

CORHAMPTON & MEONSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 8 January 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: Juliet Brooks (Clerk), and 4 parishioners.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Councillor Norma Bodtger WCC and Councillor Roger Huxstep HCC.
2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 04 December 2013 were approved and signed.
3. **MATTERS ARISING** The Clerk undertook to respond more fully to the parishioner concerned with roadside hedge cutting. *ACTION: Clerk*
4. **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY** . The Clerk has confirmed the date of Wednesday 23rd April 2014 with the Meon Hall Bookings Secretary. The Chairman will issue the agenda which will include items on 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** HCC/WCC Councillors - none
6. **OPEN SPACE** i) Steve Clark reported that the next phase of the work would begin when the weather improved.
ii) The Chairman has agreed to update Councillors and the Clerk with an Open Space Fund reconciliation showing funds spent and still available. *ACTION: NR*
iv) The Chairman reported that the map showing open space, etc. areas for the Open Space Strategy has been submitted to the WCC Open Space Fund Officer who had acknowledged safe receipt.
7. **FINANCE** a) The Clerk presented the financial statement and reported balances of £1375.77 in the Community Account and £10331.44 in the Scottish Widows Account.
b) Council approved payment of bills – chq

200624	Flower Pot Men	225.00
200625	Meon Hall	203.50
200626	HCC	55.80
200627	J. Morrice	30.00
200628	Just Toys Ltd.	20977.21
200629	J Brooks – Dec’13 sal + exp	359.73
200630	HMRC – PAYE	79.80

Council agreed not to pay cheque 200628 until Open Space money was received from WCC, which the Clerk is chasing with WCC. The Clerk will also submit a VAT rebate form. *ACTION: Clerk*

c) Budget and precept – the Chairman presented a revised draft budget statement to Council for the forthcoming financial year. The 2014 / 15 budget was proposed by Nick Riley and seconded by Patrick Rowe. Council agreed to adopt the budget and make a precept application for 2014 / 15 in the sum of £10,189 giving an overall Parish Budget Requirement of £10,800 including a £611 Council Tax Support Grant. The completed precept application has to be submitted to WCC by no later than 24 January 2014. *ACTION: Clerk*
8. **PLANNING** Freeland Cottage High Street SDNP/13/05255/TPO (no c) - ongoing
New application: Playground trees SDNP/13/05917/TCA – Council agreed no comment
Other: 1) Affordable housing – ongoing.
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 talking with the MP’s office about this ongoing situation. *ACTION: PR*
Council agreed to write 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. *ACTION: Clerk*

4) Parishioners with a boundary fence / hedge next to the playground have contacted the Clerk requesting Council's approval to reduce the height of the largest ash tree by crown reducing it by 4m. Council agreed that they can go ahead and apply, with PC permission as it's a PC owned playground tree, provided the planning permission, as it is in a Conservation Area, and the actual crown lifting is totally at their cost. Council also require that they employ a suitably qualified and insured contractor, have regard to public safety, and that they protect the playground and accept responsibility for any damage to the playground, that they accept responsibility for any other damage to the tree and other trees in the hedge, and remove all arisings from the playground.

ACTION: Clerk

9. a) **PLAYGROUND** Steve Clark agreed to obtain further quotes from suppliers of bonded mulch surfaces for the Chapel Road play area and report back.

ACTION: SC

b) **RECREATION GROUND** i) Tenders were sent out to find a new contractor to undertake the mowing and maintenance of the recreation ground from the start of the next season. Only one tender has been received so far, and the Chairman undertook to chase a further response.

ACTION: NR

ii) A parishioner has complained about dog fouling at the recreation ground, particularly around the new play equipment. A Councillor cleaned the piece of equipment, and Council reiterated that it understands the frustration of parishioners with irresponsible owners.

iii) It was reported that the recently installed binoculars to the play ship had been broken and removed by vandals. Steve Clark undertook to contact the contractors and seek a replacement part for the equipment.

ACTION: SC

c) **MEON HALL** Nil

d) **LENGTHSMAN UPDATE** James Morrice reported to Council on latest works carried out by the team.

e) **FLOODING** Bruce Horn and John Shaw reported to Council. It was reported to council that a culvert under the A32 seems to be blocked, and Bruce Horn agreed to investigate.

ACTION: BH

f) **TREE WARDEN** Nil

g) **HEDGES / VERGES** The Clerk agreed to respond more fully to the owner of hedges in Chapel Road.

ACTION: Clerk

h) **RURAL TRANSPORT** Nil

i) **FOOTPATHS** Nil

j) **HIGHWAY MATTERS** 1) speed / noise nuisance on A32 – Sue Walker continues to establish contacts with neighbouring parishes, also with WDALC and HALC.

2) Sue Walker raised the matter of cycling clubs reportedly racing on local roads around the Parish, and the nuisance that this has caused some parishioners. The Chairman agreed to write to the Meon Hall Management Committee requesting that it mentions to any cycling clubs that apply for hire of the Meon Hall the need for cyclists to be courteous and obey cycling guidance documents.

ACTION: NR

10. **CORRESPONDENCE** a) The Clerk reminded Councillors about the Portsmouth Water Company works due to start on the A32.

b) Sue Walker agreed to attend the 'Parish Engagement Event' being held by HCC on Thursday 16th January at HCC Ashburton Court and report to Council at the next Meeting on any significant points raised or discussed.

ACTION: SW

11. **CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS** a) The Clerk agreed to confirm the HAPC training courses with Rowena, Sue & Bruce and submit the booking form.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Steve Clark raised the topic of community asset registration. He undertook to investigate what is involved in Step 2 of the process 'Prepare your group bid' and circulate details to all Councillors.

ACTION: SC

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

Clerk: Mrs J Brooks, 5 Leopold Drive, Bishops Waltham, SO32 1JU

Email: clerk@candm-pc.gov.uk