

## CORHAMPTON & MEONSTOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 3 September 2014 at 7.30pm in the Meon Hall Meonstoke.

**PRESENT** Chairman John Shaw, Steve Clark, Bruce Horn, Rowena Hyder, Patrick Rowe and Sue Walker.  
In attendance: Juliet Brooks (Clerk), Councillor Norma Bodtger WCC, and 6 parishioners.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** Nick Riley and Councillor Roger Huxstep HCC
2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING** The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 02 July 2014 were approved and signed.
3. **MATTERS ARISING** None
4. **TENNIS GROUP PROPOSAL** Council and parishioners further discussed this matter.
  - i) Council confirmed that money in the Open Space Fund would be available to the tennis group with the proviso that some of the Open Space Fund remains for other projects. The sum agreed at the July meeting was for Fund money in the range of £25,000 > £28,000 which would include the contribution from Exton Parish Meeting.
  - ii) The matter of a formal lease from the Parish Council was discussed. Council confirmed that a peppercorn rent would be charged. WCC has confirmed that legal fees would be recoverable under the Open Space Fund.
  - iii) The Chairman and the Clerk both reported that they had discussed this matter with the WCC Open Space Fund Officer, Stuart Dunbar-Dempsey, who has confirmed that both Forms D and E need to be submitted. The Chairman had decided it would not help matters to invite Stuart Dunbar-Dempsey to the PC September Meeting.
  - iv) The tennis group is seeking advice as to whether or not planning permission is required.
5. **REPORTS** Councillor Norma Bodtger WCC gave a brief report on matters including
  - bonfires – Councillor Bodtger confirmed that there are no WCC bye-laws governing bonfires, and that the matter is controlled by WCC Environment Department,
  - the lime tree at Corhampton Churchyard, and
  - Steynes Farm.
6. **FINANCE**
  - a) The Clerk presented the financial statement and reported balances of £2464.45 in the Community Account and £10333.93 in the Scottish Widows Account.
  - b) Council approved payment of bills –

chq	200665	Flower Pot Men	180.00
	200666	J Brooks – Jul & Aug'14 sal + exp	685.44
Approved at last Meeting	chq 200663	Steve Clark	79.27
Approved since last Meeting	chq 200664	Steve Clark	556.54
  - c) Councillor Walker had stated at the last Meeting that in her view Rupert Walker should not act as Independent Auditor for the Council. The Clerk had received further advice from the City Solicitor's department that it is permissible, and Rupert Walker kindly agreed to continue to act. The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit was now completed, and Council agreed to ratify the Annual Governance Statement 2013/2014.
  - d) The Clerk has yet to arrange to update the mandate for cheque signatures with Barclays Bank.

*ACTION: Clerk*
  - e) The difficulty of having an exact figure from WCC for the sums held in the Open Space Fund for the parish was discussed. A query was raised as to whether any money raised for Open Space since the beginning of April 2014 is being now held by South Downs National Park, or is still with WCC. The Clerk agreed to seek clarification.

*ACTION: Clerk*
7. **PLANNING**
  - i) Annex Stoke Down New Road SDNP/14/00027/LDE (no c) – ongoing
  - ii) Warners Cottage Beacon Hill Road SDNP/14/02354/FUL (no c) – refused
  - iii) Meonvale Farm Stocks Lane SDNP/14/02903/FUL – approved
  - iv) Canberra House House High Street SDNP/14/03397/TPO – split decision – crown lifting of the tree is approved but crown reduction is refused.

New application: a) land adjacent to Hawks Nest Pound Lane SDNP/14/03887/FUL – Council agreed no comment.

b) 1 The Crossways Beacon Hill Lane SDNP/14/03897/HOUS – the planning group agreed to a site visit and report back to Council. *ACTION: PR*

Other: 1) Affordable housing – ongoing – Za Rowe reported that Sovereign Housing is continuing to work towards getting satisfactory planning permission by the beginning of 2015.

2) Enforcement – Steynes Farm mobile home, etc. – despite the Chairman having contacted WCC Enforcement department and confirmed that the Parish Council agreed to take no further action in this matter, the planning departments of SDNP and WCC have yet to settle this extremely long-running case.

