



WINCHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

www.winchfield-pc.org.uk

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WINCHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2016, AT 7.30 PM IN WINCHFIELD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr A Renshaw (in the Chair), Cllr P Jackaman and Cllr M Williams
Cllr D Simpson (HCC) *until end of item 16*
Mr E Sandalls (Footpath Officer, Ramblers Association) *until end of item 16*
Mr D Turver (WeHeartHart) *until end of item 12*
10 members of the public *see note after item 16*
Mrs C Johnson (Acting Clerk)

1 APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

Apologies were received from Cllr Dicks and Cllr Gavin-Brown and from Cllr Crampton (HDC), Cllr Glen (HCC), Cllr Southern (HDC), PC Franks and PCSO Whitear.

It was resolved to approve Cllr Gavin-Brown's continuing absence due to illness.

The Chairman welcomed County Cllr David Simpson, member for the Hartley Wintney Division which Winchfield would be joining next year.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS UNDER S33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT (2011)

A dispensation was granted to all Councillors to participate in all discussions and decisions by this Council relating to the emerging Local and Neighbourhood Plans and associated matters until May 2019.

As at previous meetings, the Chairman declared his ownership (with his wife) of 45 acres of land in the parish which had been the subject of overtures from developers. He reiterated that the land is not available for development.

Cllr Williams declared his membership of Winchfield Action Group in relation to items 9 and 10.

During item 11.2 the Chairman declared an interest as owner of land through which Footpath 7 passes.

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The Chairman invited members of the public to participate in any of the ensuing discussions through the Chair.

4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on August 22, 2016, were accepted and signed as a correct record.

5 MATTERS ARISING

5.1 Scrapyard at Potbridge (item 11)

The chairman reported that Hart District Council had obtained a High Court injunction the previous week requiring the removal within 7 days of vehicles from Council owned land.

5.2 Winchfield Lodge (item 12)

The Chairman reported that the outstanding issues relating to the discharge of conditions had not yet been resolved.

5.3 Beauclerk Green (item13)

There had been no progress towards adoption since the last meeting.

5.4 Elvetham Chase (item 17)

A planning application for some 700 houses on this site in Pale Lane was expected imminently.

6 COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Chairman had been informed by the police that the person who had been living in a vehicle in the Basingstoke Canal car park by the Barley Mow had now moved on and it was hoped the problem had been resolved.

7 RESIGNATION OF CLERK AND INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS

The Chairman reported that Mrs Tilt, the newly appointed Clerk, had resigned. Mrs Johnson had agreed to service this meeting and act as Clerk for three months or so whilst another Clerk was being recruited. It was agreed that she should be employed for 5 hours per week as Mrs Tilt had been.

8 SPEED LIMIT ON B3016

The Chairman reported that after 30 years of campaigning a 50mph speed limit had at last been introduced on part of this road. Regrettably, however, Parish Councillors had not been made aware of the intention to de-restrict south-bound traffic before the SLOW sign before the entrance to the Pet Crematorium. There had been an accident on the day the new limit had become operational. He thanked Cllr Simpson who was taking the matter up with the Highways Department and expressed the hope that a more sensible point of de-restriction would be introduced in early course.

It was noted with sadness that Barry Spurgeon, the founder of Dignity Pet Crematorium, who had been a great campaigner for a reduction in the speed limit, had died two days before this meeting.

9 HART LOCAL PLAN

The Chairman reported that the anticipated publication of the draft Local Plan had been delayed by the need to review the evidence base for sites in the light of a welcome reduction in the housing figures because Rushmoor Borough Council had indicated that it was now expecting to meet its own housing needs. Nonetheless, the publication of the Strategic Housing Market Assessment was still awaited and the duty to co-operate with Hart's neighbouring Councils still existed. He was aware that there was strong support from some Hart Councillors for the housing numbers to be sufficient to support another secondary school being built. He believed that Winchfield had failed testing as a suitable site for major development and regretted that no announcement had been made to this effect.

It was noted that the extensions to local secondary schools (Calthorpe Park and Robert May's) already planned were designed to cater for the expansion of primary schools in Hartley Wintney and Hook.

10 WINCHFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Chairman announced that the Independent Examiner had reported very positively on the submitted Plan and had recommended that it proceed to referendum subject to a number of modifications set out in his report. [The report can be viewed at <http://www.hart.gov.uk/winchfield>]

It was resolved to accept and incorporate all these modifications and formally approve the resulting version of the Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan for submission to Hart District Council for moving to referendum. (Proposed: the Chairman; Seconded: Cllr Williams; unanimously agreed.)

