

## Minutes December 2011

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1st December 2011 at 7pm in Itchen Abbas & Avington 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)
Mr S Gapper	(SG)

Also present:

County Councillor J. Porter (JP)

In attendance:

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council. (EM)

11.109 Apologies: Councillor E Thompson (ET) and District Councillor K Gottlieb (KG)

11.110 Minutes of Previous Meeting:

(a) It was unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd November 2011 at 7.00pm in Martyr Worthy Village Hall be signed as a true and accurate record.

11.111 Public Participation – None

11.112 Reports from County and City Councillor:

Action

(a) County Councillor Porter had attended and presented a written report see Appendix A.

(b) District Councillor Gottlieb did not attend the meeting.

11.113 Matters Arising

(a) Worthy Park Tennis Club

Councillor Flemons said that she has written a letter supporting Worthy Park Tennis Club's application for grants.

(b) Village Design Statement/Parish Plan

A public meeting to discuss the Parish Plan has been scheduled for: 10.30am on Saturday 14th January 2012 in the Itchen Abbas and Avington village hall. Councillor Flemons said that she would arrange for the meeting to be advertised on the Parish notice boards and in the Parish Magazine.

(c) Disused Section of the Railway Line:

Councillor Flemons said that it has now been agreed that HCC would consult on the disused section of the railway line being designated as a public footpath with permissive rights for cyclists.

d) Lit Signs:

Councillor Porter said that he had nothing to report.

e) Couch Green:

(i) The Clerk has not heard from the Charity Commission about the Parish Council's request to change its usage to allotments.

(ii) Councillor Moffatt said that he had drained down the water system and turned off the electricity in the pavilion.

(f) Keys:

(i) As the key to the high security lock cannot be obtained without the 'security code' the clerk was asked to see if Jim Preece could supply the code and, failing this, to ask Serco send back the keys that the Parish Council provided them with.

(g) Strawberry Lane – Councillor Robinson has met with the landowner Mark Baring and got an agreement for permissive rights of way along the side of the B3047 leading to Strawberry Lane and is arranging for HCC to come out and see about putting up a finger post.

(h) Abbots Worthy

(i) A discussion took place as to whether or not the residents of Abbots Worthy's request to have it included as part of Itchen Valley Parish Council should be approved.

It was decided that the way forward would be for Councillor Flemons to invite residents from Abbots Worthy to attend the next Council Meeting and that the Clerk should contact Kings Worthy Parish Council.

(i) Street Lights

(i) There is some confusion caused by the Parish Council's decision to award the contract for street light maintenance to Southern Electric Contracting as it now appears that this contract has already been awarded to Hampshire County Council on a long term 20 year contract.

There is further confusion as there appears to be more street lights than the six itemised in both contracts and on the Asset Register.

(ii) It was decided that in the first instance that Councillor M Porter and the Clerk should identify the lights that belong to the Parish Council.

County Councillor Porter suggested that they contact Julian Higgins at Hampshire County Council who could remove lights from the list that belong to the County Council.

(j) Grit Bins

(i) County Councillor Porter reported that the time is running out to obtain additional grit bins.

Councillor Loader asked for a bin to be placed by the Hump near to the Cricketer's Public House in Easton. Councillor Robinson asked for one to be placed in Old Station Road. Councillor Flemons requested that one be placed in West Hill Avenue, Avington.

11.114 Matters for Decision/Discussion: Raised in other parts of the minutes.

11.115 Correspondence: Most of the correspondence had been issued to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

(a) Letter from Winchester City Council inviting the Chair to attend a meeting on the 13th December to discuss matters related to setting their budget. Councillor Flemons said she would try to attend

(b) Councillor Wells raised the email from Alison Cross and suggested that we should put forward Couch Green for an orchard.

(c) Councillor Wells suggested that an email proposing easy access to the internet for the elderly should be circulated to all Village Halls.

11.116 Planning:

(a) The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on the 17th November 2011, having been circulated were received.

(b) The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on Thursday 15th December in the Itchen Abbas and Avington Village Hall.

11.117 Playing Field: Southern Electric has submitted an invoice for the pavilion electricity which is based on an estimate which appears to be excessive.

Councillor Flemons will provide Southern Electric with a meter reading so that they can submit a correct invoice.

11.118 Footpath Matters: Councillor Flemons asked about the footpath bridge at the bottom of Church Lane Martyr Worthy that is in an unsafe condition.

County Councillor Porter said that she is continuing to chase Hampshire County Council but so far she has had no success.

Councillor Robinson said that she had been told by Hampshire County Council that the development money allocated for the bridge's repair had been spent on other projects and that the bridge is now not scheduled for repair until the end of March 2012.

11.119 Road, Highway & Street Light Matters: Already discussed

11.109 Representatives to the Village Hall Committees: Nothing to report

11.120 King George V Memorial Playing Field Trust: Nothing to report.

11.121 The McPherson Field, Easton: Nothing to report

11.122 Public Transport Representative: Nothing to report

11.123 Winchester Villages Trust: Cllr Flemons said that she has prepared posters 'Might someone you know need a helping hand' and asked for volunteers to put a notice onto the notice board that is close to where they live.

11.124 Prannel Trust Representatives: This has been dissolved and is to be removed from the agenda.

11.125 Web Master:

(a) Councillor Gapper said that he has updated the web site today and it is now fully up to date.

(b) Councillor Gapper was asked to put the Parish Plan poster onto the web site.

11.125 Finance

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

Cheque List Dec-11

Transaction Cheque No Creditors Name Payment For Nett VAT Gross

221 22000 HM Customs and Inland Clerk Tax £52.80 £0.00 £52.80

222 22001 Hampshire County Council Street Lighting £173.56 £34.71 £208.27

223	22002	I C O (Data Protection)	Data Protection	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
224	22003	Hampshire Association of Local	Training	£20.00	£4.00	£24.00
225	22004	Itchen Abbas and Avington	Hire of Halls	£14.00	£0.00	£14.00
226	22005	Easton Village Hall	Hire of Halls	£36.00	£0.00	£36.00
230	22006	St Swithun Church - Martyr Worthy	Grants	£300.00	£0.00	£300.00
227	22006	St John the Baptist Church - Itchen Abbas	Grants	£300.00	£0.00	£300.00
228	22006	St Mary's Church - Avington	Grants	£300.00	£0.00	£300.00
229	22006	St Mary's Church - Easton	Grants	£300.00	£0.00	£300.00
231	22007	Martyr Worthy Parish Hall	Grants	£650.00	£0.00	£650.00
232	22008	Itchen Abbas and Avington	Grants	£650.00	£0.00	£650.00
233	22009	Citizens Advice Bureau	Grants	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00
218	102200	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	£211.13	£0.00	£211.13
220	102200	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Mileage)	£13.13	£0.00	£13.13
216	102200	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Postage)	£3.53	£0.00	£3.53
217	102200	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Postage)	£3.45	£0.00	£3.45
219	102200	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00

Totals Paid    £3,287.60   £38.71   £3,326.31

(a) Setting the Precept

Councillor Riley went through the proposed budgets as set out in the working papers.

It was decided that in addition to the normal Council budgets the following sums should be earmarked:

Parish Plan	£2,000.00
Queens Diamond Jubilee	£250.00
Olympic Champion	£250.00

Taking into account the existing budget and including the earmarked sums, whilst being careful to minimise the impact any increase would have on the Council Tax, it was unanimously agreed that the Precept should be increased from £13,820.00 to £14,511, an increase of 5%.

(b) Section 137 Grants

It was unanimously agreed that the following Section 137 grants should be given:

Itchen Abbas & Avington Village Hall	£650.00
Martyr Worthy Village Hall	£650.00

St Swithun Church - Martyr Worthy	£300.00
St John the Baptist Church - Itchen Abbas	£300.00
St Mary's Church - Easton	£300.00
St Mary's Church - Avington	£300.00
Citizens Advice Bureau	£200.00
	£2,700.00

It was agreed that the grants for the two village halls should be withheld until they provided written explanations as to what the grants would be spent on.

11.126 Date of the Next Meetings – The next meetings will be on Thursday 5th January 2012 in Easton Village Hall.

There being no additional business the meeting closed at 9:15pm.

#### Appendix A

11.112a) Report by County Councillor Jackie Porter:

Localism bill: the effect on your Parish.....Now that the Localism bill has received Royal Assent, the County Council is considering how it will apply to them, and their relationship with Citizens and Parish Councils. There is a paper on this on the HCC Cabinet on Monday 28th November. The Assistant Chief Executive, Paul Archer, is leading on this, and queries should be directed to him. Apart from planning reform, the principal areas of interest to your Council are:

Standards board stopped in current form, but Councillor's Code of Conduct remains  
 Repeal of petitions, and introduction of referenda on local issues (including Council Tax)  
 Community Right to Challenge (CRTC) if you think your Council could do the job better than HCC  
 Assets of Community Value (known as Community Right to Buy): this could be relevant as HCC owns a lot of property in the Worthys.

As a matter of interest, it is worth knowing how to access HCC reports: go to [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk), then to 'Your Council', then to 'Calendar of Meetings'. From here, you can see the full reports and comment online if you wish.

Intech- Adults only nights!.....You may have taken your children there in the past, but now the Planetarium at Intech is gaining in popularity as an adult venue too. I attend the science lectures when I can, but now the rather provocatively named 'Adults Only Evenings' are starting up from 1st December. I am hoping to attend on the 1st December to tell you more! Call Intech on 01962 891925 to reserve your ticket, or 863791 for other queries.

4x4 drivers- here's your chance to help.....4x4 vehicles come into their own in the snow. If you are experienced in driving (and have) a 4x4, please register online at [hq.volunteering@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:hq.volunteering@hampshire.pnn.police.uk) .

You will be asked to check your insurance, carry out a CRB check, and review your knowledge of the Highway code, checking too that you have a clean driving licence. Drivers get expenses, so you won't be out of pocket, and it will give you a real thrill to help someone get to their work- to care for an isolated person, (or teach or nurse, etc). You won't be required to do the job, just drive the expert there and back!

Grit bin requests on their way .....Your requests have been logged with Gina Chandler: 3000 bins are now out in the community: more are on order. To get them refilled, please lift the lid for instructions. Like lamp posts, you will need the grit bin reference (inside lid)

Change in property used and managed for staff at HCC..... The County 'workstyle' programme continues now that the QEII court is fully open. The next stage is to smarten up staff working/travelling times: HCC is going local with hubs in Winchester, Basingstoke, Farnborough Buses out to tender again for June 2012..... After cuts to subsidies caused a major shake-up this Autumn, the bus services are actually being retendered (tenders going out late November) for June 2012. I have requested that 64, 86 and Spring services reflect the 1 and 5 with services back from Winchester up to 9pm.This would be some improvement. Don't forget that the Transport Self Help Tool Kit is available if you think custom built services could suit your community. Go to [www.hants.gov.uk/transport-self-help-kit](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport-self-help-kit)

Grant system changing at HCC..... Currently HCC gives out grants totalling £9.5m every year. A proposal to provide simpler applications for grants will be considered at cabinet on 28th November. This will mean an online scheme from April 2012, and a simpler process for those applying for grants under £1000

Councillor Jackie Porter, 01962 791054 [jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jackie.porter@hants.gov.uk) text 07973 696 085.

This report is also on my website: [www.jackieporter.mycouncillor.org.uk](http://www.jackieporter.mycouncillor.org.uk)