



Bracknell Town Council

Environmental Services Tuesday, January 21, 2025

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| Date | Tuesday, January 21, 2025 |
| Time | 19:30 – 20.22 |
| Location | Council Chamber, Brooke House |
| Present | Councillors: Ellen MacHale, Mary Temperton, Cath Thompson, Gerry Webb, Kathleen Nugent, Janet Cochrane, Lucy Young, Jodie Watts, Donna Pressland |
| Substitutes | Councillors: Donna Sidebotham, Jenny Penfold |
| Co opted | Councillors: Elizabeth Mary Baker, Megan Wright |
| Apologies | Councillor Simon Carter |
| Dispensation | Councillor Imara Wright |
| Officers | Jackie Burgess, Rachel Gordge |

Minutes

ES71/25 ATTENDANCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Simon Carter. Councillor Imara Wright has been granted dispensation until June 2025. Substitutes in attendance were Councillors Donna Sidebotham and Jenny Penfold. The co-option of Councillor Elizabeth Mary Baker and Megan Wright for the meeting was also approved.

ES72/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

ES73/25 MINUTES

The minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 19th November 2024 were reviewed and approved as a correct record. This was proposed by Councillor Ellen Mac Hale and seconded by Councillor Cath Thompson and unanimously approved.

Decision: The minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held on 19th November 2024 were approved as a correct record.

ES74/25 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes not discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

ES75/25 CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk provided updates on several projects:

- **Jocks Lane Play Area:** The new play equipment installation is nearly complete, pending final checks and landscaping.

- **Pump Track:** The project is awaiting a pre-app planning decision expected by 31st January.
- **Hot Food at Great Hollands:** The pavilion will be ready to start serving hot food in the next three weeks, with all necessary equipment and staff training in place.
- **Dogs inside the Cafes:** It was decided not to allow dogs inside the cafes at Great Hollands and Jocks Lane to maintain a safe space for young children and families whilst the customer base is building. An electric heat lamp is being researched to make it more comfortable for dog walkers outside.
- **Youth Club Spaces:** The available times have been sent to Councillor Temperton where BTC could accommodate a youth club.
- **Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Supplementary Planning Document:** The document is out for public consultation from 15th January to 12th February 2025, and members were encouraged to complete the survey.

Decision: It was decided not to allow dogs inside the cafes at Great Hollands and Jocks Lane to maintain a safe environment for young children and families.

ES76/25 ONGOING PROJECTS

The committee reviewed the status of various ongoing projects:

Completed Projects:

- Mill Park Ship refurbishment: Additional platforms are being added to help less mobile children climb up the equipment safely.
- Indian Bean Tree: Has been planted with fencing around it.

Ongoing Projects:

- Pump Track
- Jocks Lane Play Area
- The Five-Year Plan for the refurbishment of play areas is being developed.
- Pipe lagging and overhead insulation in BTC buildings are ongoing.
- Hedging is to be planted at The Elms.

ES77/25 BIODIVERSITY AUDIT REPORTS

The Town Clerk summarised the recently received biodiversity audit report, following a meeting with the authors. Key actions moving forward include improving grassland management, creating tiered grass areas leading into woodlands, planting more summer meadows, and enhancing hedgerows with a mix of native species. The report also suggested creating ponds in less frequented areas to support biodiversity. The committee discussed the importance of these measures and the long-term benefits they would bring to the community. The report has been discounted due to the delay in receiving the report. The Town Clerk will report the overgrown shrubs at Home Farm balancing pond to Thames Water.

Task: Report the overgrown shrubs at Home Farm balancing pond. @Town Clerk

ES78/25 BIRD BOX CAMERAS

The committee reviewed a quote for installing bird boxes with internal cameras and screens inside the cafes at Jocks Lane and Great Hollands. The project includes the supply and installation of equipment, with each site costing £1,425.00. The committee expressed enthusiasm for the project, noting the educational and community

engagement benefits. It was agreed to recommend the project to the Strategy and Finance Committee for approval from CIL funding. Additional suggestions included adding clear bird boxes onto the windows of the pavilion so they could be seen and streaming the CCTV footage of the bird boxes online as a possible next step to this project.

Decision: The committee agreed to recommend the bird box camera project to the Strategy and Finance Committee for approval.

ES79/25 STREET NAMES

The committee reviewed requests from BFC to add new names to the bank of street names. The proposed names for the Bracknell Beeches development were Ayrton House, Bowden House, Chatelet House, Dewar House, Essen House, Feynman House, and Gilbert House. For the Market Street development, continuing the theme of composers, the names were Edward Elgar House and Fitzwilliam House. The committee discussed the significance of these names and agreed to the additions, ensuring that they are correctly spelled and meaningful.

Decision: The committee approved the addition of new street names for the Bracknell Beeches and Market Street developments.

ES80/25 COMMUNITY EVENTS

The committee discussed both completed and upcoming community events:

Completed Events:

- The Bracknell Town Mayor's Quiz Night on 13th December raised £763.20 for Home-Start. The Town Mayor thanked the Officers for their work organising the event and for helping on the night.
- Christmas Craft Activity at Great Hollands – which was a great success
- First Coffee and Play event at Great Hollands Café – which was a success for the first meeting and is currently planned twice monthly.

Upcoming Events:

- Twinning Quiz Night on 21st February at Great Hollands.
- Great British Spring Clean Event on 29th March to work with local youth groups.
- Skate Competition at Mill Park during the April holidays or with the Pump Track opening if it aligns.
- 70th Anniversary of Bracknell Town Council on 22nd April with W/G meeting on 12th February.
- VE Day 80 celebrations on 8th May, awaiting details of what BFC plans.
- SHP Food Festival, Teddy Bears' Picnic, and Green Week in June.
- Community and Culture Day on 7th June.
- Pride Event on 7th June.
- Great Hollands Summer of Fun on 6th August.
- VJ Day 80 on 15th August, awaiting details of what BFC plans.
- Braybrooke Summer of Fun on 20th August.
- Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September.
- MacMillan Coffee Morning at the end of September.

- Bracknell Town Remembrance Event on 9th November.
- Armistice Day at The Angel on 11th November.
- 60th Anniversary of Great Hollands in 2027.

ES81/25 CARBON REDUCTION WORKING GROUP

The last meeting of the Carbon Reduction Working Group was held on 14th November. The next meeting is scheduled for 12th March 2025 at 7:30 pm. An update will be provided to the committee following that meeting.

ES82/25 CIL

The committee noted the CIL report and discussed new ideas for CIL funding.

The suggestions included:

- To explore the possibility of adding pickleball court lines to a tennis court at Jocks Lane or Great Hollands.
- Bird box cameras to be recommended for approval to the Strategy and Finance Committee.
- Plant a Covid remembrance garden near the Indian Bean tree at Braybrooke with a seat and some shrubs with a heart-shaped plaque.
- Planting a well-established tree in South Bracknell with a plaque for World Mental Health Day on October 10th.

Task: Research the feasibility of creating a pickleball court at Jocks Lane.
@JackieBurgess

ES83/25 WORK START AND COMPLETED

The committee reviewed and noted the work started and completed by the Grounds Team.

Date of the next Meeting: 22nd April 2025 at 7.30 pm Council Chamber Brooke House

Sign:

Date: