

#### Horndean Parish Council

#### NOTICE OF MEETING

A MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 6.00pm in JUBILEE HALL.

Members of the Committee Cllr J Lay (Chairman), Cllr D Prosser, Cllr Redding, Cllr S Freeman, Cllr Hodgson are summoned to attend.

Carla Baverstock-Jones GCILEx, FSLCC, MCMI Chief Officer

17 September 2024

#### **AGENDA**

- To receive apologies for absence.
- Declaration of interest: Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached. Unless dispensation has been granted, you may not participate in any discussion of, or vote on, or discharge any function related to any matter in which you have a pecuniary interest as defined by regulations made by the Secretary of State under the Localism Act 2011. You must withdraw from the room or chamber when the meeting discusses and votes on the matter.
- 3. To open the meeting to members of the public to enable them to address questions to Parish Councillors. The period of time which is designated for public participation shall not exceed 20 minutes. Each member of the public is entitled to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. A question asked by a member of public during public participation session at a meeting shall not require a response or debate.
- 4. To elect a Vice Chairman to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
- 5. To receive and consider the future transfer of assets from a number of sources.
- 6. To receive and consider the Developer Engagement Policy.
- 7. To receive and review the Employer Local Government Pension Scheme Discretions Policy.
- 8. To receive a report and consider the hire fees in respect of the community halls and football pitches.
- 9. To receive and consider the following grant applications:
  - Horndean Community Association £3,749.85
  - Homestart Butser £470
  - The King's Arms Youth Charity £1,000.
- 10. To receive and consider the Strategy Statements (Parish Plan).
- 11. To note the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee on the 28 October 2024.

Horndean Parish Council, Jubilee Hall, Crouch Lane, Horndean PO8 9SU Tel: 023 9259 7766 www.horndeanpc-hants.gov.uk

HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING: 23 September 2024

SUBJECT OF REPORT: POTENTIAL TRANSFER OF ASSETS

#### INTRODUCTION

There will be a number of potential asset transfers to consider in the coming months and years, most likely either from District and County Council enthusiasm to "devolve" their assets or the creation of new assets relating to the many new housing developments that are either already in train, or which are expected to be approved.

In order to assist in the assessment of each opportunity, on its own merits, a Policy for assessing HPC's capacity to accept asset transfers has been drafted and is offered to the Finance and General Purposes Committee's consideration.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Finance & General Purposes Committee consider and approve the Policy for assessing HPC's capacity to accept asset transfers, including any amendments, for recommendation to the next Parish Council meeting.

#### Horndean Parish Council

#### Policy for assessing HPC's capacity to accept asset transfers

#### Introduction

HPC has finite resources (currently eleven councillors) and limited expertise (many councillors are new to the parish council) to progress essential ongoing work and the initiatives which have been identified as being important to the residents of Horndean and which are included in each annual Parish Plan.

It is important that additional initiatives, or assets, are only taken on where they are considered unlikely to threaten existing ones. Current ongoing work and initiatives include:

- Supporting and Championing Improvements.
  - o HNIP
  - Discover Horndean (HGT&HN)
  - Joined up Southern Parishes working
- Representing Horndean's interest in external projects.
  - Havant Thicket Reservoir
  - o Aquind
- Giving small grants to eligible organisations supporting our aims
- Being an effective Planning consultee
- Maintaining existing assets in our care
- Engaging with prospective developers
  - Seeking to minimise negative impacts
  - Seeking positive outcomes

Accordingly, HPC requires a policy to manage the variety of assets that may be offered, whether those would be devolved by District or County Council, offered by a developer (probably under a S106 agreement) or simply "gifted".

#### Additional assets that will normally be considered

HPC will assess, and consider adopting, additional assets if there is felt to be benefit to a wider cross section of residents from across Horndean and where the operation of those assets falls within our current experience, expertise and capacity

#### Some relevant areas within our expertise/experience/capacity

- Open Spaces and nature reserves
- Play Areas
- Recreational space, including grass playing fields and exercise areas

General use halls

#### Additional assets that will normally be rejected

HPC will not normally consider taking on assets that may only benefit residents of a single development, unless a strong business case can be made.

HPC will not normally consider taking on assets that fall outside our experience, expertise and capacity unless an assessment of the impact on Councillors, Officers and the precept has been prepared and that impact is positive.

#### Some areas beyond our expertise/experience/capacity

- SuDS
- Significant sports facilities

HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL -

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING: 23 September 2024

SUBJECT OF REPORT: DEVELOPER ENGAGEMENT

#### INTRODUCTION

At the Parish Council meeting of 15 April 2024, a paper addressing Developer Engagement was considered, to begin to clarify the Council's position with regard to developer engagement, outside the formal Planning process.

This paper had been prompted by the very significant number of potential new developments contained in the emerging EHDC Local Plan and by the way that S106 assets relating to Land East of Horndean development had been packaged.

Subsequent government announcements, concerning the NPPF, suggest raising EHDC's required annual house building target from 575 to 1074. If this target crystallises, the Parish will face even more housing pressure in future.

At the 15 April 2024 meeting, it was resolved that:

"Representatives of Horndean Parish Council, to include at least two members, should seek to engage with potential developers, to discuss their proposals and potential benefits for Horndean"

And that:

"This includes Planning Committee members being able to attend such meetings"

In line with that resolution, Cllrs Attlee, Jenkins and Lay met with Metis Homes on 7 May 2024 on the site of the proposed development off Chalk Hill Road and Cllrs Attlee, Prosser and Lay met with Thakeham Homes on 23 July 2024, on HPC premises.

Building on this experience, and with other developments in the pipeline, this paper proposes a more formal Developer Engagement Policy for Horndean Parish Council.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Finance & General Purposes Committee approve the Developer Engagement Policy, including any amendments, for recommendation to the next Parish Council meeting

#### HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

#### **DEVELOPER ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

#### 1. Statement of scope

This policy sets out the way in which HPC will engage with known and potential housing developers, outside the formal planning process.

#### 2. Overview

Developers, and prospective developers, will be invited to attend a full Parish Council meeting to address the Council and members of the public, at any stage from initial consideration to completion of the development.

In addition, representatives of Horndean Parish Council, to include at least two Councillors, should seek to engage with potential developers, to discuss their proposals and potential benefits for Horndean, at an early stage in the process.