3) Allotments i) Patrick Rowe reported that although WCC had agreed to clear the site, including trees and stumps, and fence it, nothing has yet been done.

ii) Council considered the lease produced by WCC, also the draft site plan and copy of the land registry entry for the site. The Clerk reported that she had raised site boundary queries with the PC appointed solicitor, who is taking this up with WCC. Council confirmed its view that a lease should not be signed until WCC has fulfilled its agreed obligations, detailed above. *ACTION: Clerk*

iii) Nick Riley has not progressed the installation of a standpipe on site. *ACTION: NR*

iv) Council considered the draft tenancy agreement circulated to Councillors by the Clerk. Minor revisions will be made and a revised draft circulated. *ACTION: Clerk*

4) SDNPA local development meetings – the Chairman reported that he has raised the matter with SDNPA and that the relevant plans / documents are not yet to hand.

8. a) **PLAYGROUND** Council agreed to close the playground for the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014 to enable work to be undertaken. *ACTION: SC*

b) **RECREATION GROUND** i) James Morrice had reported that the chain link fence at the MUGA is in need of repair. Council agreed to ask Nick Riley to look into this matter. *ACTION: NR/ Clerk*

ii) Reports of bad language during football matches had been received. Council agreed to ask Nick Riley to look into this. *ACTION: NR*

iii) Steve Clark undertook to forward to the Clerk details of who at WCC to thank for the recent successful rounders sessions. *ACTION: SC / Clerk*

c) **MEON HALL** i) James Morrice reported that the transfer of the lease is taking longer than envisaged. Consequently there will be a delay in work taking place on the Main Hall ceiling which it is hoped will begin in February 2015. There will also be a delay in requesting the agreed grant of £1000 be paid by Council, but the work will take place in this financial year.

ii) Work on trimming the trees in Frys Lane has taken place, and Council agreed to give a grant of £200 to the Meon Hall towards this.

d) **LENGTHSMAN UPDATE** James Morrice reported to Council.

e) **FLOODING** The Chairman reported on the email received from the Environment Agency concerning actions undertaken by the Agency regarding annual maintenance and clearance work as recommended in the Halcrow Reports in 2003/2006 for both the main river and the Winterbourne. Council expressed concern with the response from the Agency, and with the accuracy of the map produced. The Chairman undertook to arrange a meeting with the Environment Agency to seek clarification / answers. *ACTION: BH/JS/Clerk*

f) **TREE WARDEN** Nil

g) **HEDGES / VERGES** The Chairman has contacted act the landowner concerned about the need for trimming hedges in Allens Lane, and has also to contacted WCC over the need to trim hedges at St Andrews Green. ( now trimmed)

*ACTION: JS*

h) **RURAL TRANSPORT** Nil

i) **FOOTPATHS** 1) Work on improvements to the ‘Meon Valley Trail’ appears to have stopped. Rowena Hyder undertook to contact David Dean on this matter, and to contact neighbouring parishes to seek their views. *ACTION: RH*

2) Rowena reported on the condition of the hedges on the Allens Lane footpath to the churchyard, and agreed to contact the relevant parties. *ACTION: RH*

j) **HIGHWAY MATTERS** 1) The poor condition of the surface around the water hydrant in Frys Lane was raised. The Chairman undertook to raise this with Hampshire Highways. *ACTION: JS*

2) Following the water main works at Corhampton, the poor condition of the road side as left by the contractors was raised. The Chairman has already raised this with Hampshire Highways.

k) **PACT / HALC / WDALC** Minutes of the recent PACT meeting have been circulated. The next meeting is to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014.

9. **COMMUNITY ASSET REGISTRATION** The Clerk has submitted a map showing boundary details for the Bucks Head pub to WCC. The Clerk agreed to pursue this outstanding matter with WCC.

*ACTION: Clerk*

10. **PARKING AT THE SHOP AND ENTRANCE TO St ANDREWS GREEN** Hampshire Highways had produced a drawing of the area with proposed extra parking places, and although intimating that this would not be too onerous to achieve, had reported that budget constraints would mean this would not be top of their agenda. The Chairman agreed to raise this with Councillor Roger Huxstep HCC. *ACTION: JS*

11. **BROADBAND** Ongoing

12. **COMMUNICATIONS** The Chairman had put a notice in the Bridge Magazine and on the notice boards asking parishioners to contact Council with suggestions on how communications could be improved between Council and parishioners, and had received few responses.

The Chairman proposed updating the web-site, and undertook to investigate how this might be achieved.

*ACTION: JS*

13. **CORRESPONDENCE** An email has been received from a parishioner concerning the lighting of bonfires. Councillor Bodtger had confirmed that there are no WCC bye-laws governing this. Council expressed the hope that good-neighbourliness would prevail.

12. **CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS** Rowena Hyder raised the question of the preservation of trees, and was informed that if trees are not in the conservation area, or are not the subject of a tree preservation order, there is nothing that can be done about felling.

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING ~ Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>. Octobert 2014 ~ 7.30pm**

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

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