

Minutes November 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd November 2011 at 7pm in Easton Village Hall.

Councillors Present: Abbreviation:

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Mrs P. Flemons (Chairman) | PF) |
| Mr B. Loader | (BL) |
| Mr P Moffatt | (PM) |
| Mr M. Porter | (MP) |
| Ms Y Riley | (YR) |
| Mrs S Robinson | (SR) |
| Mrs S Howells | (SH) |
| Mrs K. Wells | (KW) |

Also present:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| County Councillor J. Porter | (JP) |
| One Members of the Public | |

In attendance:

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council. (EM)

11.097 Apologies: Councillors: E Thompson (ET) and Mr S. Gapper (SH), District Councillor K Gottlieb

11.098 Minutes of Previous Meeting:

a) It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th October 2011 at 7.00pm in Martyr Worthy Village Hall be signed as a true and accurate record.

11.099 Public Participation:

a) Karen Smith introduced herself as the secretary of the recently formed Worthy Park Tennis Club which uses the two new built tennis courts at Princes Mead School. The tennis club is a community based tennis facility that has full use of the courts outside of school hours. She said that the club will be run by the community for the community and will be open to both experienced and inexperienced players. The clubs mission is to bring sport to the community.

She said as with all new ventures they are facing substantial start-up costs which have currently been budgeted at £12,000 but once set up the club would be self-financing and asked the Parish Council for help getting financial support.

Parish Council agreed it would write a letter of support.

Action

11.100 Reports from County and City Councillor:

- a) County Councillor Porter had attended and presented a written report see Appendix A.
- b) District Councillor Porter did not attend the meeting but had sent in a written report see Appendix B,

11.101 Matters Arising

a) Disused Section of the Railway Line:

i) It was found that the disused section of the railway line could not be designated as a bridle way with a Road Traffic Order prohibiting horses it was therefore agreed that the Parish Council would request that it be designated as a public footpath with permissive rights for cyclists.

b) Village Design Statement

i) Councillor Flemons has now got the VDS in a text document and it is ready for being used as a basis for a Parish Plan.

c) Lit Signs:

Councillor Porter said that the arranged meeting had been postponed and that he would now report at the next Parish Council meeting

d) Couch Green:

i) The Clerk is in the process of preparing tender documentation for undertaking the grounds maintenance work with the grass cutting of the Playing Field at a frequency of five cuts per year.

The Clerk was asked to include Avington Park Farm onto the tender list.

ii) The Clerk has written to the Charity Commission asking for permission to turn the playing field into allotments.

iii) Councillor Moffatt said that he had not yet had the time to drain down the water system and turn off the electricity in the pavilion.

e) Keys:

i) The Clerk said that he required the high security lock's 'security code' before he could get the additional keys cut.

f) Strawberry Lane – As District Councillor Gottlieb was not present it was decided to defer this it until the next Council Meeting.

g) Agenda:

i) Councillor Riley drew to the Council's attention that when a subject is to be discussed on which the Council may be making a decision it must be placed onto the agenda to allow members of the public who have an interest the opportunity to attend the meeting and comment.

h) Abbots Worthy

i) The residents of Abbots Worthy's request, to have it included as part of Itchen Valley Parish Council will be examined in due course.

11.102 Matters for Decision/Discussion:

a) Councillor Porter reported that the street lights are out in Baring Close, off Rectory Lane.

The Clerk was asked to report them to Southern Electric Contracting.

b) Councillor Loader spoke about the 'Advice for dealing with unauthorised Gypsy and Travellers encampments' issued by Winchester City Council on the 13th October.

11.103 Correspondence: All of the correspondence had been issued to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

11.104 Planning:

a) The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on the 20th November 2011, having been circulated were received.

11.105 Playing Field: Already discussed

11.106 Footpath Matters: Councillor Riley reported that the footpath bridge at the bottom of Church Lane Martyr Worthy is in an unsafe condition but has still not been replaced.

County Councillor Porter said that Hampshire County Council has scheduled the bridge for replacement.