#### 3. Guidelines for developer meetings

- 3.1 Meetings should take place on either Parish Council premises or, if this may add value, on site.
- 3.2 Normally between 2 and 4 Councillors should be involved in these meetings. Any member of the Parish Council is eligible to be involved in these meetings, with the involvement of at least 1 experienced Planning Committee member strongly encouraged.
- 3.3 Councillors should listen to developers' proposals and ask questions as necessary to clarify points of detail.
- 3.4 Councillors may also draw on their experience to make suggestions to the developer on such matters suitable building height or facings to be used, local traffic or flooding issues, where such suggestions might help to reduce any negative impact of the development and might help to maximise any possible benefits to the residents of Horndean.
- 3.5 It should be made clear that any such engagement is not a form of "Pre App advice", that no commitments are made or implied and that the Parish Council's formal view will only be offered in response to formal planning applications.
- 3.6 Further discussions, relating to matters including the potential transfer of assets to the Parish Council, may be conducted in order to assist in clarifying positions or to aid in the developer's drafting of a S106 agreement.
- 3.7 Councillors may refer to, but must not depart from, the current Consideration of Future Assets Policy during these meetings. Any issues that seem to fall outside this Policy must be referred to Parish Council.

# Employer Local Government Pension Scheme Discretions Policy

Employer name:

HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

Employer number:

685

Policy effective from:

2024

#### Statement of policy

on the last temperature and the second secon

This document sets out the scheme employer's policy on the operation of each of the mandatory discretions (and optional discretions where chosen) available under the LGPS Regulations. It states whether or not discretions will be operated and the circumstances and criteria for applying them.

The following discretions apply to members who were actively paying into the scheme as at 1 April 2014 onwards

#### PART A - Maridatory Discretions

#### Power to award additional pension

Regulation 31

Whether, at the full cost to the Scheme employer, to grant extra annual pension of up to £7,579 (figure at 1 April 2023) to an active member or within 6 months of leaving to a member whose employment was terminated on the grounds of redundancy or business efficiency [regulation 31 of the LGPS Regulations 2013]

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will only exercise this discretion in exceptional circumstances. This discretion will only be exercised with the expressed permission of the Finance and General Purposes Committee after consideration of the costs that would apply and approval by the full Parish Council.

#### Shared cost additional pension contributions Regulation 16(2e) (4d)

Whether, how much, and in what circumstances to contribute to a Shared Cost APC scheme

Whether, where an active member wishes to purchase extra annual pension of up to £7,579 (figure as at 1 April 2023), by making additional pension contributions (APCs), to voluntarily contribute towards the cost of purchasing that extra pension via a shared cost additional pension contribution (SCAPC) [regulations 16(2)(e) and 16(4)(d) of the LGPS Regulations 2013].

Note: This does not include instances where the employee is paying for *lost* pension via an APC where the election was made in the first 30 days (or longer if the employer allows) – in this circumstance the employer *must* pay two-thirds of the cost of such purchase

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will only exercise this discretion in exceptional circumstances. This discretion will only be exercised with the expressed permission of the Finance and General Purposes Committee after consideration of the costs that would apply and approval by the full Parish Council.

## Whether to allow flexible retirement (Regulation 30 (6)) & TP11(2) & R30(8)

Whether to allow flexible retirement for staff aged 55 or over who, with the agreement of the Scheme employer, reduce their working hours or grade [regulation 30(6) of the LGPS Regulations 2013] and, if so, as part of the agreement to allow flexible retirement:

- whether, in addition to the benefits the member has built up prior to 1 April 2008 (which the member must draw), to allow the member to choose to draw:
  - all, part or none of the pension benefits they built up after 31 March 2008 and before 1 April 2014, and / or
  - II. all, part or none of the pension benefits they built up after 31 March 2014 [regulations 11(2) and 11(3) of the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014], and
- whether to waive, in whole or in part, any actuarial reduction which would otherwise be applied to the benefits taken on flexible retirement before Normal Pension Age (NPA) [regulation 3(5) of the LGPS Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014, regulation 18(3) of the LGPS (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007 and regulations 30(6) and 30(8) of the LGPS Regulations 2013].

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

i) Whether to allow flexible retirement

HPC will consider employee requests to take flexible retirement on a case by case basis after taking into account factors such as service delivery and any costs that may apply. The Finance & General Purposes Committee will be responsible for agreeing (or otherwise) to all requests to take flexible retirement and approval by the full Council.

- ii) Whether to allow the member to choose to take
- part or none of the pension benefits they built up after 31 March 2008 and before 1 April 2014, and / or
   HPC will not exercise this discretion
- b. all, part or none of the pension benefits they built up after 31 March 2014 HPC will not exercise this discretion.

iii) Whether to waive, in whole or in part, any actuarial reductions which would otherwise be applied to the benefits taken on flexible retirement before Normal Pension Age

HPC will only waive the actuarial reduction on early retirement in exceptional circumstances, and as a result of the expressed permission of the Finance and General Purposes Committee after considering the costs that would apply and approval by the full Parish Council.

Switching on the 85year rule

[paragraph 1(1)(c) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014]

Whether to "switch on" the 85 year rule for a member voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.

Members are now able to voluntarily retire between ages 55 and 60. If they were a member of the LGPS on 30 September 2006 then some of their benefits could be protected from reductions applied to early payment under the 85-year rule. This rule only applies automatically to members voluntarily retiring from age 60 but the employer has the discretion to "switch it on" for voluntary retirements between age 55 and 60.

This discretion does not apply to flexible retirement (see Regulation 30(6)) whereby the 85 year rule is always switched on.

Where the employer does not choose to "switch on" the rule, then

- a) if the member has already met the 85 year rule, the member's benefits are to be reduced in accordance with actuarial guidance issued by the Secretary of State (with the benefits from any pre 1 April 2008 membership for members who will not be 60 or more on 31 March 2016, and benefits from any pre 1 April 2016 membership for members who will be 60 or more on 31 March 2016, which would not normally have been subject to an actuarial reduction nonetheless being subject to a reduction calculated by reference to the period between the date the benefits are drawn and age 60) [paragraphs 1(2) and 1(4) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014], or
- b) if the member has not already met the 85 year rule, the member's benefits are to be reduced in accordance with actuarial guidance issued by the Secretary of State (with the reduction on that part of the member's benefits subject to the 85 year rule being calculated by reference to the period between the date the benefits are drawn and age 60, or the date of attaining the 85 year rule, whichever is the later), and
- c) the Scheme employer can exercise a discretion to waive any actuarial reductions (including where an actuarial reduction may still be applied to a member's benefits after 'switching back on' the 85 year rule in full) (at cost to the Scheme employer, via an employer strain charge).

# Employer Policy Decision HPC will not exercise this discretion.

#### Waiving of actuarial reductions

Regulation 30(8), TP3(1), TPSch 2, para 2(1), B30(5) and B30A(5)

Whether to waive, in whole or in part, any actuarial reductions on benefits which a member voluntarily draws before normal pension age (other than on the grounds of flexible retirement).

Employers can agree to waive any actuarial reductions due in the case of employees retiring any time after age 55. For active members voluntarily retiring on or after age 55 and before Normal Pension Age (NPA), who elect under regulation 30(5) of the LGPS Regulations 2013 to immediately draw benefits, and for deferred members and suspended tier 3 ill-health pensioners who elect under regulation 30(5) of the LGPS Regulations 2013 to draw benefits (other than on ill health grounds) on or after age 55 and before NPA.

There are 4 member groups which you would be making the discretions policy on, the below covers in what circumstance reductions can be waived and to which benefits these would apply:

#### Group 1 - Members joined before 1 October 2006 and who reached 60 before 1 April 2016

- To waive on compassionate grounds, any actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up before 1 April 2016, and/or
- To waive, in whole or in part, on any grounds, actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up after 31 March 2016

Group 2 - Members joined before 1 October 2006 and who reach age 60 between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2020 and also meet their critical retirement age before 1 April 2020 (date member meets the 85 year rule)

- To waive on compassionate grounds, any actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up before 1 April 2020, and/or
- To waive in whole or in part on any grounds, actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up after 31 March 2020

Group 3 - Members joined before 1 October 2006 and who reach age 60 after 31 March 2020 (or who would reach age 60 between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2020 and don't meet their critical retirement age before 1 April 2020 (date member meets the 85 year rule)

- To waive on compassionate grounds, any actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up before 1 April 2014, and/or
- To waive, in whole or in part on any grounds, actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up after 31 March 2014

#### Group 4 - Members joined after 1 October 2006

- To waive on compassionate grounds, any actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up before 1 April 2014, and/or
- To waive, in whole or in part on any grounds, actuarial reductions applied to benefits built up after 31 March 2014

Employers should also note that the strain cost of any such retirements would need to be met by the employer and paid into the Pension Fund at the appropriate time.

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

Whether to waive any actuarial reductions for a member voluntarily drawing benefits before NPA (other than on the grounds of flexible retirement), as outlined above.

HPC will not exercise this discretion.

# The following discretions apply to members who left the scheme between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2014

Whether to "switch on" the 85 year rule for a member with deferred benefits voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60 [paragraph 1(1)(c) & 1(2) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014]

Whether to "switch on" the 85 year rule for a member with deferred benefits voluntarily drawing benefits on or after age 55 and before age 60.

A member with a deferred benefit who left the scheme voluntarily between 1 April 2008-31 March 2014 and who has subsequently become a deferred pensioner may now claim their benefits from age 55 without their employer's consent. However, these benefits will be reduced for early payment.

Where a member has reached the 85 year rule at the point of retirement, an employer can consent to switching on the 85 year rule. Any 'strain' to the Fund will be payable immediately by the Scheme employer.

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will not exercise this discretion.

Whether to 'switch on' the 85 year rule upon the voluntary early payment of a suspended tier 3 ill health pension?

# [paragraph 1(1)(c) & 1(2) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014] Whether to "switch on" the 85 year rule for a member with a suspended tier 3 ill-health pension voluntarily drawing benefits (on or after 14 May 2018) on or after age 55 and before age 60. Where a member has reached the 85 year rule at the point of retirement, an employer can consent to switching on the 85 year rule. Any 'strain' to the Fund will be payable immediately by the Scheme employer. **Employer Policy Decision** HPC will not exercise this discretion. Whether to waive upon the voluntary early payment of deferred benefits any actuarial reduction on compassionate grounds? [regulation 30(5) of the LGPS (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007 and paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014] A member with a deferred benefit who left the scheme voluntarily between 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2014 may now claim their benefits from age 55 without their employer's consent. However, these benefits will be reduced for early payment. An employer can consent to waiving any reductions, on compassionate grounds, that would normally be applied to deferred benefits which are paid before age 65. **Employer Policy Decision** HPC will not exercise this discretion.

Whether to waive upon the voluntary early payment of a suspended tier 3 ill health pension, any actuarial reduction on compassionate grounds? [regulation 30A(5) of the LGPS (Benefits, Membership and Contributions) Regulations 2007 and paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014]

A member with a suspended tier 3 ill health pension and who left the scheme between 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2014 may now claim for their pension to be brought back into payment from age 55 without their employer's consent. However, these benefits will be reduced for early payment.

An employer can consent to waiving any reductions, on compassionate grounds, that would normally be applied to deferred benefits which are paid before age 65.

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will not exercise this discretion.

# The following discretions apply to members who left the scheme between 1 April 1998 and before 1 April 2008

Whether to 'switch on' the 85 year rule upon the voluntary early payment of deferred benefits

[paragraph 1 (1) (f) & 1 (2) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) regulations 2014]

Whether, as the 85 year rule does not automatically fully apply to members who would otherwise be subject to it and who choose to voluntarily draw their deferred benefits (on or after 14 May 2018) on or after age 55 and before age 60, to switch the 85 year rule back on in full for such members.

Deferred members who left the scheme after 1 April 1998 are now able to voluntarily retire between ages 55 and 60. If they were a member of the LGPS on 30 September 2006 then some of their benefits could be protected from reductions applied to early payment under the 85 year rule. This rule only applies automatically to members voluntarily retiring from age 60 but the ceding employer has the discretion to "switch it on" for voluntary retirements between age 55 and 60.

Where the employer does not choose to "switch on" the rule, then benefits built up would be subject to reduction in accordance with actuarial guidance issued by the Secretary of State regardless of whether a member meets the rule or not

If the employer does agree to "switch on" the 85 year rule, the employer will have to meet the cost of any strain on fund resulting from the payment of benefits before age 60 i.e. where the member has already met the 85 year rule or will meet it before age 60.

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will only agree to 'switch on' the rule of 85 in exceptional circumstances following the recommendation from the Finance and General Purposes Committee after considering the costs that will apply, and approval by the full Parish Council.

