

CORHAMPTON & MEONSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 5 February 2014 at 7.30pm in the Meon Hall Meonstoke.

PRESENT Chairman Nick Riley, Steve Clark, Bruce Horn, Rowena Hyder, Patrick Rowe, John Shaw and Sue Walker. In attendance: Councillor Norma Bodtger WCC, Councillor Roger Huxstep HCC, Juliet Brooks (Clerk), and 9 parishioners.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** None

2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 08 January 2014 were approved and signed.

3. **MATTERS ARISING** None

4. **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY ~ Wednesday 23rd April 2014** The Chairman will issue the agenda which will include items on broadband, Neighbourhood Watch, the problem of dog fouling, and the tennis court proposal, as well as the usual parish reports, and police and local councillors reports. *ACTION: NR*

5. **REPORTS** i) Councillor Norma Bodtger WCC reported on matters including the ongoing enforcement action at Steynes Farm.

ii) Councillor Roger Huxstep HCC reported on matters including HCC budget cuts, broadband, advice on avoiding chimney fires, and educational attainment in Hampshire schools.

6. **OPEN SPACE** i) Steve Clark reported that the next phase of the work would begin when the weather improved.

ii) The Chairman had updated Councillors and the Clerk with an Open Space Fund reconciliation (yet to be confirmed by the WCC Open Space Fund Officer) showing available funds of play - £4943 and sport - £13,480.

7. **FINANCE** a) The Clerk presented the financial statement and reported balances of £18390.06 in the Community Account (which includes £17481.02 received from the Open Space Fund) and £10331.44 in the Scottish Widows Account.

b) Council approved payment of bills – chq	200631	WCC dog bin emptying	100.00
	200632	Meon Hall – hire for APA	32.00
	200633	J Brooks – Jan’14 sal + exp	334.73

Council agreed to cancel cheque 200628 as although the Open Space money had been received from WCC, the anticipated VAT rebate had not. Council then agreed to pay the sum due in two tranches:

	- chq	200634	Just Toys Ltd – net	17481.02, and
when the rebate has been received	chq	200635	Just Toys Ltd – VAT	3496.19

ACTION: Clerk

c) Precept – the Clerk confirmed that receipt of the precept application for 2014/15 had been received from WCC.

8. **PLANNING** i) Freeland Cottage High Street SDNP/13/05255/TPO (no c) - ongoing

ii) Playground trees SDNP/13/05917/TCA (no c) - ongoing

New application: SDNP/14/00027/LDE Annex Stoke Down – to be considered by the planning committee.

The following applications were noted but do not at this time require comment due to their status being either pre-application or similar:

SDNP/14/00088/PRE Stoke Down

SDNP/14/00412/TCA Kingfishers

SDNP/14/00323/APNB Corhampton Lane Farm

Application SDNP/14/00137/DINPP St Clairs Farm, which was believed to be an application requiring a PC comment which had since expired, was to be investigated by the Clerk as no details or documents relating to the application had been received. *The application is confirmed on the SDNP planning website as achieving permitted development therefore there would have been no opportunity for the PC to comment as planning permission was confirmed as not being required.*

Other: 1) Affordable housing – Za Rowe reported to Council:

i) Bridgemead development - the timetable for delivering affordable units at Bridgemead by March 2015 is no longer feasible due to site access and land boundary problems. Since its discovery in March 2013, Sovereign Housing Association has been liaising with the adjacent landowners in an attempt to both establish and agree the site boundary and access on to the site. Unfortunately this continues to be a lengthy process, one that Sovereign is committed to pursuing to achieve a resolution.

ii) WCC housing list – in December a house at Bridgemead became available for rent. Two local families qualified for this house, but they had let their registration lapse. It is very important that those on the WCC housing list respond to any communication regarding renewal of their original application. All vacancies are advertised so the lists should be checked regularly.

Za reported that she is looking into how houses are allocated, and advised that anyone qualifying for one of the Bridgemead houses get in touch as she would like to update the Parish Council housing list.

2) Enforcement – Steynes Farm mobile home, etc. –ongoing

The Chairman and WCC Councillor Bodtger are still seeking closure of this matter.

ACTION: NR

3) Allotments – Patrick Rowe reported that he is still endeavouring to progress this ongoing situation. Our MP had written to the Chief Executive of WCC before Christmas but, as far as the PC is aware, no reply has yet been received. WCC Councillor Bodtger was asked to investigate.

ACTION: PR/Cllr Bodtger

The Clerk had written to all on the list of those who registered an interest in having an allotment suggesting they write to WCC and their MP about this issue.

