

Minutes from Bramshaw Annual Assembly held on 18th May 2016 at Valetta Barn, Fritham.

Present – 25 residents of Bramshaw, 6 Parish Councillors and 4 people giving presentations.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Roger and Ann Hampton.

2. **Acceptance of meeting notes from 2015 Annual Assembly and matters arising from these**

No matters arising and notes accepted.

3. **Chairman's report.**

Sue Bennison gave a full appraisal of items which had been achieved within the parish in the last year – full report attached; but in summary her report touched on the following items:
Future plans of the Forestry Commisison for the next 10, 20 and 200 years; speedwatch and how ineffective it had become leading to its demise in Bramshaw; the lack of white lines on the road making people drive slower, clearing of drains etc.

4. **Financial Report – RFO:**

Bramshaw Parish Council had been successfully audited Internal Auditor for the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016 – and the paperwork is currently with the external auditors.

To maintain the current level of reserves, (approximately £5000) the Council has raised the precept to £6620 which amounts to an increase of £2.07 per Band D property. At the year end the Council had a bank balances totally £8962.

£1000 grant was received this year from HCC for the Lengthsman Scheme – this scheme is managed by Copythorne Parish Council.

The Parish Council awarded grants to:

- Bramshaw Trust – £243.63 – to cover the cost of installing broadband to the hall and an electrical supply to the defibrillator box.
- Disability Services in the New Forest - £100.
- Bramshaw Church - £250 towards the maintenance of the church yard.
- Nomansland Pre-School - £250 towards the cost of the group employing someone to encourage the children to be adventurous.

The Parish Council bought the defibrillator box at a cost of £485.85 – this is now sited at the village hall.

Total expenditure for the year has been £6433.59 and total income has been £6250.00 – this is made up of £5880 precept, £120 grant from NFDC transitional grant and £250 from selling the refurbished phone box in Nomansland – Nomansland residents, in Redlynch Parish, were keen to install a defibrillator in the phone box – Bramshaw Parish Councillors were not sure that this was

a good use of your money as it would be serving Nomansland residents and not Bramshaw, so it was decided to sell the box to Redlynch at cost.

5. **Report by HCC Cllr Edward Heron**

Edward expanded on a couple of point raised by the Chairman – white lines on roads how there are arguments for and against them being reinstated – more difficult for drivers to follow the road, can increase animal casualties because they are not always visible etc. It is likely however that the B3079 will end up with a mixture of the two – some parts having white lines and some parts not, but the roundels will be repainted regardless as will the white lines down the sides of the road.

He asked the parish not give up on the lengthsman scheme yet – it can take up to 3 years for expectations on both sides to be managed and teething problems ironed it – this was with particular reference to the brambles on Brook Hill Green (brought to the attention of the meeting by Peter Reynolds).

Hampshire County Council has had to cut a further 98million from its budget which is challenging as they do not wish to cut adult social care or children services or the budget for road maintenance and improvements. The mobile library service is going but there are several other services available – The Home Library Service (link [here](#)).

6. **Report by NFDC Cllr Diane Andrews**

In her report, Diane explained how this was her second term as a district councillor and how it was very different from her first four years. She is now chairman of the Planning Development Committee which takes up much of her time and has been a steep learning curve. Planning nationally is going through major changes and more houses have to be built – if the council does not allocate land, then an inspector will be sent to do it for them – so in the summer the NFDC will start a public consultation on where to build more houses which need to be in their 1000s, rather than 100s and could even be on green belt sites. Those of us living in the National Park will not have to see this scale of increase, but there will be more development.

She also touched on the subject of devolution - the leader of HCC, Cllr Roy Perry has stated that there must be a full and genuine public consultation on this and NFDC Council leader, Barry Rickman supports this by saying these are major issues and will take time to be resolved...

She also outline the task and finish groups she had been involved with over the year – Child Poverty in the District and how to encourage youngsters to work in the Hospitality Sector.

Diane is NFDC's representative on the board of Community First New Forest and also now on the board of Citizens Advice Bureau.

Her full report is attached.

7. **Police Report by PCSO Richard Williams**

PCSO Richard Williams introduced himself and explained how he had PC Steven Norris had just been assigned to the Lyndhurst Neighbourhood Policing Team from Totton, so things were very different for them, but they had every intention of being proactive, and they want to make a difference. He supplied us with their contact details via for non emergency issues (PC20127 Steven Norris 0755477547667 or email steven.norris@hampshire.pnn.police.uk and PCSO1495 Richard Williams 07554 775469 or email Richard.williams@hampshire.pnn.police.uk). It is their intention to re-start the beat surgeries in the near future – these will probably be held at the shop.

8. **Nightstop** – a short presentation was given by Tony Oakhill, a volunteer host for New Forest Nighstop. Nightstop is a voluntary service to help young people (16-24 yr olds) when their lives are in crisis and works on the basis that everybody deserves somewhere safe to sleep at night. Nightstop hosts provide an emergency bed for the night in their spare room for 16-24 year olds who have nowhere to stay. You can host as and when suits you and for as long or short as you would like. All Nighstop guests undergo a thorough risk assessment and we work to what you are comfortable with.

If you are interested in making a difference to vulnerable young people, please contact them on 01424 478392 or nightstop@cfnf.org.uk. Or website newforestnightstop.org.uk.

9. **Forest Views**

No decision was made as to what should happen next as the meeting was undecided as to whether any future publication should be a parish council magazine or a community magazine. Some suggestions of the suggestions put forward were that the magazine went to a quarterly coloured magazine funded by its advertising; combining with Horizon (Landford) or printing the Bramshaw Telegraph as well as emailing it. One problem that has to be overcome is the distribution of any publication – it was however agreed that the parish council should discuss this further.

10. **Broadband in Fritham**

Chris Adler, a resident of Fritham has done a lot of research in to this topic and is happy to continue to take the lead on this – it is however apparent that whatever the residents of Fritham decide to do, there will be cost implications for which they will be responsible for. Chris Adler is meeting HCC in June to see what the next step is. Edward Heron suggested looking at the Hale Community Funded Broadband project for more information.

11. **Other Parish Matters**

David Coates asked if there was a footpath representative – advised that one will be appointed at the AGM of the Parish Council but there was always the HCC website to report problems with footpaths on.

Colin Paine expressed his concern at the potholes at the side of the road, particularly in Fritham – again Edward Heron explained that there is a pilot scheme in the Western Escarpment where they are trialling various methods to control vehicle over-run. Following the completion of this and if successful, no doubt more potholes would be fixed in a similar manner.

Worn out 30 mph roundels on roads in Fritham – noted.

Cattlegrid at J1 M27 – nosing keeps breaking up and very difficult for small cars.
There was a general feeling that the B3079 following the tar and chipping work was being widened by stealth! Also questions were asked as to why the road outside the Bentley Garage was a different colour and that dragon's teeth had been put in.

Meeting closed at 9.23 pm.