Whether to grant applications for the early payment of pension benefits on or after age 50 and before age 55

[regulation 31(2) of the LGPS Regulations 1997].

Whether to grant application for early payment of deferred benefits on or after age 50 and before age 55.

A member with a deferred benefit who left the scheme between 1 April 1998-31 March 2008 can claim their benefits from age 50 with their employer's consent.

However, these benefits may be reduced for early payment and/or be subject to an unauthorised payment charge under the Finance Act 2004

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will not exercise this discretion.

Whether, on compassionate grounds, to waive any actuarial reduction that would normally be applied to benefits

[regulation 31(5) of the LGPS Regulations 1997 and paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 2 to the LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014].

Whether to waive any actuarial reduction on compassionate grounds which would normally be applied to benefits which are paid before age 65.

Employers show	uld note that the strain paid into the Pension F	o cost of any such retir und at the appropriate	rements would need to be me e time.	et by the
Employer Pol	icy Decision			
HPC will not exe	ercise this discretion.			,
The following before 1 April	discretions apply to	o members who ce	eased active membership	2
on or after ag	rant applications for e 50 and before NF .1(2)(c) of the LGPS	RD on compassiona	nt of deferred pension bate grounds	enefits
If granted, these	benefits may be reduc	ced for early payment	mpassionate grounds, on or a	•
Employer Police	under the Finance Act	2004		
<ul><li>These police</li><li>in this Police</li></ul>	y Statement will be no	tified to affected emp	me. Any subsequent change	
<ul> <li>If the emple one month</li> <li>Any change month of th</li> </ul>	oyer decides to amend has passed since the c is to this policy will be ne change.	I the policy, no change late the amended poli notified to the Hamps	can come into effect until cy statement was published. hire Pension Services within	1
or the full list of disc	cretions policies go to <u>ht</u>	tp://lgpslibrary.org/asse	ets/gas/ew/DISCLv1.6c.pdf	
igned on behalf	of:			
Completed by:		Position:		
ignature:			Date:	

Discretions template (HPS - Updated August 2023)

#### PART B - Optional Discretions

(The four detailed are the most frequently used Regulations, but remain optional—see <u>LGA Discretions</u> for the full list of optional employer discretions)

#### Membership Aggregation

Regulation 22 (7)(b),(8)(b)

Whether to extend the 12 month option period for a member to elect to join deferred benefits to their current employment/membership

The election to keep separate pension benefits must be made within 12 months of becoming an active member, who must be active at the date of election.

An employer may allow a period longer than 12 months

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will not exercise this discretion.

#### **Transfers of Pension Rights**

Regulation 100(6)

Extend normal time limit for acceptance of a transfer value beyond 12 months from joining the **LGPS** 

Where an active member requests to transfer previous pension rights into the LGPS, the member must make a request within in 12 months of becoming an active member.

An employer may allow a longer period than 12 months

#### **Employer Policy Decision**

HPC will not exercise this discretion.

Time limit for a member to elect to purchase additional pension by way of a
shared cost additional pension contribution (SCAPC) upon return from a period of absence.
Regulation 16(16) of the LGPS Regulations 2013.
Whether to extend the 30 day deadline for member to elect for a SCAPC upon return from a period of absence from work with permission with no pensionable pay (otherwise than because of illness or injury, relevant child-related leave or reserve forces service leave)  Employer Policy Decision
Employer Policy Decision
HPC will not exercise this discretion.
Shared Cost Additional Voluntary Contribution arrangements
Regulation 17 of the LGPS Regulations 2013 and regulation 15(2A) of the LGPS
(Transitional Provisions and Amendment) Regulations 2014
Whether to allow a Shared Cost Additional Voluntary Contribution (SCAVC) arrangement. To determine how much will be allowed to be contributed to the SCAVC arrangement. To define in what circumstances contribution to a SCAVC arrangement will be allowed.
Employer Policy Decision
HPC will not exercise this discretion.
<ul> <li>These policies may be subject to review from time to time. Any subsequent change in this Policy Statement will be notified to affected employees.</li> <li>If the employer decides to amend the policy, no change can come into effect until one month has passed since the date the amended policy statement was published.</li> <li>Any changes to this policy will be notified to the Hampshire Pension Services within 1 month of the change.</li> </ul>
Signed on behalf of:
Completed by: Position:
Signature: Date:

#### HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL

### FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 23 September 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 8

#### SUBJECT OF REPORT:

#### BACKGROUND

The hire charges in respect of both community halls and football pitches were increased on the 01 January 2023, which represented an increase of 10% (current charges as attached).

#### Jubilee and Napier Hall

The income target for the two halls combined for this year is c£49.7k. Expenditure budget for the two halls combined for this year is £41.0k We are approximately £10k over our year to date expenditure budget due to the Napier Hall roof repairs and the heaters in Jubilee Hall.

It is of note that there are significant indirect costs which are not included in the above figures in respect of administration.

The focus is upon the provision of facilities for the community, and therefore it is desirable to breakeven as opposed to making a profit.

Council may wish to give consideration to increasing the hire charges from the 01 January 2025, particularly given the current financial position - numerous unforeseen areas of expenditure.

On researching community hall hire charges within the area the following is of note:

Comparative halls in terms of size/capacity on average charge £18.30 per hour for regular hirers off peak. Our current hourly rate within the same criteria being £15.13.

There are numerous variances in respect of rates pertaining to charities/non-profit making organisations/residents etc,. This is challenging insofar as to arrive at an accurate comparison.

#### Jubilee and Five Heads Football Pitches

The annual income from both clubs is £2,300.

Expenditure varies depending on the maintenance required, which is not necessarily on an annual basis.

In 2018 the cost was £4,000 (weed removal/aeration), works on this scale are not envisaged to be undertaken in the near future.

On researching the fees charged by neighbouring principal Councils it is difficult to assimilate, as the rates charged are on an hourly basis or per match. This is further complicated as our contractual annual fees do not state specific periods for usage.

The market rate on average is £16 per hour or £43 per match.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Members may consider that to increase all rates by a minimum of 10% is reasonable and equitable.

Report prepared by:

Carla Baverstock-Jones Chief Officer v.

#### SECTION 1 - CASUAL HIRERS

#### HALL HIRE CHARGES 1.

Rate	N	APIER	JUBILEE
per hour	Main Hall	Committee Room	Hall
Standard	£15.13	£9.74	£15.13
Peak	£22.17	£9.74	£22.17

#### **Rates Napier Hall**

The standard rate is in effect from Monday 08:30am to Friday 11:00pm. Saturday bookings between 08:30am and 5pm are charged at the standard rate and thereafter the peak rate is applicable.