Councillor Robinson said that she would contact Hampshire County Council and to see if she could find out when the work will be undertaken.

11.108 Road and Highway Matters: Already discussed

11.109 Representatives to the Village Hall Committees: Nothing to report

11.110 King George V Memorial Playing Field Trust: Councillor Howell asked when the grass is going to be cut.

11.111 The McPherson Field, Easton: Councillor Wells reported that there are a lot of holes caused by rabbits.

11.112 Public Transport Representative: Nothing to report

11.113 Winchester Villages Trust: Cllr Flemons, who is a trustee of WVT, says that the trust can allocate a sum of up to £250 toward helping with alternative transport to work in Alresford for Itchen Valley residents now that the bus is no longer available. County Councillor Porter said that she would provide information.

11.114 Prannel Trust Representatives: Nothing to report

11.115 Finance

a) It was unanimously agreed that the Council should pay its bills:

Cheque List Nov-11

| Transaction | Cheque No | Creditor's Name | Payment For | Nett | VAT | Gross |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| 209 | 102194 | Eddie Mason | Clerks Expenses (Mileage) | £13.13 | £0.00 | £13.13 |
| 210 | 102194 | Eddie Mason | Clerks Expenses | £25.00 | £0.00 | £25.00 |
| 208 | 102194 | Eddie Mason | Clerks Salary | £211.13 | £0.00 | £211.13 |
| 211 | 102195 | HM Customs and Inland | Clerk Tax | £52.80 | £0.00 | £52.80 |
| 212 | 102196 | Hampshire Playing Fields | Membership Fees | £40.00 | £0.00 | £40.00 |
| 213 | 102197 | Itchen Abbas and Avington | Hire of Halls | £7.00 | £0.00 | £7.00 |
| 214 | 102198 | Hampshire Association of Local | Membership Fees | £25.00 | £5.00 | £30.00 |
| 215 | 102199 | Audit Commission | External Audit | £135.00 | £27.00 | £162.00 |
| Totals Paid | | | | £509.06 | £32.00 | £541.06 |

b) Councillor Riley presented working papers showing what the Parish has spent so far in this financial year with a projection of the full year costs. She said that from now on this would be issued to Councillors on a quarterly basis and would also include variances. With regard to the setting of the precept she said that to allow time for everyone to reflect on the information provided and to look to see what projects should have finance allocated to them that the setting of the precept would be deferred until the next meeting.

She suggested the following items for the Parish Council to give consideration to allocating finance in the next financial year: the Parish Plan, Allotment issues, Olympic Champion and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

11.108 Date of the Next Meetings – The next meetings will be on Thursday 1st December 2011 in the Itchen Abbas & Avington Village Hall

There being no additional business the meeting closed at 9:00pm.

Appendix A

11.100a) Report by County Councillor Jackie Porter:

4x4 drivers wanted: instead of HCC purchasing lots of 4x4 cars which aren't needed in the rest of the year, HCC is asking all confident 4x4 owners if they could help get nurses, police and emergency staff, teachers, social and care workers etc to work on snowy days. If you think you could help, please contact hq.volunteers@hampshire.nn.police.uk. Thank you.

Grit Bins should all be in place: please pass further requests direct to Gina Chandler:
gina.chandler@hants.gov.uk with a copy to me.

Disabled badge holders are often saying the badges are handed out to the wrong people- what do you think? Please go to the www.hants.gov.uk website to respond to the national consultation (deadline beginning of December) to respond to the Government's proposals to Manage the process centrally (currently at county level)

Charge £10

Seek independent ability tests to ensure applicants are really disabled

Personally, I think this consultation is a waste of money at this time- but would be happy to be persuaded otherwise!

The Olympics are coming in 2012- there will be a dedicated website for Hampshire's special events, including dressing the cathedral outer close to watch events live there. It is estimated that approx. £50million of business has come to Hampshire, and details of the cities through which the torch will be run will be revealed on 7th November. 'Dressing your event' packs will be available via LOCOG. Children's Centres : FYI: Organisations are currently retendering to manage the contracts, not just as single Children's Centres but as a cluster: for Winchester area, including Alresford, these will be in the Winchester cluster, but Wonston and Micheldever will be included in new clusters, attached to Overton and Basingstoke. Currently these areas are served by Reign and Shine in Kings Worthy. The new arrangements will start in April 2012.

