



ITCHEN VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

(Serving the villages of: Avington, Easton, Itchen Abbas & Martyr Worthy)

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

April 25th 2017

Attending: Cllr Appleby (Chair), Cllr Moffatt, Cllr Riley, Cllr Labram, Cllr Stoodley, Cllr Langford.

In Attendance: WCC - Cllr E.Jeffs, WCC – Cllr L.Griffiths, HCC – Cllr J. Porter (from 7.30 pm), R.Matthews, A.Matthews, C.Appleby, A.Weaver (Clerk).

Agenda and attachments were circulated to all attendees.

Item	Content	Action
17.015	Apologies: Cllr Andrews, Cllr Legatt, V.Tottle, S.Hunt.	
17.016	Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) of 2016 The meeting agreed the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) of 2016. Chairman Cllr Appleby signed the minutes.	
17.017	Reports	
17.018	<p>a) Financial Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017 – Cllr Labram</p> <p>Accounts for year ended 31st March 2017 were circulated. Cllr Labram highlighted some key points from the report. Receipts were up £9K, expenditure had increased by £9K. There was a surplus of £8K over the year and reserves carried forward amounted to £40.6K. Cllr Labram felt that Itchen Valley Parish Council finances were in good shape.</p> <p>Cllr Labram provided more details on the increased receipts which were accounted for by an increased precept, Boomtown Grant funding, an expanded Lengthsman scheme, rental income and VAT receipts. Cllr Labram explained payments, including increased general expenditure on new clerk and new member training, ground maintenance (new fencing and more grass cutting) and Section 137 expenditure on Itchen Abbas Village Hall broadband and wi-fi.</p> <p>Cllr Labram highlighted a surplus of £8K available for commitments, including possible expenditure on Neighbourhood Development Plan, a strategic reserve of £13.5K plus contingency planning and saving for expenditure on playground equipment.</p> <p>There was a general discussion, plus a query about audit arrangements. Cllr Labram explained the differing requirements of Internal and External Audit.</p>	
17.019	<p>B) Chairman’s Report</p> <p>Chairman Councillor Appleby thanked Cllr Labram for chairing the Finance & General Purposes Committee and leaving the council’s finances in good order for funding projects in the future.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby highlighted the Itchen Valley Parish Council’s involvement with Neighbourhood Development planning process, including its discussions and submissions associated with South Downs Development Plan and Winchester City Council Local Plan, plus regular consideration, comment and recommendations related to Itchen Valley planning applications. Cllr Langford was thanked for his work in this area.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby noted the forthcoming cycling events in the Itchen</p>	

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	<p>Valley and the Parish Council's involvement.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion at this point with a resident requesting the Parish Council to raise litter problems that often accompany these events with the organisers.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby highlighted the Parish Lengthsman Scheme which had been a success. It was contributing to the protection of public rights of way and helping with other important local work. The Scheme was managed for 12 Uplands Parishes by the clerk. Cllr Moffatt was thanked for local coordination of the work within the Itchen Valley.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby referred to the play equipment work planned due to the efforts of Cllr Riley and also the associated work at Couch Green to remove the dilapidated changing rooms. Itchen Valley Parish Council were also combining play equipment inspection and maintenance work to save money.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby thanked Cllr Andrews for successfully organizing the litter pick.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby turned to the topic of communication. The Parish Council were committed to improving the condition of the Parish Council notice boards and were currently arranging to have this work carried out. Because of the increasing rules on 'transparency', members were also reviewing its website arrangements. Cllr Carter had led this work and had held discussions with local organisations to explore the scope for joint efforts. Website development was still under discussion and the first step necessary was to produce a specification and some costings. Unfortunately, Cllr Carter's circumstances had changed and she was no longer able to continue as a parish councilor. She was thanked for her excellent work while she had been a member of the council. Her website work would be taken forward.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby took the opportunity to mention Cllr Phillips who had stepped down earlier in the year. Cllr Phillips was thanked for his efforts chairing the Planning Committee and coordinating footpath work.</p> <p>Cllr Labram had also resigned at the end of this financial year. He was thanked for all his work, particularly on the audit and finance side.</p> <p>The Parish Council had two vacancies and they were currently being advertised.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby concluded by thanking all councilors, city, county and parish for their hard work on behalf of the residents of Itchen Valley.</p>	
17.020	<p>City /County Reports</p> <p>Cllr Jeffs spoke on behalf of Winchester City Councillors. The WCC annual report was available at the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Jeffs referred initially to the boundary changes which had reduced WCC wards from 57 to 45 – the local result being one 3 Councillor ward for Alresford and the Itchen Valley currently represented by Cllrs Gottlieb, Griffiths and Jeffs.</p>	

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	<p>The Winchester Local Plan Part 2 had now been approved by the Planning Inspector. This will mean new housing developments at Sun Lane and The Dean in Alresford. Between 2018 and 2021, WCC will commission a review of the Local Plan to ensure an adequate housing supply.</p> <p>Cllr Jeffs stated that the battle to keep Alresford Tip open had been won. However, it was bottom of the list in terms of usage and its continued operation is likely to be reviewed in future years. WCC was taking a robust stance on flytipping and local residents were urged to report such instances.</p> <p>Cllr Jeffs stated that there had been no progress with devolution but it was likely to return.</p> <p>Cllr Jeffs reported back on the current position re: gypsy and traveler sites. There was a discussion about the range of local sites originally proposed, None of these were now likely to go ahead or have a significant local impact.</p> <p>Cllr Jeffs concluded by making reference to WCC's new Corporate Strategy and the current position relating to Station Approach Development.</p>	
<p>17.021</p>	<p><u>Questions, Answers and Discussion</u></p> <p>A resident raised Boomtown and stated that Boomtown Community Grant did not compensate for the noise, traffic and other problems that have been experienced every year in Avington and Easton.</p> <p>Cllr Porter (HCC) outlined some of the remedies that had been tried or proposed – sound barriers, water filled road barriers, etc. These were examples of mitigating initiatives that should be pursued and developed further.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby felt that there should be more advance thinking anticipating problems that were likely to emerge and developing solutions to meet them.</p> <p>Cllr Langford indicated that Environmental Stage 1 Survey accepted by WCC was inadequate for the scale and size of the issues raised as a result of Boomtown.</p> <p>Cllr Moffatt emphasized that there were other perspectives on the impact of Boomtown within Itchen Valley which needed to be taken account of.</p> <p>Cllr Porter (HCC) highlighted the Dawn to Dusk Activity Day that was scheduled to take place the following weekend.</p> <p>There was a discussion and acknowledgement about the lack of publicity for the APM in IV News Community Events.</p> <p>Cllr Appleby thanked everyone for attending the Annual Parish Meeting.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 7.50 pm.</p>	