#### Rates Jubilee Hall

The standard rate is in effect from Monday 10.00 am to 9.00 pm Friday. Saturday bookings between 10.00am and 5pm are charged at the standard rate and thereafter the peak rate is applicable.

#### SECTION 2 - REGULAR HIRERS

PLEASE NOTE: Only differing terms are stated below for Regular Hirers. All other terms and conditions as for Casual hirers apply.

#### HALL HIRE CHARGES 1.

Hourly rates as stated above in Section 1.

#### HALL HIRE CHARGES

Rate	N. Carlotte N.	APIER	JUBILEE
per hour	Main Hall	Committee Room	Hall
Standard	£15.13	£9.74	£15.13
Peak	£22.17	£9.74	£22.17

A volume discount of 5% to be applied to all hirers when usage is in excess of 60hrs percalendar month

**Equipment Hire** 

JUBILEE EQUIPMENT HIRE (per	booking)
	Regular Hirers
Hire of Audio/Sound System Equipment	£4.40
Hire of Projector Screen Only	£3.30
Hire of Projector Screen and Projector	£16.50





#### HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL **Grant Application Form**

Please refer to Grants Procedure Notes overleaf before completing this form

Name of Organisation making the application: Horndean Community Association

Name of Person to whom correspondence should be addressed: John Topley, Chairman of Trustees

Payee for grant and bank details: Horndean Community Association Natwest Bank, Waterlooville.

Address for correspondence: Merchistoun Hall 106 Portsmouth Road Horndean Waterlooville. Hampshire. P08 9LJ

Email Address:bcharles106hca@gmail.com

Daytime 07586955823

Details of the organisation (What do you do?) Community Association to encourage and promote education, social welfare, and recreation for the inhabitants of Horndean. To manage a community centre (Merchistoun Hall and it Park. (Grade II listed)

Period of Grant: 1 year

What is the Grant for? (Give details of the project - continue on separate sheet if necessary)

The purchase & planting of 15meters of established Hornbeam hedging that will be planted along the side driveway to one side of the main house to offer natural barrier between the children's play garden and the access drive running past it This will provide a natural impenetrable barrier between the road way and the current Day Nursery garden to so that children will not be able to run out into the road and will provide robust protection against trespassers / unauthorised people accessing the garden - continues on separate sheet

Amount of Grant applied for:

Have you applied to any other body for a grant towards this project? (if Yes please give details) No

£3749.85

How else do you raise income? (Give details of subscriptions, fund raising etc.- continue on separate sheet if necessary)

Annual memberships to the association - hiring of rooms - fundraising and donations - weddings and functions - events & activities - weekly attendance fees charged

What age groups do you cater for?

Total Membership: 7

S/Stars: 41

Where and when do you meet?

Merchistoun Hall HCA: 7

All ages

You must attach the following to your application

Last year's accounts

- Your current business plan, minutes of your last AGM or similar
- Business plan & last 3 years AGM minutes (extended grants only)

1 101-11 000		
Signature of Respon	side	
	B CHAR	IES
AS Date: 26/7/24 AA	sociation in	MANA

For Horndean Parish Council use only



#### Application for Grant award for The Hedging in the grounds of Merchistoun Hall

Project details – continued:

The Hedging will be planted from September onwards

The hedging selected has been selected to consider & Risk assessed using the following

- Safety to the children using the paly area (non-berry fruiting)
- Thick in depth to stop gaining access through it
- They will be semi evergreen (but with leaf throughout the year) giving all year round security.

We are looking at planting the following

140/150 x 1meter trough @ £249.99 per meter (inc of VAT)

15 meters = £3749.85

Quote from website hedgesdirect.co.uk



#### HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL **Grant Application Form**

Please refer to the HPC Grant Policy 2023/24 before completing this form

Name of Organisation making the application: Home - Stout · But sev

	Charity Number (where applicable):	140692
Role in the organ Payee for Grant: Name of Bank: Sort Code: Account Number:	correspondence should be addressed:  CUS W  isation: Admin  Home - Start Butser	Address for correspondence: Winton Touse Centre 18, Tugh street, Petersheld Gu32 3JL Email address: Office @ hornestatt-butser org we Daytime Tel: 01730 233755
	Please sel a	
<ul> <li>What is to including</li> </ul>	its proposed start and end dates - contin	8
	Please see	attached to a photographs
		stimates, minutes of meetings, photographs.
Note that HPC v	vill require a short report of how the cant.	Grant money has been spent within 12 months of the
receipt of the Gr	will require a short report of how the cant.  he projected total cost of the Project?	Grant money has been spent within 12 months of the
receipt of the Gr  What is t	ant.	Grant money has been spent within 12 months of the
What is t     Amount of	he projected total cost of the Project?	F470.00
What is t     Amounts     Specify to	the projected total cost of the Project?  of grant applied for from HPC.  from any other body (if yes please give the balance and how will this be funded.	F470.00
What is t     Amount o     Amounts     Specify to     What will	the projected total cost of the Project?  of grant applied for from HPC.  from any other body (if yes please give the balance and how will this be funded.)  be the impact if the Grant is not given?	£ 470.00 £ 470.00 details). £
What is t     Amount o     Amounts     Specify to     What will     How else a separa  Councils,     What is t	he projected total cost of the Project?  of grant applied for from HPC.  from any other body (if yes please give the balance and how will this be funded.  be the impact if the Grant is not given?  e does the organisation raise income? (Give sheet if necessary). Personal grants & Trusts. See Lise the state of the organisation's current finance.	E. 470.00  £. 470.00  details). £.  ve details of subscriptions, fund raising, etc.—continue on giving, District, pansin & County of Annual reportions, fund raising and reportions of the county of the donors on Annual reportions and the part of
What is to Amount to Amounts  Amounts  What will  How else a separa  What is to Amounts  What is to Amounts  What is to Amounts	he projected total cost of the Project?  of grant applied for from HPC.  from any other body (if yes please give the balance and how will this be funded.  be the impact if the Grant is not given?  does the organisation raise income? (Given the sheet if necessary). Personal grants of the organisation's current finance.  He state of the organisation's current finance.  He wall the part attacks also between the plant to replace or justification.	E

What age groups are catered for? Total Mem 170 under 5 yrs:/ 170 up to age 11 yrs.	families  Where and when does the organisation meet?  Horndan Little  Steps Tue Sday
Please attach the following to your application:	. 9.30 - 11.30 ar
<ul> <li>The organisation's most recent year's acc</li> <li>The organisation's current business plan</li> <li>The minutes of the organisation's last AGI</li> <li>Evidence of proposed Project spend</li> </ul>	
Signature of Responsible Person (e.g., Chair, T	rustee, Leader):



What does your organisation do?

