

## Southwick & Widley Parish Council

### Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Montgomery Room, D-day Memorial Hall, Southwick on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 at 7.30pm

#### Present:

Mr J. Watson (Chairman) in the Chair  
Mr B. Welch  
Mrs C Hatcher  
Mrs J. Houghton  
Mrs S West  
Mr A Hinton  
Mr F. Bunyan  
Mr N. Cutler  
Mr A Richards

#### Also present:

County Councillor P Stallard

#### In attendance:-

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council.

#### 13.024 Apologies for absence: Reverend Green

**13.025 The Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** - Proposed Mr A Hinton, seconded Mrs C Hatcher and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2013 should be signed as a true and accurate record.

#### 13.026 Matters Arising:

- i) Mr Watson said that he would handle matters arising in the order that they appear on the agenda.

#### 13.027 Public Participation:

- i) County Councillor Stallard
  - a) Attended the meeting and also provided a written report see Appendix A.
  - b) Informed the meeting that the County Council had frozen the Council Tax at last years level.

Mr Watson thanked County Councillor Stallard for providing a grant for the D-Day Memorial Hall to replace its curtains.

- c) Mr Welch said that he had been asked by resident to report that the garages in Norton Close are looking untidy.

Mr Cutler said that he would look into it in his capacity as District Councillor.

- ii) Mr Cutler – Reporting as District Councillor
  - a) Informed the meeting that Winchester City Council had also frozen its proportion of the Council Tax although this action would mean that there will be a forecasted loss in the next financial year of one-million pounds with a further predicted loss of two and a half million pounds in the 2014/15 financial year.
  - b) Had attended training sessions: the first on the implications that benefit changes will have on Winchester City Council, particularly housing benefits and the bedroom tax. The second training session was on the planning process: other than requiring a few amendments the Local Plan Part 1 has been approved by the Planning Executive and Part 2 is being discussed on the 20<sup>th</sup> February.
  - c) Mrs Houghton asked about the increase in the Parish Precept which has been reported as over twelve per cent.

The Clerk said that he had been informed by Winchester City Council that the Parish Council would receive a Council Tax Support Grant of £1,527.69; therefore the actual precept requested was increased from last year's Precept by only £2.31 which equates to an increase of 0.016%.

The Clerk said that he would talk to Winchester City Council to sort out the confusion.

- iii) Mr Watson said that due to other commitments, Simon Hayes Independent Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire Constabulary cannot attend the Parish Assembly.
- iv) Mr Cutler said that he had found out that the footpath reported as being overgrown and almost inaccessible as reported in minutes: 13.009 ii) and 13.016 v); is owned by Hampshire County Council.

Mr Watson asked Mr Cutler to invite a County Council Highway Engineer to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the problem.

**13.028 Community Safety: -**

- i) PCSO's Barry Towler did not attend the meeting.
- ii) Mr Richards reported that drifting had started up again.

Mr Hinton said that the guard on-duty at Southwick Park had been going down and taking registration numbers.

Mr Watson asked everyone to be vigilant and report all incidents of drifting immediately to the Police.

**13.029 Correspondence** – Most of the correspondence had been issued to the Councillors prior to the meeting. Additional correspondence not issued.

- i) Winchester City Council – West of Waterlooville Forum Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 – Mr Watson to attend
- ii) Portsmouth City Council – Achieving Employment and Skills Plans: Draft Supplementary Planning Document. - Noted

**13.030 Playing field matters:**

- i) Mr Watson reported that a hog roast van which was catering for a wedding reception held at the D-day Memorial Hall had got stuck in the Playing Field and had caused some damage. The bride had paid £30.00 as compensation to repair the damage and Mr Watson said that the matter is now closed.

Mr Watson asked that in the light of this experience whether future users of the Playing Field should be asked to pay a deposit that is fully refundable if no damage has occurred.

Proposed Mrs Houghton seconded Mr Welch and unanimously agreed that the future users of the Playing Field should be asked to pay a deposit of £50.00 refundable in full if no damage has occurred or clearing up is required.

- ii) Mr Watson said that two quotations had been received for the children's play equipment replacement project and that the working party would be examining them.

Mr Welch said that in one of the quotation the play equipment would only be suitable for younger children and that older children would not be catered for.

- iii) Mr Watson said that he is still progressing the fencing contract.

**13.031 Street Lighting Matters:**

- i) It was reported that light number 10 is not working. Mr Watson said that he had reported this to SEC Contracting.

**13.032 Roads & Highway matters: - Nothing**

**13.033 Planning Matters: - Nothing**

**13.034 Members business:**

- i) Mr Cutler said that he has received information that SEC wants to build a solar park on three sites at Southwick covering in total 160 acres so the Parish Council will be receiving a planning application.

Mr Cutler said that the proposed land although designated as agricultural land can be used as a solar park because the structure is classed as temporary with a life expectancy of only twenty years, and after this time it can be returned back to agricultural land.

