

## LOWER BEEDING PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the Church Room, Plummers Plain.

Present: Cllr Allen (Chairman), Cllr Lloyd (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Bamford, Cllr Hinton, Cllr Hough, Cllr Tabor, Cllr Ward and Cllr White

Also present: Celia Price (Clerk), Cllr Bradnum (HDC) and 6 members of the public

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#### 1 **Report from the Chairman of the Council**

The Chairman gave an overview of his annual report (appendix 1 attached).  
Councillors were invited to make comments and the following was noted:

Cllr Lloyd reported that the village maintenance plan is going well and the village is looking a lot better. Unfortunately, as hedges have been cut back more litter appears however, this is being addressed and by August the village should be as we want it. Unfortunately, some landowners have been unhelpful and this is being addressed.

Cllr Bamford advised that the Neighbourhood Plan continues to progress and Cllr Peckham has been fundamental in facilitating this. They are both very pleased with the progress the team is making and highlighted a busy couple of months ahead thanking everyone involved including several councillors who are on the team.

Cllr Ward is looking forward to working more closely with the school and advised that Jeremy Quinn will be invited into school once they have been updated with the latest funding plans from WSCC.

Cllr Hough reported that website and communications review is a big project for the year ahead and she looks forward to working on it.

Cllr Tabor noted that the village seems to be getting busier, so communication is key. She is looking forward to investigating the possibilities of a Facebook page to continue to promote the village and its activities.

Cllr White reported that he continues to work hard to improve the traffic situation in the village. Any proposed TROs would not be implemented until 2022 but he would still like to see double white lines and reduced speed limits. He is looking forward to working with the school and Pene Mather (WSCC Safer Routes to Schools Officer) to make the journey to school safer for all.

The Chairman thanked all councillors for their comments and hard work.

#### 2 **Report from County Councillor**

Absent

### 3 **Report from District Councillor**

Cllr Bradnum reported that the new waste collection system has been a big project for the District Council, the roll out is going well and the scheme will improve recycling. The District Council has also agreed a £8m budget for improvements to Piries place carpark and the new Bridge Leisure Centre is well under way. The ice rink was a huge success in Horsham Park this year and it is hoped this will become a regular fixture, ideally with some financial benefits.

Council tax has increased by 3.56%.

Cllr Bradnum also reported that the Local Plan review is taking place with a register of brown field sites being updated.

There will be more enforcement of traffic regulations and enforcement officers will visit every school in the county once a term.

Finally, HDC are looking at the allocation of traveller sites as a couple more are needed to meet the target criteria.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Bradnum for her report and continued support with her attendance at meetings being greatly appreciated.

### 4 **Public Adjournment**

The Chairman invited questions and comments from the public and the following was noted:

- Parking continues to be a big problem in Church Close and Saxon Weald don't appear to be interested in helping.

The Chairman responded advising that the Parish Council will continue to address this issue and are planning on working with the school and WSCC to make improvements.

- The church room will be transformed within the next twelve months. Alternative accommodation was discussed for Parish Council meetings and will be investigated further.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8pm

Signed:

Dated:

**APPENDIX 1**  
**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Dear fellow Parishioners

The last 12 months more than ever has shown that nothing sits still in our little corner of England.

The changes to the Parish continue, and notably the development and re-opening of Leonardslee will see another destination for 10s if not 100,000s of thousands of visitors each year. With my Canadian Heritage I am particularly excited to see the North American Garden for the first time.

The Parish continues to thrive and with the neighbourhood plan I really hope we will be able to greet some new families and help them integrate to the community. Full credit to Leslie and Geoff for driving this and the next 2 months are key. Engagement from as many as possible will be essential. We have seen the strength of these in Nuthurst recently, and this has given many a restored faith in the process.

With these changes also comes a weight of responsibility. We understand the funding pressures that the school is under, and heard first-hand at last month's meeting. Making sure people's quality of life is not jeopardised through fighting our corner collectively is more important than ever.

We are better organised and prepared with the help of Paul Richards from Shipley Parish over the last 3 months, and our financial plan is clear and budgeted, we are building reserves mindful of the pressures that local government is under.

Michael the vice chair is deploying these wisely with the work on the footpaths and hedgerows which was long overdue.

As a Parish Council We have said goodbye to Michael our Clerk of 5 years, but we are delighted to welcome Celia to the team. She comes with an incredible reputation and a recent CILCA qualification already in evidence with this evening's proceedings.

We have also lost Jaimie to the women's institute but gained Alex Tabor, who adds another local business owner to our ranks.

Looking ahead I am going to strive to work more closely with the Lower Beeding Association, and Pete the new Chairman has a very positive outlook on how we can plan ahead together.

District and county council support has been greatly appreciated in the last 12 months, and Toni and Liz have helped get engagement on several key issues.

We are supporting the Church room development and I would personally like to get this moving asap. The creation of the indoor tennis facility will be another boost, giving the school a useful nearby sports location.

We have a long wishlist of things to resolve, from speeding to recurring planning headaches, but we have the right team and plans in place to do this. I don't expect any of us to be sitting still!

Ed Allen  
Lower Beeding Parish Council Chairman