Home-Start Butser is a local charity providing a vital service to disadvantaged families in East Hampshire, at times of need. We offer a universal service to all families with at least one child under 5 whatever their background and need, with a particular focus on families who are socially excluded and not engaging with other services. By supporting families early on, we give children the chance to grow up with prospects rather than problems.

We offer a range of home and community-based services for families, tailored to their individual needs and circumstances. Our home-visiting service provides free and confidential outreach support to families in their own home, delivered by trained and supervised volunteers who are carefully 'matched' to the families they help. Volunteers visit weekly and give practical and emotional support and friendship, tailored to the individual needs of each family. Last year 80 volunteers supported 262 families and 365 children. We also run three family groups in Petersfield, Clanfield and Horndean. We provide craft activities and play equipment for the children and targeted support is provided to parents from the Family Group workers and volunteers

What is the reason for the Grant and what is the potential scale of who will benefit.

To focus on enhanced wellbeing and parent child interaction in our Little Steps Horndean family group, with an emphasis on promotion of key skills of early years development.

To enhance our setting, the provision of safe and sustainable drinking cups for parents to feel nurtured and enhance wellbeing within the setting.

Resources to allow for older siblings within the group setting particularly over holiday periods. As one of the only groups running over the holiday periods, we have increased demand to support older siblings. Resources to encourage whole family interaction and improve overall wellbeing.

These resources will be open to all families with at least one child under the age of 5 years living within Horndean and the wider area. Our Horndean Little steps family group was accessed by more than 50 families last year and over 170 families attended one or more of our little steps family groups in Horndean, Clanfield and Petersfield.





### HORNDEAN PARISH COUNCIL **Grant Application Form**

Please refer to the HPC Grant Policy 2023/24 before completing this form

Name of Organisation making the application: The King's Arms Youth Charity

Charity Number (where applicable): 1087176

Person to whom correspondence should be addressed:

Caroline Aeschliman

Role in the organisation: CEO.

Payee for Grant:

Name of Bank:

Sort Code:

Account Number:

Address for correspondence:

20 Dragon Street

Petersfield

Hampshire **GU31 4JJ** 

Email address: caroline@thekingsarms.org.uk

Daytime Tel: 01730 231292

• What does the organisation do?

The King's Arms is a youth charity, founded in 2000 in Petersfield. We offer a range of youth work including: open access after-school clubs, mentoring services, and targeted work with Young Carers and young people with additional needs. We also support churches and schools in delivering good quality faith-based youth work.

What is the reason for the Grant and what is the potential scale of who will benefit? (Give details of the Project including its proposed start and end dates - continue on a separate sheet if necessary).

In recent months there has been a call from the local community (in particular from the local church, district council and the school) for the establishment of a new youth service in Horndean and The King's Arms (KA) was initially approached to consider the opportunity. An existing community development focused funding pot was utilized by KA to fund a number of hours of work from a KA Programme Manager to lead the project and to do the initial assessment and community engagement work, and to considering the best location of a potential youth centre. This funding comes to an end by September 2024. This grant application to HPC is to provide further funding to allow KA to continue to progress the project beyond this time. So far we have identified a potential property and are negotiating with the owners. We have also held a stakeholders meeting, contacted local parents and local potential supporters and donors from the business sector. There is still much work to be done including: undertaking a full viability assessment, continuing discussion with HCC, EHDC and HPC on the opportunity, fundraising and further community engagement and fundraising. The application is for 3 hours work per week for one year and is calculated thus:

Programme Manager/Project Lead 3hours x £20ph x 52.14 weeks = £3128.40

Note that HPC will require a short report of how the Grant money has been spent within 12 months of the receipt of the Grant.

What is the projected total cost of the Project?

£ 3128.40

Amount of grant applied for from HPC.

£ 1000.00

Amounts from any other body (if yes please give details).  $\,\mathfrak{L}\,$ 

(we are currently seeking additional funding from EHDC and other funding streams (e.g. the local church)

Specify the balance and how will this be funded.

£ 2128.40 (as above)

What will be the impact if the Grant is not given?



Without this grant The King's Arms will not be able to spend any additional staff time of the Horndean project and it risks floundering at a relatively early stage.

What age groups are catered for?

KA caters for young people aged 11-18 years (8 years+ for young carers).

Total Membership:

In 2023-24 academic year KA had 8515 attendances representing 466 individual young people.

Where and when does the organisation meet?

We work from our two existing youth centres in Alton and Petersfield over 52 weeks each year. This project is intended to eventually establish an additional youth centre in Horndean where we would expect (when fully operational) to cater to a similar number.

Please attach the following to your application:

- > The organisation's most recent year's accounts
- The organisation's current business plan
- > The minutes of the organisation's last AGM or similar
- Evidence of proposed Project spend

Signature of Responsible Person (e.g., Chair, Trustee, Leader): C. Aeschliman

Date:

16.8.24

### THE KINGS ARMS YOUTH PROJECT

#### BALANCE SHEET 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	9	1,111,927	-	1,111,927	1,113,947
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	10	7,462 188,234	19,826 178	27,288 188,412	15,862 280,297
Cash at other and a second		195,696	20,004	215,700	296,159
CREDITORS  Amounts falling due within one year	11	(64,533)	(20,004)	(84,537)	(149,273)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		131,163		131,163	146,886
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,243,090	-	1,243,090	1,260,833
CREDITORS  Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(156,258)	-	(156,258)	(166,685)
NET ASSETS		1,086,832	-	1,086,832	1,094,148
FUNDS Unrestricted funds	16			1,086,832	1,094,148
TOTAL FUNDS				1,086,832	1,094,148

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the

preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the (b) requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