The Chairman expressed the hope that the formal process would be completed as soon as possible because as a planning document the Plan would carry a great deal of weight if major development in the parish was not included in the Local Plan.

Thanks were offered to everyone involved in bringing the Plan to this stage, especially to Clare Worley, Christine Strudwick and Malcolm Billyard.

11 SOLAR FARMS COMMUNITY BENEFIT PAYMENTS

11.1 Hungerford Solar Farm: One-off Community Benefit payment offer from Anesco

Based on 5MW generating capacity, the original agreement would have delivered £125,000 Community Benefit payment divided 60:40 between this Council and Dogmersfield Parish Council, payable over 25 years. Anesco's first offer of a one-off payment of £35,000 had been rejected by both Councils. Anesco had subsequently raised its offer to £70,000, of which this Council would receive £42,000. Anesco would also modify the contract wording to correspond with the terms and conditions of the TGC contract at Oakfield Farm. It was noted that that the built generating capacity was lower (4.2MW) due to shading and that the offer equated to a 3% discount rate over 25 years.

It was resolved to accept the offer of the one-off Community Benefit payment of £42,000 to this Council. (Proposed: the Chairman; Seconded: Cllr Williams; unanimously agreed.)

Cllrs Williams and Jackaman were asked to research and recommend how best the lump sum could be invested.

11.2 Use of Community Benefit income to upgrade stiles to kissing gates on footpaths in the parish

Upgrading stiles on Footpaths 4 and 7 had been suggested at the last meeting, to which Mr Sandalls of the Ramblers Association added one on the Brenda Parker Way near the A30.

It was agreed to spend up to £3,000 from the first payment received from the Oakfield Farm solar farm on a programme of replacing stiles in the parish with kissing gates. It was decided to set up a Working Group to lead the project, identifying other stiles and liaising with Hampshire's Countryside Access Team and the local Ramblers Association. Resident Chris Griffin offered to join this group.

A resident suggested that consideration also be given to improving the access to Footpath 3 at its junction with Station Road and to upgrading the wooden steps on Footpath 2 to concrete.

12 PARISH LENGTHSMAN

The Acting Clerk reported that Yateley Town Council had recently received approval and funding from Hampshire County Council for Winchfield to join its cluster.

Clearance of dead tree branches from around the bus shelter was deemed a priority and it was agreed that, if there was a delay, up to £500 from the Parish Lengthsman fund could be spent to employ a contractor directly.

13 PARISH LITTER PICK HELD ON OCTOBER 23

Kerry Wedlock was thanked for organising another successful Litter Pick. She reported that 24 volunteers, two of whom had not helped before, had filled 35 bags with litter. Six instances of fly-tipping had been reported to the District Council. There was overwhelming support amongst volunteers for the event to be held twice yearly.

Payment of up to £50 for the refreshments provided for the volunteers was approved under S137 of the Local Government Act.

14 COVENANT LAND AND SHLAA SITE SHL 262

Cllr Jackaman expressed his dissatisfaction with the response from Hart District Council to this Council's concern about the protection of this site from future development. It seemed clear that the covenants made by developers to safeguard land against future development were of questionable worth and this was an issue that needed to be addressed for the future. It was agreed that the Council continue to press this point and Cllr Jackaman was asked to draft a suitable letter.

15 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following applications were considered:

16/02374/OUT Shapley Ranch, London Road Demolition of existing commercial buildings and erection of 4 detached and 3 terraced residential dwellings and associated works: Councillors had no objections to development on this brownfield site but agreed to support the District Council in seeking an affordable homes contribution and to draw attention to the shortfall in the number of parking spaces to be provided both in relation to Hart's policy and that of the emerging Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan.

16/02319/FUL Pet Crematorium, Odiham Road: provision of new single-storey detached 'farewell room' for Pet Crematorium following demolition of existing structure: No objections.

16/02740/HOU Chevertons Farm, Odiham Road: conversion of conservatory into study: No objections.

The order of the agenda was changed at this point to take item 18 (Any Other Business) next.

16 OTHER BUSINESS

16.1 Hampshire ALC AGM

Cllr Williams reported on his attendance at the Hampshire Association of Local Councils AGM held in Hartley Wintney on October 22, highlighting the following:

No clear preferences had emerged from Hampshire County Council's recent consultation regarding devolution options to which 3,500 responses were received.

A new fund was being set up to support Parish and Town Councils, primarily for capital support.

There had been a presentation about 'crowd funding' which might be of interest to the organisers of the Winchfield Festival.

