have been no applicants since. The Rook Charity was originally set up for spinsters but can now provide for widows and widowers with £200 p.a. available. Monies were last paid 6 months ago and at present the charity is in discussions with the Charity Commission in relation to its set up. Should parishioners wish to apply, or now of someone who is eligible to apply, they should put their request in writing to the Chairman of the Charity, Sir Edward Hulse.

**District and County Councillor Report – County Cllr Edward Heron** - Unfortunately Edward Heron was unable to attend the meeting so the Clerk read his report aloud. This report focused on the savings that both County and District Councils are looking to make and the reasons why they have to make such savings. Parishioners were also encouraged to report any road concerns online at [www.hants.gov.uk/roads](http://www.hants.gov.uk/roads). The NFDC Local Plan is also due to go out for consultation later in the year and all were encouraged to comment accordingly (full report from Edward Heron is reflected on the website [www.breamore.gov.uk](http://www.breamore.gov.uk))

**6. Chairman’s Report, including Financial Report: Parish Cllr Lynne Aggas** Unfortunately Lynne Aggas was unable to attend the meeting so the Acting Chairman read her report aloud. In her report, Lynne introduced herself as the new Chairman of Breamore Parish Council and thanked the previous Chairman, Peter Turner, for all his years of service and for staying on the Parish Council. Thanks were also given to all the parish councillors that have served on the council over the last twelve months, to the new Clerk and to all speakers at tonight’s meeting.

The report then highlighted the events of the last twelve months and parish council activities including: how many meetings held: planning applications received: the signage for the tree planted to mark the Queens 90th birthday; concerns in relation to highways (including safety concerns on the A338) and footpaths; the continued success of the parish lengthsman scheme; the updating of IT arrangements within the Parish Council to assist with meeting requirements for the Transparency Code and new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR); training undertaken by members and Clerk, and consideration of how to preserve Breamore Stocks. The villagers were also advised of sad news of the death of the former parish clerk, Brian Dixon, earlier this year. The Parish Council very much appreciated his 20 years of service to the parish.

The report then advised of the finances of the Parish Council and draft end of year accounts prepared by the Clerk were issued to all present (Appendix 1). The new internal auditor will audit these in June 2018. It was also noted that at the January 2018 meeting, the members agreed not to increase the precept following a review of the budget. Existing contingency funds are felt to be adequate and at present, no expensive parish projects have been identified. However it is noted that the district and county councils may be seeking to make cuts in the future – there have been several consultations over the past year and future consultations are expected, so budgetary forecasts will continue to be diligently considered and sufficient contingency funds will continue to be held (full report is reflected on the website [www.breamore.gov.uk](http://www.breamore.gov.uk))

## **7. Matters to be raised by the public**

Q – How often do the parish council meet?

A – Bimonthly although special meetings are called if planning applications are received that require comments to be forwarded prior to the next meeting

Q – The footpath on Rectory Lane used to be tarmac. Can it be clarified if this is a designated footpath?

A – Clerk to contact Hampshire County Council Countryside Access Team for guidance.

Q – Why is there a sea container in the village?

A – Clerk to research further.

Q – Why is there still a diversion of footpath in Flood Street when it was only supposed to be a temporary measure?

A – Clerk to add to agenda of next parish council meeting to consider further.

Q – What can be overtaking by vehicles when entering the village?

A - Clerk to add to agenda of next parish council meeting for double white lines to be extended?

Q – Should there be a 30 mph speed limit throughout village?

A – Clerk to add to agenda of next parish council meeting to consider further, especially whether a campaign group should be set up.

Q – Is a crossing required in the village?

A – This is an ongoing concern that will be added to the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting

Q – Would SID deployments be effective in the village?

A – The Parish Council hasn't found such deployments to be effective to although Clerk will contact NFDC to see some may be positioned in the village

Q – Is the parish council responsible for maintaining the bench near the newly planted tree, as it is not in good condition at present?

A – The Parish Council will investigate and discuss at next meeting accordingly.

Q – Some parts of the Railway Line footpath are very difficult to walk. Can any action be taken against landowners?

A – NFDC is aware and at present the situation does not warrant enforcement action although will continue to be monitored.

Q – Is there access to the Priory via the Railway Line footpath behind Hulse Hall?

A – This path is not a right of way.

There being no further business the Acting Chairman closed the meeting at 9.48pm

Minutes, including appendices and other documentation, can also be found on our website:

[www.breamore.gov.uk](http://www.breamore.gov.uk)

*These are draft minutes until approved at the next Annual Parish meeting*