



Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Highcliffe & Walkford Parish Council held on 30th April 2024 at 18:30 in The Old School, Lymington Rd, Highcliffe BH23 5ET.

Present: Cllr L: Dedman (Chair), Cllr A Sofianos (vice-chair), Cllr R Ede, Cllr A Martin, Cllr S Skinner, Cllr D Martin
Cllr J Webster, Cllr T Butcher, and Cllr R Dickson

Also Present: 20 members of the public. **In attendance:** the clerk, Tom Brindley, the Assistant Clerk,
Nicki France

24/37 (Agenda Item 1) Apologies for Absence: None

24/38 (Agenda Item 2) Chairman's remarks:

1. The chairman welcomed the public, members, and officers.
2. The internal auditor has signed off the accounts. Thanks were recorded to Cathy Smith the councils contract bookkeeper.
3. Congratulations were recorded to Nicki France, the assistant clerk on passing her ILCA qualification.
4. The bridge works at Nea Meadows was now complete.
5. The tree work at Nea Meadows was complete. Removal of diseased trees surrounding the car park had left a large open area. Suggestions for use included a community orchard, and a wild flower park. Members were assured there were no plans to extend the car park.
6. Members were reminded to submit preferences for committee posts.
7. Members were reminded to check their Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and resubmit if anything had changed.
8. Members were asked for any knowledge of the whereabouts of the Speed Watch equipment.

24/39 (Agenda Item 3) Declarations of Interests from Members: None.

24/40 (Agenda Item 4) Public Questions: None.

24/41 (Agenda Item 5) To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2024

The minutes were taken as read, confirmed as true record, and signed by the chairman.

24/42 (Agenda Item 6) To receive the recommendation from the Amenities Committee regarding transfer from BCP of the Highcliffe Recreation Ground, Highcliffe Play Area and Bluebell Close Play Areas.

1. Cllr A Sofianos, as chair of the Amenities Committee led a debate.
2. The following motion was put to council:

That, subject to amendments detailed in the Amenities Committee minutes, authority is given to the Proper Officer, in consultation with the chair of Amenities Committee and the council's solicitor, to sign the transfer deeds and Service Level Agreement.

3. Members **RESOLVED** to pass the motion.
4. Members noted that the Bluebell Close Transfer would likely proceed ahead of the Highcliffe Rec transfer.

24/43 (Agenda Item 7) To consider a response to the BCP Local Plan

1. The Planning Committee had referred the response to the Local Plan to full council.
2. Members **RESOLVED** to waive Standing Order 1/o to allow members to speak more than once.
3. Members conducted a general discussion and agreed:

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- a. To object to the proposal for houses at Roeshot Nursery as this small parcel of land which lies between the Roeshot Hill Allotments and Stewarts garden centre is an important green corridor.
 - b. To support the strong environment policies and request BCP to include them in full in the adopted plan.
 - c. To challenge the housing allocation of 410 additional dwellings on the grounds that there is no site allocation and to find sufficient windfall sites would entail loss of gardens and amenity land.
 - d. To question the lack of detail on infrastructure especially sewerage capacity for this number of new dwellings.
 - e. To comment on lack of infrastructure for the Roeshot development.
 - f. To add additional comments submitted by members.
4. Power was delegated to the clerk, in consultation with the chair of the Planning Committee, to submit a response on behalf of the council.

24/44 (Agenda Item 8) To consider appointing a consultant to update the Nea Meadows management plan.

1. The clerk presented the case for updating the New Meadows Site Management Plan, which was written in 2012 and intended to cover a five year period.
2. The clerk explained that while a project such as this would normally be subject to a tender round, Financial Regulation 11.1.a.ii permitted this requirement to be waived due to the specialist nature of the work.
3. After debate, members **RESOLVED** to invite Dr Chris Gleed-Owen, of CGO Ecology Ltd to submit a formal proposal to update the Nea Meadows Site Management Plan and a Lakewood Site Management Plan.
4. Members delegated power to the Clerk, in conjunction with the chair of the Amenities Committee, to negotiate the contract, within a capped budget.
5. Members noted that the work would include flora and fauna surveys and that volunteers would be sought to assist, and that this would defray costs.

24/45 Date of the next meeting of Full Council: Wednesday 8th May

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 19:20.

Signed

Date.....