

BRAMSHOTT & LIPHOOK PARISH PLAN
MINUTES OF STEERING GROUP MEETING (V1.1)

Held in the Millennium Centre on 25th March 2014 at 1930 hours

Present: Trevor Maroney (Chairman), John Tough (Treasurer), Eve Hope, Jeanette Kirby, Mukund Patel, Andrew Pope, Robin Young & Jackie Poole (Secretary)

Apologies: Margit Beavon, Adrian Bird, Simon Cooper, Martin Feast, Sarah Frankland, Carole Holmes, Colin Osborne, Tony Rudgard, & Lee Stewart.

Also Present: Cllr Don Jerrard and 5 members of the public.

1.	<u>Introduction.</u> The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	<u>Safety Notices.</u> The Chairman pointed out the emergency exits and procedures in the event of a fire.	
3.	<u>Minutes of Meetings.</u> The minutes of the 12 th March 2014 were approved and signed.	
4.	<u>Matter's arising.</u> There were no matters arising.	
5.	<u>Minutes of Meetings.</u> The minutes of the 19 th March 2014 were approved and signed.	
6.	<u>Matter's arising.</u> There were no matters arising.	
7.	<u>Overview of the Parish Plan.</u> The Chairman stated the aim of the Parish Plan and gave a brief overview of progress so far using copies of the Plan Index (V2.1) which was circulated at the meeting. He then explained that the Steering Group (SG) had drawn up a list of recommendations extracted from the various sections of the Plan which represented the community's 'Wish List' – Section 22. These would then be debated by the SG at 4 meetings, which would be held in public. The dates for these meetings – 25 th March, 15 th , 22 nd & 29 th April - had been published in the Liphook Herald and the Petersfield Post. However, there was one change to the programme: the planned meeting on 15 th April had been postponed until 13 th May as it clashed with EHDC's Forum on the Joint Core Strategy, which SG members wished to attend. Each meeting would cover 4 sections of the Plan and be used to draw out workable solutions to meet the 'Wish List.' These would form the Executive Summary – the Parish Plan, which would be presented to parishioners at a public exhibition in late May or early June with the formal document being published in the autumn.	
8.	<u>Agree Executive Summary.</u> The Chairman explained that, as the 'Writer' he planned to write the Executive Summary removing duplications, but add a column containing appropriate cross references to the various conclusions drawn from each section. a. Demographics. Whilst several conclusions and six recommendations had been drawn from the census statistics it was agreed that these would be used to support similar points made in other sections. After a short debate it was agreed that the following recommendations would be carried forward into the Plan:	

