

BEECH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Louisa Thomson
E-Mail: clerk@beechpc.com

Minutes of the Meeting Monday 10th February 2025

PARTICIPANTS : Councillor Kim Eakers – Chairman and acting Clerk
Councillor Tony Ransley
Councillor Ingrid McCormack
Councillor Nikki Pickard
Councillor Alana Coombes

25.014 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Ruth Duffin and from the Clerk, Louisa Thomson.

25.015 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20th January 2025, copies previously circulated, with one correction to 25.011 to clarify 10 bar water pressure.

Proposed as a true record by Ingrid, Seconded by Nikki, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED and signed by Chairman Kim Eakers.

25.016 PLANNING

Council to considered one planning application, their comments to be forwarded to East Hampshire District Council

EHDC-24-0027-FUL Land Nw Of Ackender Wood Basingstoke Road

OBJECT

Full planning application for residential development of 99 dwellings (Use classC3), access, informal and formal open space, together with associated drainage, utilities and all other associated works following the demolition of existing building.

Proposed Alana, Seconded Nikki, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to object to the development as it contravenes the Beech Parish Neighbourhood plan:

1. The site is in the area defined in policy BPC03 'Preventing coalescence with Alton'
2. The site is not aligned to the Beech Parish local housing needs specified in BPC08
3. The Beech Neighbourhood plan is still in force and should not be overridden by the 'presumption in favour of development' due to EHDC's inability to demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply.

Full comments submitted to EHDC attached Appendix A.

25.017 BEECH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW

Meeting held with EHDC and summary notes circulated. Team will now proceed to review and update our plan. Key decision will be whether we include a housing plan to address an EHDC allocation of 90 houses. This would require a village consultation.

Proposed Ingrid, Seconded Nikki, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: To undertake a consultation with the village on the allocation of homes, currently 90, to be built in Beech over the next 20 years based on the available land. The council agrees to finalise the detail wording of the consultation by email. The leaflet for the consultation to be distributed by the end of February and the consultation concluded by the end of March subject to approval from EHDC to shortened time frame, Detail costs to include printing and village hall hire for public meeting and the council approve up to £200 for these costs.

Our consultant has billed £444.31 leaving just under £560 for further work.

25.018 SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK CONSULTATION

The council discussed and will not comment.

25.019 GRANT APPLICATION BY THE CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Proposed Alana, Seconded Ingrid, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED To approve the application from the CAB for £300.

25.020 ROAD SAFETY WORKING GROUP

The group will meet on the 17th February. The group shared the report from Ian Janes on the inspection of the on road footway.

25.021 AUTO SPEEDWATCH

Report shared with council, attached Appendix B.

Awaiting decision from PCC on police working cooperation process with volunteers.

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25.022 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT

Road monitoring on Wellhouse Road to start on 10th February. Hampshire CC have given Beech approval to implement 20 MPH limit on Medstead Road and subject to road monitoring on Wellhouse Road. The next step is dependent on Beech committing to funding of £25,000 – £30,000. Cllr Ransley has asked Damien Hinds for guidance on funding.

25.023 DEFIBRILLATOR

Our insurer has advised that they are happy for this to be unlocked.

Proposed Alana, Seconded Ingrid, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED: to leave the defibrillator cabinet unlocked.

25.024 SOUTH EAST WATER

Still waiting for SEW process.

25.024 ACCOUNTS

Proposed Alana, Seconded Ingrid, UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the following payment are approved, payments will be authorised by Kim Eakers.

a) Clerk's Salary - February 2025	£881.75
b) Hampshire Pension Fund - Clerk's Pension February 2025	£248.78
c) DCK Accounting Solutions Ltd – Monthly Payroll Processing February 2025	£36.36
d) Beech Village Hall and Recreation Ground – February 2025 meeting	£24.76
e) Citizen Advice East Hampshire (if approved in item 10.)	£300.00
f) John Slater Planning Ltd	£444.31

25.025 MEETING DATES

Meeting Dates for 2025 were amended as follows:

February	17 th	Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Council monthly meeting
March	17 th	
April	14 th	
May	19 th	
June	16 th	
July	21 st	
August	(Meeting to be scheduled if required)	
September	15 th	
October	20 th	
November	17 th	
December	(Meeting to be scheduled if required)	

- b) The next scheduled Council meeting will be Monday, 17th February 2025 starting at 7pm time will be made available for public question time at 645pm

CLOSURE OF MEETING – Chairman thanked all present for their attendance and closed the meeting.

signed:
Chairman Beech Parish Council
date: 17th February 2025