4) Parishioner's matter – a parishioner addressed those present and read a prepared statement expressing his concerns with how the WCC planners and the planning process has been conducted in respect of his recent planning application and appeal. Copies of his statement (attached at Appendix A) were distributed to Parish, HCC and WCC Councillors.

5) The Clerk had written to the parishioners with a boundary fence / hedge next to the playground concerning approval to reduce the height of the largest ash tree by crown reducing it by 4m. indicating Council's agreement, with provisos stipulated by Council.

9. a) **PLAYGROUND** Steve Clark had agreed to obtain further quotes from suppliers of bonded mulch surfaces for the Chapel Road play area. Initial quotes have been received, however these have indicated a higher cost than expected.

ACTION: SC

b) **RECREATION GROUND** i) Despite requesting tenders from several new contractors to undertake the mowing and maintenance of the recreation ground from the start of the next season, only one tender had been received. Council confirmed the appointment of ISS Services, and the Chairman agreed to arrange a site meeting with the contractor.

ACTION: NR

ii) Steve Clark reported that the contractors have replaced the recently vandalised binoculars for the play ship free of charge.

c) **MEON HALL** The Chairman of the Meon Hall Management Committee reported on the paper circulated to Council on the proposed conversion of the Meon Hall Trust to a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO). The proposals were duly noted by the Parish Council.

d) **LENGTHSMAN UPDATE** James Morrice outlined to Council the forthcoming works to be carried out by the team, however these would be weather dependent.

e) **FLOODING** The Chairman thanked James Morrice for his useful notes on flooding.

Bruce Horn reported to Councillors, who together with parishioners discussed the flooding issues. The landlord of the Bucks Head pub spoke to Council, who expressed their great sympathy and support at this difficult time. Za Rowe, who had been the Councillor responsible for flooding at the time of the 2002 Halcrow Report, offered to examine / compare the 2002 and 2006 Reports and, together with Bruce Horn and John Shaw, report back to Council with any recommendations for action. The Clerk confirmed that all PC paperwork relating to and copies of the 2002 and 2006 Halcrow reports were handed to Za.

ACTION: BH/JS

HCC Councillor Roger Huxstep urged Councillors and parishioners to keep photographic records, including depth indicators, of the flooding situation in all the affected areas.

ACTION: All Cllrs

f) **TREE WARDEN** Nil

g) **HEDGES / VERGES** i) The Clerk had responded to the owner of hedges in Chapel Road as requested by Council.

ii) The problem of the hedges on the north side of Stocks Lane was again raised. Council agreed to write to the owner requesting action on trimming. *ACTION: Clerk*

h) **RURAL TRANSPORT** Nil

i) **FOOTPATHS** Sue Walker reported on concerns over the condition of the footpath to the school. The School would like to resurface the area of the path leading from the car park gate to the end nearest the School. It is not known who owns this footpath. The PC agreed to provide information concerning sources of possible grants if requested.

j) **HIGHWAY MATTERS** i) speed / noise nuisance on A32 – Sue Walker continues to establish contacts with neighbouring parishes, also with WDALC and HALC. Sue will report back to Council on the net-working meeting being held on 11th February 2014. *ACTION: SW*

ii) Extinguishment of highways rights on Warnford Road – the Chairman agreed to write to HCC Highways stating that Council had no objection to the revised proposal dated 17/10/2013. *ACTION: NR*

iii) Sue Walker had raised the matter of cycling clubs reportedly racing on local roads around the Parish, and the nuisance that this has caused some parishioners. On behalf of the Meon Hall Management Committee, James Morrice confirmed that any cycling clubs (currently one) that apply for hire of the Meon Hall will be reminded to obey cycling guidance documents and be courteous to other road and/or track users.

iv) Sue Walker reminded Council of the PACT initiative, and requested confirmation of future meeting dates. *ACTION: SW/Clerk*

10. **CORRESPONDENCE** a) The HAPC training courses for Rowena, Sue and Bruce had been confirmed (with the help of Sue).

b) Steve Clark had circulated details of community asset registration, in particular Step 2 of the process ‘Prepare your group bid’. Council agreed to discuss this at the next PC Meeting. *ACTION: SC*

c) The Friends of Corhampton Church AGM will be held on Monday 31st of March 2014 at 7pm at the Meon Hall when Carezza Lewis will be the speaker.

d) HCC is holding a ‘Superfast Broadband Programme Community Information Event on 1st April from 5 – 7pm at the Castle Winchester. Steve Clark and a parishioner agreed to attend. *ACTION: SC*

11. **CHAIRMAN’S BUSINESS** The Chairman requested Councillors stay after the close of the Meeting to discuss the Mayor of Winchester’s Awards.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING ~ Wednesday 5 March 2014**

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