	<p>(1) Population. All local authorities and agencies are to ensure that the village infrastructure is capable of absorbing and sustaining a population which is likely to exceed 10,000 by 2021.</p> <p>(2) Households. Developers should provide more affordable housing.</p> <p>(3) Commuting. HCC Highways Department should develop a sustainable traffic management plan and road network to ease congestion and parking problems that is also capable of accommodating the growth in the number of cars that will occur as the level of housing stock increases.</p> <p>(4) Employment. EHDC should allocate more employment land and encourage business to invest in the parish thereby creating more quality job opportunities locally.</p> <p>(5) Health. NHS to ensure that the improvements in medical care, which has already resulted in a more healthy population, is maintained and enhanced to cope with the anticipated growth in the number of parishioners particularly the elderly.</p> <p>(6) Future Housing Needs. All local authorities need to be aware that primary housing growth drivers are: the Hindhead Tunnel with its ease of access to work for commuters; the high quality of education offered by local schools attracting parents to move into the catchment area and the in-migration of elderly people into Bramshott Place Village. Whilst the former is advantageous to current residents the latter two need to be addressed by:</p> <p>(a) Local schools constraining their growth in pupil numbers to sustainable levels by restricting new entries to pupils living in the catchment area. [MP agreed to provide suitable alternative wording.]</p> <p>(b) EHDC stopping any further housing development for the elderly at Bramshott Place to prevent an imbalance in the population of the parish.</p> <p>b. Environment. AP explained the importance of maintaining the scenic beauty of the parish countryside which should be protected and promoted. He pointed out that one-third of the parish was in the SDNP and had many Conservation and Special Protection Areas (SPA's) as well as Sites of Special Scientific (SSS's). It was agreed that:</p> <p>(1) Countryside Access & Protection. Asked how he envisaged the formation of the 'working group of like-minded people' recommended by Section 13 AP said that as he envisaged the emphasis being on conservation not preservation, he had in mind the formation of a newly designated group supported by the Parish Council.</p> <p>(2) Litter. The Parish Council to formulate a 'litter management plan' and set up a standing working group to continue to tackle the issue on a regular basis. As part of the educational process all local schools should be involved.</p> <p>(3) Quiet Lanes. HCC to re-categorise the ancient lanes throughout the hamlets and south of Liphook as 'Quiet Lanes.'</p>	
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	<p>(4) A3 Noise Reduction. Support and encourage EHDC and HCC Highways Department to implement noise reduction along the A3 to protect nearby houses.</p> <p>(5) SDNP. The community to support the aims and objectives of the SDNPA and promote Liphook as the Gateway to the National Park.</p> <p>(6) Traffic Congestion. HCC to reduce rush hour traffic congestion.</p> <p>(7) Radford Park. The community should continue to assist the Parish Council to optimise the advantages and long term wellbeing of Radford Park.</p> <p>(8) Disabled Access to the Countryside. Parish Council to produce maps showing areas of the countryside which are accessible to the disabled.</p> <p>c. Local Electoral System. The Chairman gave a brief overview of Bramshott & Liphook’s current three-member ward system, the only one remaining in the district following the Boundary Commission’s recommendations in 2000. He added that the 3 towns disputed the Commission’s draft findings and had all their multiple-member wards changed to singles. He explained that in his conversations with the Commission they acknowledge that the criteria for a further review of wards was almost reached in 2012. As such a formal review on wards within the district might take place in the near future. Cllr. Don Jerrard pointed out that in a three-member ward all the councillors could come from just one area of the parish. He felt that for greater local representation a single-member ward would seem more appropriate. After a brief discussion it was agreed that residents:</p> <p>(1) Should be made aware of the current three-member ward electoral system and the advantages and disadvantages of the alternative 3 single-member wards.</p> <p>(2) Ought to be consulted on any future changes to ward boundaries proposed by the Boundary Commission.</p> <p>d. Planning & Development. JK then took the SG through the community’s recommendations on Planning & Development. She began by stressing the need to maintain and enhance the quality of the built environment for current and future residents. It was agreed that:</p> <p>(1) Sustainability. The need for a Neighbourhood Plan would be discussed later.</p> <p>(2) London Road. The Preservation Society and the Parish Council should develop a management plan to protect the historical features and appearance of the mature detached and semi-detached residences bordering the London Road.</p> <p>(3) The Square. EHDC should ensure that the appearance of the conservation area and historic buildings surrounding the Square are maintained and enhanced. HCC should be asked to research ways of reducing or removing traffic from the Square. There was a discussion over the use of the land to the rear on the eastern side. Options considered included additional parking, affordable housing, a precinct for small shops similar to those in Petersfield. There was a need for further discussions on this issue.</p>	
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	<p>(4) Haslemere Road. HCC should be asked to designate the narrow, single lane tracks branching off the Haslemere Road as ‘Quiet Lanes.’</p> <p>(5) Midhurst Road. EHDC are to ensure that all design statements for any future development along either side of the Midhurst Road complement the existing housing, rural landscape setting and environment.</p> <p>(6) Portsmouth Road. SDNP to ensure that the important scenic views from Station and Portsmouth Roads over the national park are not obscured by any buildings.</p> <p>(7) Longmoor Road. Similarly SDNP should ensure that the picturesque views across the national park from the Longmoor Road are preserved. In addition:</p> <p>(a) HCC should ensure that all road signage is as unobtrusive as possible and that new street and security lighting is installed that minimizes light pollution.</p> <p>(b) EHDC to ensure that the provision of car parking spaces to new buildings reflects the expected car ownership, accessibility to facilities and the availability of public transport in order to alleviate on-street parking problems.</p> <p>(c) EHDC to consider an alternative use of the land at the rear of the Lowsley Farm land for the provision of sports and leisure facilities.</p> <p>(8) Bramshott. EHDC should be asked to ensure that the field at the entrance to Church Road from the A3 junction, which is outside the settlement boundary, remains undeveloped and that any future development is limited to extending and/or improving existing properties. They should also, with guidance from the Preservation Society, preserve the sunken lanes in Bramshott, and apply the rural exception policies, laid down in CP12 of the JCS, to provide affordable housing in perpetuity.</p> <p>(9) Griggs Green. EHDC should maintain the gaps between settlements to preserve the individual character of the separate hamlets.</p> <p>(10) Conford & Bramshott Chase. EHDC to prevent further development taking place in Conford and Bramshott Chase in order to preserve the character of these areas.</p> <p>(11) Hewshott & Hammer Vale. Although not discussed at the meeting it was felt that some consideration should be made for the residents of these two hamlets.</p> <p>(12) General.</p> <p>(a) Medical Facilities. The NHS should ensure that any new medical facility includes a pharmacy and a mixture of specialist/extended medical provision with particular regard to the needs of the elderly and disabled. Furthermore, if the Bohunt Manor medical centre is not build an alternative site in an easily accessible central location should be sought. There was a discussion over the site adjacent to the Liphook & Liss Surgery in Bleacher’s Yard as an alternative site for a new medical centre.</p>	
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	<p>(b) EHDC should introduce a policy to maintain and enhance the character of the tree cover throughout the parish by screening new developments from the open countryside by the retention of existing trees and supplementary planting. Where the retention of trees is impractical there should be new planting of native trees along roadsides within the new development.</p> <p>(c) EHDC should ensure that all design statements on new developments include the provision of several small green, open areas.</p>	
9.	<u>Any Other Business.</u> There was no other business.	
10.	<p><u>Next Meeting.</u> Steering Group: Tuesday 22nd April 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Canada Room, Millennium Centre. The main topics will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Business & Employment. b. Communications. c. Sport & Leisure. d. Youth. <p>The meeting ended at 9.40 pm.</p>	

Signed:

Trevor Maroney
Chairman BLPP

Date:

Enclosures:

1. Agenda
2. Plan Index V2.1.