



TO ALL ELECTORS OF HORNDEAN

**You are invited to take part in the
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

which will be held at:
**JUBILEE HALL, CATHERINGTON LANE
on Monday 03 April 2023 at 7.00 p.m.**

Under the Chairmanship of Councillor Mrs Lynn Evans
(Chairman of the Parish Council)

The Parish Meeting may by law discuss all Parish affairs and pass resolutions about them.

The following matters have so far been placed on the agenda:

1. **Welcome**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 11 April 2022**
4. **Annual report of the Parish Council**
5. **To receive a report from County Cllr Mrs M Harvey**
6. **To receive a report from East Hampshire District Councillors**
7. **To meet with the group of volunteers who assist the Countryside Team within the Parish.**
8. **General discussion of matters concerning the Parish of Horndean raised by those present.**

Cllr Mrs L Evans, Chairman of the
Parish Council



HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Item 3

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL ON 11TH APRIL 2022 AT 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs L Evans (Chairman), T Attlee, P Beck, D Evans, A Forbes, S Freeman, J Lay, P Little, D Prosser, B Raymond, Mrs E Tickell, R Veitch, Mrs I Weeks

IN ATTENDANCE: Carla Baverstock-Jones, Chief Officer, Sarah Guy, Office Manager (Minute Taker)

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: There were no members of the public present.

1. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Alexander & County Cllr Mrs Marge Harvey.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 26TH APRIL 2021

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 26th April 2021 be duly signed as a true record of the meeting, following an amendment to the meeting start time – changed from 19:00pm to 18:30pm.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The reports listed below were circulated prior to the meeting and were each taken as read.

Chairman's Report – Cllr Mrs L Evans
Grounds Committee Report – Cllrs Mrs E Tickell
Finance & General Purposes Committee – Cllr Alexander
Staff Committee Report – Cllr Veitch
Planning & Public Services Committee – Cllr Beck

The Chairman thanked all Committee Chairmen for their reports.

5. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MRS M HARVEY

A report by County Cllr Mrs M Harvey was circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Raymond asked for an update/progress regarding the bus lane being shortened at the Catherington Lane and Morrisons junction, as per a comment made by County Cllr Mrs Marge Harvey at the Annual Parish Meeting of Horndean Parish Council on 9th April 2018.

The positioning of the new London Road crossing was discussed.

The following actions were agreed

- The Chief Officer to contact County Cllr Mrs Marge Harvey for an update regarding the shortening of the bus lane at the Catherington Lane and Morrisons junction.
- The Chief Officer to contact County Cllr Mrs Marge Harvey to clarify the exact positioning of the new crossing on London Road in Horndean.

6. **TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

No report was received and Members did not have any questions for District Councillors.

7. **TO RECEIVE VERBAL UPDATES ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE PARISH**

No updates were given.

8. **GENERAL DISCUSSION OF MATTERS CONCERNING THE PARISH OF HORNDEAN RAISED BY THOSE PRESENT**

Cllr Freeman raised the issues surrounding ASB and vandalism, suggesting that it would be worth looking into what could be done. The Chief Officer informed members that the Police Commissioner and PCSO's were invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, but said no one was available to attend.

It was agreed that the ASB and vandalism issues would be discussed at a Committee meeting and the Chairman would draft something as a press release on this matter.

The meeting closed at 18:54pm.

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Signed - The Chairman

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Date

Chairman's Report April 2023

This is the final year of the four year term of office and we have elections on 4th May 2023.

I and some other Councillors will not be seeking re-election so if you feel you could contribute to Parish life by becoming a Councillor please do contact the HPC office for further details. The Parish elects 15 Councillors who can each play as much of a role as they feel comfortable with. But the more active Members can be, the more successful the Parish will be.

2022/2023 has been another busy year with lots of challenges for both Councillors and staff. Mrs Baverstock-Jones and our staff manage the challenges calmly and effectively so Thank You to them for all their hard work in sometimes very trying circumstances.

Thank you too to the Councillor team who have worked hard on a variety of projects. The first to come to fruition will be the exciting rebuilding of the Five Heads Road recreation playground.

LEOH - The Reserved Matters application is now being considered by EHDC. The Care Home development is nearing completion.

We have a team of thirteen volunteers who regularly help Matt Madill and the Countryside Team with projects on our sites. Thank you to them for all the work they do. They make a tremendous difference to the sites we own and manage.