# THE KINGS ARMS YOUTH PROJECT

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

				2023	2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total funds
*		fund	funds	funds	£
	Notes	£	£	£	L
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies	2	137,814	188,630	326,444	315,380
Dollarion and 148		12.220	1,869	14,098	8,97
Other trading activities	3	12,229	1,009	2,724	8
nvestment income	4	2,724	5	-,	1,51
Other income		-			
		152,767	190,499	343,266	325,95
Total		152,707			
EXPENDITURE ON Raising funds		4,924	1,163	6,087	6,58
Charitable activities Costs of providing charitable activities		82,908	188,946	271,854	241,13
		72.251	390	72,641	64,91
Other		72,251			
Total		160,083	190,499	350,582	312,63
Total				(7,316)	13,31
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(7,316)	-	(7,310)	,-
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS Total funds brought forward		1,094,148	-	1,094,148	1,080,83
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,086,832		1,086,832	1,094,14

The notes form part of these financial statements



# THE KINGS ARMS YOUTH PROJECT

#### BALANCE SHEET - continued 31 MARCH 2023

These financial statements have	ve been prepared in accorda	nce with the	provisions	applic	cable to char	itable	compa	anies
subject to the small companies	regime.  were approved by the I were signed on its behalf by:	Board of					issue	on
J F Callaghan - Trustee								

The notes form part of these financial statements



FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING: 23 September 2024

SUBJECT OF REPORT: 2024/25 STRATEGY STATEMENTS

#### INTRODUCTION

The Strategy Statements, relating to Priorities 1, 2 and 8 were not updated alongside the annual Parish Plan and have therefore still have to be considered and adopted.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Finance & General Purposes Committee consider and approve the three Strategy Statements, including any amendments, for recommendation to the next Parish Council meeting.



# STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF THE 2024/25 PARISH PLAN

### Key Priority in Parish Plan

#### **Key Priority 1:**

To continue the provision and enhancement of recreation facilities, other amenities, and our natural environment, to support the health, welfare and wellbeing of residents and visitors to Horndean.

#### Statement of Scope

This Key Priority embraces all the facilities and amenities supported by Horndean Parish Council, from play areas to nature reserves, football pitches to halls. The continued provision of high-quality services contributes to the mental and physical health, welfare and wellbeing of visitors and residents.

# Actions to Support Delivery of Key Priority 1

# 1.1 Horndean Green Trail and Heritage Network

We are leading on the development of the Horndean Green Trail and Heritage Network, which will offer benefits to existing residents and to visitors from outside Horndean, the project will include trails and routes to the new Land East of Horndean developments. The aim will be to create a more integrated community and one that helps to ensure that new residents - domestic, business and educational - immediately feel part of our existing vibrant community.

This scheme is being developed so that our rich history and natural open spaces are more easily accessible to be enjoyed by everyone whether for fun, education, fitness & health, or for community and environmental reasons.

Horndean Parish Council, wishes to promote walking and cycling to encourage visitors to walk or cycle rather than drive.

Urban Place Labs produced a Strategy Proposal, which has been well received, and we are now beginning the implementation of this multi-year project. A Strategy Group has now been established, including representatives from interested partners, which will work with us to further develop ideas, establish priorities and to support successful implementation.



### 1.2 Playground enhancement and maintenance

Following the Five Heads Road play area upgrade in 2023/24, we moved on to tackle the large and very popular Jubilee Park play area, which was closed, following a ROSPA inspection.

Tenders have been received and we aim to have largely new play facilties open by August 2024. Subject to successfully accessing funding, we hope to have the zipwire revamped and repaired by late autumn.

# 1.3 Maintenance and enhancement of Jubilee Hall and Napier Hall facilities

Both our halls are popular, and well used, but run the risk of falling below the standard that we, users and potential users would expect. To maintain the current usage rates and to attract even higher utilisation levels in the future, we will continue to identify areas for improvement and seek funding opportunities to help us to make those improvements in both halls.

Having installed solar panels on the roof of Jubilee Hall in 2023/24, with major benefits of cost saving and carbon emission reduction, we will install a more modern and efficient heating system in the Hall.

The general infrastructure in Napier Hall is also in need of modernisation, but the most pressing issue of roof repairs will be tackled this year.

#### 1.3 Havant Thicket Reservoir

Through membership of the "Havant Thicket Reservoir Stakeholders Advisory Group" and the "Recycled Water Subgroup", we are closely involved in monitoring, advising, supporting and challenging the work in and around the new reservoir.

Our aim is to seek to ensure the Horndean residents have access to the wide variety of educational benefits (such as learning about ecology, conservation, ornithology or engineering) during its construction phase in the next 8 years as well as, ultimately, the health and societal benefits from visiting what will be an important new leisure facility.

#### 1.4 Havant Thicket Reservoir

Through membership of the "Havant Thicket Reservoir Stakeholders Advisory Group" and the "Recycled Water Subgroup", we are closely involved in monitoring, advising, supporting and challenging the work in and around the new reservoir.

Our aim is to seek to ensure that Horndean residents have access to the wide variety of educational benefits (such as learning about ecology, conservation, ornithology or



engineering) during its construction phase in the next 6 years as well as, ultimately, the health and societal benefits from visiting what will be an important new leisure facility.

### 1.5 Countryside Team Work

In addition to maintaining our own nature reserves and that of Hampshire County Council, our Countryside Team undertakes a wide range of work from:

- The cutting of small parcels of grass in residential areas
- Maintaining floral displays
- Care of our playgrounds, play areas and football pitches
- The removal of diseased trees on our land
- Planting of new trees.

This work is vital to the continued provision of so many of our facilities that contribute to the quality of life, to the fitness, health, welfare and wellbeing of visitors and residents and to the protection of animal and plant life within our nature reserves.

We will continue to provide this work, which may also include making appropriate recommendations to ensure the preservation and protection of wildlife at times when infrastructure companies may require access via wayleaves to repair or replace their own assets on the land.

### 1.6 Thursday volunteers

We are fortunate to have the support of a committed and hard-working group of volunteers, who assist the Countryside Team in maintaining our woodland, open spaces and commons. We continue to acknowledge the important benefits of their work and to provide suitable clothing and equipment for their use.



# STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF THE 2024/25 PARISH PLAN

### Key Priority in Parish Plan

#### **Key Priority 2:**

To maintain and improve the environment within Horndean including the reduction of vehicle pollution, speeding, anti-social drivers and anti-social behaviour such as vandalism, littering and graffiti.

#### Statement of Scope

This Key Priority embraces all that we do to make Horndean an even more rewarding place to live in, exercise in, work in, or visit.

