HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 18 JUNE 2025

Cllrs. Present: Cllr Helen Corben, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Tonia Craig, Cllr Leigh Hadaway, Cllr Keith House, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Lucy Jurd, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Ron Nichols (Chair)

In attendance: Member of the public, Nigel Paterson - KCC

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Maggie Allingham, Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Cynthia Garton, Cllr Rupert Kyrle, Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr John Shepherd

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

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

4. **To Receive a Police Report**
   PCSO Tracey Chilcott was not in attendance and no statistics were provided in advance.

   Cllr Ian Corben reported that there is still an ASB issue on Maunsell Road late at night and he will be reporting this to the PCSO.

   Cllr Tonia Craig noted that she has a meeting with the PCC on Friday and the lack of police attendance at meetings will be raised.

5. **To receive the Speedwatch results**
   Cllrs noted the speedwatch results.

   Cllr Ian Corben noted that the number of sites being monitored has reduced since January to only two sites in Hedge End.

6. **To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27 May 2025.**

   RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 27 May be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

7. **Co-Option of Councillor for a vacancy in the Village Ward.**
   One application had been received for the co-option vacancy from James Paine. Cllrs discussed the application, acceptance of James Paine onto the Council was proposed by Cllr Keith House and seconded by Cllr Ian Corben with a unanimous vote. **RESOLVED: That James Paine be co-opted into the Village Ward until the next Town Council elections. James signed his acceptance of office enabling him to join the meeting.**

Cllr Lucy Jurd declared an interest in the following item.

8. Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25

Cllrs were due to approve the details of the AGAR, Accounting Statement and confirm no conflicts of interest with BDO, however the internal audit had not concluded in time for the meeting. The Clerk proposed an additional meeting was held on Wednesday 25 June 2025. **RESOLVED: Cllrs agreed that due to prior commitments the meeting should start at 6.15pm.**

9. Chair's Remarks

Cllr Ron Nichols reported correspondence from Limited Drummers about the proposed 5G mast which has been responded to by Cllr Ian Corben on behalf of the Councillors contacted.

Residents have raised concerns about traffic issues in Lower Northam Road and some incidents on Shamblehurst Lane South.

10. Resolved Items for NOTING Only:

(a) Highways & Planning Committee – 7 May 2025 and 27 May 2025 (Minute H804, H805 and H809)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 7 May and 27 May be received.

(b) Policy & Resources Committee – 3 June 2025 (Minute P1446, P1447 and P1448)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 3 June be received.

(c) Recreation & Amenities Committee – 11 June 2025 (Minute R556 and R557)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 11 June be received.

11. Borough and County Reports

Cllr Ian Corben informed the meeting that the next HEWEB (Hedge End, West End and Botley Local Area Committee) meeting is scheduled for Monday, 23 June 2025.

Cllr Keith House provided an update on EBC reporting that there is significant corporate activity underway, particularly in relation to Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). Public engagement on LGR will commence shortly, with three options due to be presented for consultation.

Cllr House also highlighted ongoing community engagement regarding the Kings Copse site. Councillors are encouraged to attend one of the scheduled engagement sessions. A public event will take place on Wednesday, 2 July, from 5.15pm to 7.45pm at the Norman Rodaway Pavilion. Councillors have

additionally received invitations to attend a separate Council briefing on the matter.

Progress continues on the One Horton Heath (OHH) development, with notable advancements in the construction of buildings.

In response to a question from Cllr Ron Nichols regarding the costs associated with LGR, Cllr House explained that the primary expense at this stage is the allocation of senior staff time. While there are upfront costs, the longer-term objective is to achieve operational efficiencies and financial savings.

During the session, members of the public enquired about the challenges of merging councils with differing organisational cultures, particularly given the limited precedent for collaborative working. A question was also asked about the potential locations of future administrative offices under the proposed reorganisation.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 19:55pm.