Finally, I wish HPC, the Councillors and staff all the best for the future – keep up the excellent work and I look forward to hearing about your work and new projects.

Finance and General Purposes Committee Report to Horndean Parish Council for the Financial Year 2022-23

I am happy to report continued stability in the Council's finances and its financial management, despite the challenges we are all facing in the current economic situation across the country.

Budget Report 2022/23

This was another challenging year for the Parish finances, despite lower-than-expected staffing costs due to some vacancies that were not anticipated. By the end of the financial year the Parish will have spent about £8,000 more than was budgeted, largely due to higher professional fees to handle boundary disputes and an investment in a new IT server. The final figure will be available in May.

Budget for 2023/24

Next year's budget was developed and delivered on time to EHDC. Having only increased the precept slightly over the last 5 years, the committee recommended an increase of 15% for 2023/24, with confidence that the Parish can maintain sufficient reserves through the coming financial year. Drivers for the increase include expected higher energy and services prices and the high costs incurred to repair vandalism.

Halls

Running all Council activities from Jubilee Hall has proved to be more efficient than in the old rented facilities. Working parties are currently evaluating more efficient heating options and the viability of installing solar panels. One additional challenge remaining is recruitment of caretakers for the halls.

Hall rental income, the major source of Parish revenue outside the precept, has recovered to approximately 70% of pre-Covid levels, but no further organic growth is expected. The committee has recommended that a working group should be set up in the new Council to look into ways to simplify booking procedures and improve marketing of the halls as a resource for residents.

Grants

A total of £4,450 in grants was made for community projects in the 2022/23 financial year. The committee carefully considers each request in relation to how many residents will benefit and what other funding sources are available. The Parish grant budget for 2023/24 will remain at £5,000.

And finally...

I would like to express appreciation on behalf of myself and the Committee to our RFO, Simon Ritson, for the continuing excellent work he does and the high quality of advice he provides to the Council.

Thanks also to the Chief Officer, Carla Baverstock-Jones, and all her staff, for the hard work that goes into preparing reports for the committee and implementing the decisions made.

Lastly, my thanks go to the members of this committee for your contributions.

This will be my final report to Council as I have decided not to stand for re-election this year.

Cllr David Alexander, Chairman, Finance and General Purposes Committee, 7 March 2023.

Grounds Committee Report
03 April 2023

This year has been a very busy year for the committee. There have been two major projects in hand- the replacement and upgrade of the Five Heads Road Playground and the start of the Horndean Green Network and Heritage Trail project.

The Five Heads Road playground was installed many years ago and was very dated. We are currently waiting for specific confirmation of the installation date but the new playground should be in place and ready for use by the beginning of May.

The Horndean Green Network and Heritage Trail project has two main objectives. Horndean is very lucky to have a large network of public rights of way and access to green spaces and open countryside. It also has a rich history. A loop is in the process of being finalised that will show Horndean residents a route around all four wards that will take them through the green spaces, out into the countryside and around Horndean itself. There will be signage, wayfaring boards and QR codes providing information about the history of Horndean, the green spaces and the countryside. Local businesses such as pubs and cafes along the way will provide welcome rest and sustenance. There will be subloops specific to an area for those who want to take a shorter route or concentrate on one aspect of the trail. Residents can stay local and get out of their cars.

The other aim of the trail is to integrate the new development at Land East of Horndean into the existing settlement. Due to its location, there is a risk that anyone moving into the development will just be living on a new estate on the periphery of Horndean and not feel part of anything. Horndean is a great place to live and being able to walk around it and be made aware of its past and present is a good way of integrating a new community.

Timing of the trail is excellent as Hampshire County Council and East Hampshire District Council are jointly reviewing the cycling and walking infrastructure network in East Hampshire and we can feed into that.

We were very pleased to finally recruit two new members to the Countryside Team. We hope that they settle in well and enjoy working in the Parish. A very big thank you to Matt and his team for all that they do in maintaining and enhancing Horndean's open spaces, green spaces and leisure areas.

Thank you also to the team of volunteers who assist the Countryside Team. They ensure that a lot more is achieved than would otherwise be the case and they are much appreciated.

Finally, thank you to the Chief Officer and the Parish Office who provide so much assistance and back up. I hope that they enjoy the projects as much as the councillors.

Elaine Tickell
Grounds Committee Chairman.