16.2 Potholes in Taplins Farm Lane

Cllr Williams expressed concern that potholes in Taplins Farm Lane which he had reported through the HCC website had not been repaired.

16.3 New water main

The Chairman reported that investigations were taking place in respect of a proposed new water main from Fleet to Greywell and he expected a planning application to be made in due course.

At the conclusion of this item all but three members of the public left the meeting.

17 FINANCE

17.1 Statement for the period 22.8.2016 to 19.10.2016

Deposit Account (Lloyds)

22Aug	Balance			£46,033.99
	Interest: Sep/Oct			£3.91
	Balance			£46,037.90

Current Account (Lloyds)

22Aug	Balance			£5,167.71
25 Sep	Mrs U Tilt. Salary: Sep 16	Exp16/16	£200.00	
	Mrs C Johnson. Salary: June –Sep 16	Exp16/17	£480.00	
	HMRC: PAYE salaries and Gratuity B	Exp16/18	*£358.20	
30 Sep	Mrs C Johnson. Gratuity A	Exp16/19	£1,245.97	
	Mrs C Johnson. Gratuity B	Exp16/20	£731.23	
	Mrs C Johnson. Expenses + litter pick grabbers	Exp 16/21	£64.71	
	Balance			£2,087.60
	TOTAL deposit and current accounts			£48,125.50

* includes £5.40 overpayment due to input error to be refunded

Comparison with 2016/17 Budget

Budget heading	Allocation (rev)	Spend to date (ex VAT)	Available
Clerk's Salary	£3,000.00	£1,450.00	£1,550.00
Training	£200.00	£105.00	£95.00
Subscription to SLCC	£80.00	£0.00	£80.00
Hire of Village Hall for meetings	£80.00	£0.00	£80.00
Admin costs	£200.00	£63.35	£136.65
Insurance	£280.00	£273.75	£6.25
HALC/NALC Subscriptions	£401.00	£401.00	£0.00
Audit & Information Commission fees	£410.00	£375.00	£35.00
Section 137 payments	600.00	£200.00	£400.00
Grants (Churchyard maintenance)	600.00	£600.00	£0.00
Contingencies	204.00	£0.00	£204.00
Total A	£6,055.00	£3,468.10	£2,586.90

• Reserves	Balance	Balance	Spend to	Available
Earmarked funds	14.05.16	22.08.16	date (ex VAT)	
Basingstoke Canal	£250.00	£250.00	£250.00	£0.00
Community Benefit Fund	£3,233.06	£3,233.06	£0.00	£3,233.06
Election Expenses Contingency	953.45	953.45	£0.00	£953.45
Events (Litter Pick)	£159.24	£159.24	£44.55	£114.69
Maintenance	£200.00	£200.00	£28.71	£171.29
Neighbourhood Plan	£1,773.10	£1,773.10	£342.00	£1,431.10
Parish Lengthsman	£1,731.80	£1,731.80	£0.00	£1,731.80
Planning Counsel	£34,990.25	£34,990.25	£0.00	£34,990.25
Pension (new Clerk) <i>new</i>	£150.00	£150.00	£0.00	£150.00
Retirement Gratuity A	£1,218.00	£1,245.97	£1,245.97	0.00
Retirement Gratuity B	£969.00	£941.03	£914.03	**£27.00
Street Lighting	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£0.00	£2,250.00
Website Development	£443.02	£443.02	£0.00	£443.02
Winchfield Festival 2016	£600.00	£600.00	£600.00	£0.00
Total B	£48,920.92	£48,920.92	£3,425.26	£45,495.66
		Total A + B		£48,082.56

** to be closed and remaining funds transferred to Contingencies

Money at bank	£48,125.50
VAT & PAYE to date to be reclaimed	£178.63
Total	£48,304.13
Less Total A+B	(£48,082.56)
Current surplus/working balance	£221.57

17.2 Requests for Grants and Donations

An appeal for support from Hampshire CPRE was considered and it was resolved to make a grant of £200 under S137 of the Local Government Act to further their work.

17.3 Payments for approval

U Tilt	Salary	£250.00
C Strudwick	Reimbursement of Land Registry search fees	£21.00

17.4 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement Technical Consultation Paper

Hampshire ALC's strong opposition to government proposals to extend council tax referendum principles to parish and town councils was noted and it was agreed to respond to this consultation in support of the stance taken by HALC.

18 CORRESPONDENCE

18.1 Items of correspondence detailed in the Clerk's report were received and noted.

19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, January 16, 2017

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45 pm