Under £30K schemes: I have been asked to produce a list of under £30K simple road/footway schemes for consideration in the 2012-13 plan for Highways. Generally these are schemes where developer funding is not available, but it's worth checking if you have a request!

Please give me your particular requests before the 15th November. Thank you

Transport Self Help Tool Kit: If your Parish has a request for a new service, The County Council may be able to provide some start -up funding. Contact me or come to the Transport Forum at the County Council Offices (main entrance in Sussex Street) at 10am on Wednesday the 9th November to hear more.

New format to reach all Parishes: I am trying a new format sending out general points early: your local news will be sent separately this month.

What do you think? I will be interested to hear your views.
Cllr Jackie Porter, The Down House, Itchen Abbas, Winchester SO21 1AX
Jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk

Appendix B

11.100b) Report by District Councillor Kim Gottlieb:

I am very sorry but unfortunately I can't be with you this evening.
I also apologise for intruding on your patch with my comments about the Village Design Statement at the Upper Itchen Valley Society AGM, but I don't think there's any harm in repeating the same message.

Thinking about this further, the reality is that there is no black or white about this matter nor is there likely to be a precise, definitive direction as to the weight any VDS will be given when it comes to determining planning applications.

When it suits them, planning officers and/or Committee will simply ignore the views of the Parish Council, but the upside of this is that a stronger, well-balanced, well-written VDS could actually help you seize the initiative and the more it is regarded as a material planning consideration in the early days after the new National Planning Policy Framework is enacted next year, the greater weight it will be given in the years ahead.

Other matters I would be grateful if you could mention to the Parish Council include Barton Farm, the Woodmancote Wind Farm and the Vineyard footpath.

As regards the Vineyard footpath, I confirm that I have now spoken to Mark Baring about the creation of a permitted footpath, and generally he is amenable to the whole idea.

There are, however, a few things that need to be thought out and a process to be gone through, but I can see it all leading to a positive outcome in due course. Please leave it with me for the time being.

Less positive is the news about the Woodmancote Wind Farm, where I understand that the planning appeal Inspector has approved a 60m test mast.

This I'm afraid will make the development of a full-blown wind farm very much more likely, but resistance would not be futile and I do think that the bodies that have so far been set against it need to become more coordinated and hopefully effective.

Lastly, the matter of Barton Farm. At the moment there is no specific fixed Winchester City policy, nor is there a current application for Cala Homes which needs to be considered. However, this is likely to change early next year I would guess.

My personal position is that the development of Barton Farm to provide 2,000 homes, should be supported for the simple reason that if we do not put this volume of housing here, then where else would or could you put it?

It seems to me that the housing demand projections are robust and that the figure of 4,000 homes for Winchester over the next 20 years is supported by the growth of approximately 200 homes that has actually occurred in each of the last 10 years and more.

If you then look at all the other sites that have been considered including Pitt Manor Farm and Alresford, you will see that none of them can contain anything like the same number of homes, and the rationale for them is far weaker than is the case with Barton Farm.

Stopping the development of Barton Farm would, I think, lead to a dozen or more sizeable developments being pursued throughout the district, and on balance, I believe that a cohesive, well-designed and well-structured scheme on the one site would be preferable.

Anyway, as I say, there is no planning application for us to consider as yet, and there will no doubt be many more considerations to resolve before the matter is eventually settled.

One last item is that of the changed arrangements for recycling and rubbish collection.

Whilst it probably isn't good enough to say that the problems that exist are just teething problems, I can just say that there are plenty of people at the Council and at Biffa who are trying very hard to deal with problems and the omissions that have occurred, and that the whole thing will be back to normal and fully satisfactory within a very few weeks.

Regards, Kim

Cllr Kim A Gottlieb
07831 232324