# **Actions to Support Delivery of Key Priority 2**

All of these actions to support Key Priority 1, also support Key Priority 2

### 1.1 Horndean Green Trail and Heritage Network

We are leading on the development of the Horndean Green Trail and Heritage Network, which will offer benefits to existing residents and to visitors from outside Horndean, the project will include trails and routes to the new Land East of Horndean developments. The aim will be to create a more integrated community and one that helps to ensure that new residents - domestic, business and educational - immediately feel part of our existing vibrant community.

This scheme is being developed so that our rich history and natural open spaces are more easily accessible to be enjoyed by everyone whether for fun, education, fitness & health, or for community and environmental reasons. Horndean Parish Council, wishes to promote walking and cycling to encourage visitors to walk or cycle rather than drive.

Urban Place Labs produced a Strategy Proposal, which has been well received, and we are now beginning the implementation of this multi-year project. A Strategy Group has now been established, including representatives from interested partners, which will work with us to further develop ideas, establish priorities and to support successful implementation.

# 1.2 Playground enhancement and maintenance

Following the Five Heads Road play area upgrade in 2023/24, we moved on to tackle the large and very popular Jubilee Park play area, which was closed, following a ROSPA inspection.



Tenders have been received and we aim to have largely new play facilties open by August 2024. Subject to successfully accessing funding, we hope to have the zipwire revamped and repaired by late autumn.

# 1.3 Maintenance and enhancement of Jubilee Hall and Napier Hall facilities

Both our halls are popular, and well used, but run the risk of falling below the standard that we, users and potential users would expect. To maintain the current usage rates and to attract even higher utilisation levels in the future, we will continue to identify areas for improvement and seek funding opportunities to help us to make those improvements in both halls.

Having installed solar panels on the roof of Jubilee Hall in 2023/24, with major benefits of cost saving and carbon emission reduction, we will install a more modern and efficient heating system in the Hall.

The general infrastructure in Napier Hall is also in need of modernisation, but the most pressing issue of roof repairs will be tackled this year.

#### 1.4 Havant Thicket Reservoir

Through membership of the "Havant Thicket Reservoir Stakeholders Advisory Group" and the "Recycled Water Subgroup", we are closely involved in monitoring, advising, supporting and challenging the work in and around the new reservoir.

Our aim is to seek to ensure the Horndean residents have access to the wide variety of educational benefits (such as learning about ecology, conservation, ornithology or engineering) during its construction phase in the next 6 years as well as, ultimately, the health and societal benefits from visiting what will be an important new leisure facility.

### 1.5 Countryside Team Work

In addition to maintaining our own nature reserves and that of Hampshire County Council, our Countryside Team undertakes a wide range of work from:

- The cutting of small parcels of grass in residential areas
- Maintaining floral displays
- Care of our playgrounds, play areas and football pitches
- The removal of diseased trees on our land
- Planting of new trees.

This work is vital to the continued provision of so many of our facilities that contribute to the quality of life, to the fitness, health, welfare and wellbeing of visitors and residents and to the protection of animal and plant life within our nature reserves.



We will continue to provide this work, which may also include making appropriate recommendations to ensure the preservation and protection of wildlife at times when infrastructure companies may require access via wayleaves to repair or replace their own assets on the land.

### 1.6 Thursday volunteers

We are fortunate to have the support of a committed and hard-working group of volunteers, who assist the Countryside Team in maintaining our woodland, open spaces and commons. We continue to acknowledge the important benefits of their work and to provide suitable clothing and equipment for their use.

# The additional actions below support Key Priority 2 only

# 2.1. Speed Indicator Devices and Average Speed Cameras

We will acquire and install average speed cameras and obtain the necessary permissions to install them, rotating across a number of sites across Horndean and will publish the results of the work to the public, the Police and other appropriate partners.

We will acquire speed indicator devices, obtain the necessary permissions and install them.

# 2.2. Horndean Neighbourhood Improvement Programme

As founder members of the Horndean Neighbourhood Improvement Forum, we will take a leading role in establishing and supporting the work of the Forum.

We will directly approach individuals and companies with responsibility for the care of land and buildings in Horndean and encourage them to make active improvements in the care and appearance of their assets.

### 2.3. Voluntary Groups

Through funding where possible, or through encouragement more generally, we will seek to support organised volunteers who engage in Speed Watch campaigns or who assess the flow of traffic.

We will also seek to support volunteer groups who clean up graffiti, pick litter or carry out other roles in the community that help to make our environment safer and cleaner.

### 2.4 Security Patrols & CCTV

Where necessary, we will retain security patrols to reduce or deter vandalism, littering and graffiti on our own land. We will report any incidents to the Police and/or appropriate employers/educational establishments where these can be identified. We will also liaise with these bodies periodically about ways that together we can help to raise awareness of the negative impact that vandalism can have on people, assets and communities.



# STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF THE 2024/25 PARISH PLAN

### 1. Key Priority in Parish Plan

#### **Key Priority 8:**

To continue to recruit further Councillors to fill vacancies to reach our full 15-member complement.

### 2. Statement of Scope

We successfully recruited 5 new Councillors during 2023/24, to give us a net gain of 3 and a total of 10. This Strategy is to support the recruitment of at least a further 2 Councillors in 2024/25 by telling eligible individuals who we are, explaining what we do for Horndean and seeking to persuade some of them to join us.

# 3. ACTIONS TO SUPPORT DELIVERY OF KEY PRIORITY

### 8.1 Work with District Councillors

We will work with District Councillors, seeking support and advice and will provide information for any newsletters.

### 8.2 Make more use of social media

We will make effective use of our own website and Facebook page and will link to other relevant local sites/pages

# 8.3 Establish and use Advisory Committees

We will establish a HGT&HN Strategy Group and seek to expand interest beyond that Committee's agenda.

### 8.4 Opportunistic

We will encourage Councillors and staff to identify possible candidates and to follow up potential interest.



### 8.5 Direct Advertising

We will test the effectiveness of low cost direct advertising.

### 8.5 Publish a Parish Council Newsletter

We will publish a newsletter, at least quarterly, to raise awareness of, and interest in, our work, our plans and of opportunities for those living and working in Horndean to become involved, as partners or as Councillors.

# 8.6 Increase awareness and engagement with existing and prospective partners

We will publish the Parish Plan, hold consultation meetings to publicise the associated work and to shape future plans.

We will send links to the Plan to existing and prospective partners.

We will review our achievements at the Annual Parish Meeting and offer each year's plan for public scrutiny and shaping