HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 15 JANUARY 2025

Cllrs. Present: Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Cynthia Garton, Cllr Leigh Hadaway, Cllr Keith House, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Dave Kinloch, Cllr Jim Mitchell (Chair) Cllr Ron Nichols, Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr John Shepherd

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Maggie Allingham**,** Cllr Helen Corben, Cllr Tonia Craig, Cllr Jane Welsh

2. **Public Questions not on the Agenda**

3. **Declarations of Interest**
   None were declared.

4. **To Receive a Police Report**
   PCSO Tracey Chilcott was in attendance having previously circulated the statistics. PCSO Chilcott gave an update on the issues in Barfoot area noting they have reduced with police intervention. There have been several different sanctions on individuals for the offences in the area. Police presence is continuing in the area and liaison with EBC Housing is helping to identify people involved in ASB. The police have also been working with Abri to prevent ASB around their sites. There was a road Op over the Christmas period with no significant issues identified. It is hoped that the roads team will be back out in January. Some issues reported around the library and costa.

   Cllr Pretty thanked Tracey for her support with residents. Cllr Corben reiterated this.

   Cllr Garton asked about the role of the neighbourhood officer. Tracey spoke about the role and requirement to do investigations. PC Will Newell has been involved in the interventions in Barfoot. That role is one that can't be abstracted to assist other areas; however it is balanced between investigations and patrol.

   PCSO Chilcott noted that there is a new District Commander Rachel Nobel.

5. **Speedwatch results.**
   These were noted.

6. **To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18 December 2024.**

   RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 December be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7. Matters for Resolution: To consider and agree the price increase for the 2000 Centre Roof due to increased costs of materials

Recommendation from Policy & Resources Committee 7 January 2025 regarding the increased price – Minute 1388.

Cllr Pretty outlined the reasons for the increased costs arising from the change of materials. **RESOLVED: That the increased price was accepted to enable the works to take place.**

8. Matters for Resolution: To consider and agree the Hedge End Town Council Budget for the financial year 2025/2026.

Recommendation from Policy & Resources Committee 7 January 2025 regarding the precept figure for 2024/25 – Minute P1387.

Cllr Pretty outlined how the Council would normally consider the Policy & Resources Committee budget recommendations at this meeting. Draft budgets were studied at three Policy & Resources Committee meetings looking at detailed information on both expenditure and income. Given the recent Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation white paper the committee would like to review the budget again, reflecting on potential impacts of the paper for the Council. Therefore, Cllr Pretty proposed that a further Full Council meeting would be required to finalise the budget.

Cllr Ian Corben seconded the proposal. The council unanimously agreed that the meeting should be 7pm on Tuesday 4 February. **RESOLVED: That an additional Full Council meeting is held on Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 7pm with Policy & Resources immediately after.**

9. Matters for Resolution: To review the bank signatories and update the bank mandate.

The Clerk outlined the issue with the bank signatories and the length of time it was taking the bank to resolve this. The solution was for all signatories to sign the mandate again and submit as a new instruction rather than make individual changes. **RESOLVED: That the signatories would be:**

Sarah Louise Jelley
Cllr Ian Corben
Cllr Keith House
Cllr Cliff Morris
Cllr Ron Nichols

Cllr Derek Pretty

10. Chair's Remarks

Cllr Jim Mitchell had no updates.

11. Resolved Items for NOTING Only:

(a) Highways & Planning Committee – 4 December 2024 and 18 December 2024
(Minute H765, H766, H767 and H771)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 6 November and 20 November be received.

(b) Policy & Resources Committee – 7 January 2025
(Minute P1385, P1386, P1387 and P1390)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 7 January be received.

12. Borough and County Reports

Cllr Cynthia Garton apologised for her absence and thanked everyone for their support. The next HEWEB is Monday 27 January at the Berry Theatre. Cllrs were pleased to welcome Cynthia back to meetings.

Cllr Keith House gave an update on Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation. Devolution is likely to see the elected Mayor in place by 2027 with a strategic authority.

Local Government Reorganisation is expected by 2028. The Hampshire authorities have applied to be part of the first round with devolution in 2026 and reorganisation by 2028.

The local plan will continue with the expectation to submit in Spring 2028. The new authority will take on everything that follows.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20:37pm.