- ii) Mr Watson said that he has approached the Southwick Estate about creating a local gap. He said that the Estate had assured him that a gap is not needed because they own all the land and give assurance that they will not allow building.
- iii) Mr Richards said that two years ago John Cooper was looking to create a cyber café in the local shop and that he had been approached by its present owner to see if this is still a possibility and if it is what grants are available.

Mr Cutler said he would investigate what grants are available.

- iv) Mr Welch asked when the tin can re-cycle bin on the car park will be emptied as it overflowing onto the car park.

Mr Richards said that the re-cycling team will not empty the bin because it has been cross contaminated with glass.

Mr Cutler said that he would speak to the Refuse Collection Service at Winchester City Council.

- v) Mr Welch asked where the money would be coming from to pay for the proposed children's play equipment replacement scheme.

Mr Watson said that there will be multi stages to go through with the play equipment project, the early stage developing what items of equipment are required. Once the early stages have been completed and the cost established then financing the project will be looked at. He said that it is pointless looking at obtaining the finances before we know how much the project will cost.

- vi) Mr Watson reminded everyone that the West of Waterlooville Forum meeting will be held in the D-Day Memorial Hall on Friday.

### 13.035 Orders for Payment:

- i) Section 137 Grants:  
Propose Mrs Houghton, seconded Mrs Hatcher and unanimously agreed that the following Section 137 grants should be made:  
St. James Church yard maintenance      £200.00  
Parish Magazine      £100.00
- ii) Proposed Mrs Houghton seconded Mr Welch and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should pay its bills:

### Cheque List March 2013

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
679	001182	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	54.72	0.00	54.72
680	001183	Southern Electric Contracting	Street Lighting	88.40	17.68	106.08
683	001184	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Mileage)	8.08	0.00	8.08
682	001184	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
681	001184	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	193.93	0.00	193.93
684	001185	HM Customs and Inland	HM Customs & Inland Revenue	48.40	0.00	48.40
685	001186	Hampshire County Council	Taxi Share Scheme	255.71	0.00	255.71
<b>Totals Paid</b>				<b>649.24</b>	<b>17.68</b>	<b>666.92</b>

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

### 13.036 Any Other Business:

- i) The Parish Lengthsman Scheme being run by Hampshire County Council was discussed particularly with a view to use it to get the village ditches cleared.

County Councillor Stallard suggested that the clerk should check with either Hampshire Executive Member for the Environment and or Hampshire Associations of Local Councils.

### Date of the next meetings:

**Council Meeting:** 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013

**Annual Parish Assembly:** 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013

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13.027 Public Participation:

i) County Councillor Stallard

1. Funding for Voluntary Groups

**Hampshire County Council has recently awarded more than £1million to voluntary groups and organisations across the County to help improve the wellbeing of Hampshire residents. Grants totalling £1,004,509 have been given to six key organisations: Community Action Hampshire (£262,748); Councils for Voluntary Service (£515,683); Hampshire Association for Local Councils (£70,000); Winchester & District Relate (£25,099); Victim Support (£14,255) and Citizens Advice Hampshire (£116,724). A further charity, the Solent Sea-Rescue Organisation has received a lifeline grant of £41,500.**

2. Illegal Sales of Tobacco

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March was national “No Smoking Day” and Hampshire County Council Trading Standards Officers have reported that an increasing number of shops in Hampshire have been found selling cigarettes to children. In test purchases carried out by Trading Standards’ underage volunteers, 5 shops out of 19, in Basingstoke, Chandler’s Ford, Havant, Totton and Winchester did not challenge the age of the young person who was attempting to buy cigarettes.**

**The maximum fine for selling tobacco to under 18’s is £2,500 and for persistent selling, shops and staff can be banned from sales for up to 12 months. Underage sales of tobacco is a priority for Hampshire County Council’s Trading Standards Officers and they are therefore urging the public to get in touch if they are aware of underage sales across Hampshire. People can contact Trading Standards via the Citizens Advice Consumer Service by calling 08454 04 05 06 or by emailing [underage.sales@hants.gov.uk](mailto:underage.sales@hants.gov.uk)**

3. Moped loan scheme for young people

**Hampshire County Council has agreed funding to extend “Wheels to Work,” a moped loan scheme operated to give 16-25 year olds the independent means to be able to get to work, vocational training courses or interviews. The focus for “Wheels to Work” is to help those who live in areas that have limited public transport services, cannot afford their own car and have no other transport options. Fully taxed and insured 50cc mopeds can be hired for £15 per week per moped, for between three to 12 months.**

**In the interest of safety, all hirers have to complete compulsory basic training, and are given a high visibility jacket, gloves and helmet - all of which are provided under the scheme. Included in the terms is an exit plan which is agreed with the moped borrower and, in some cases, can make provision for him or her to save up to buy their own transport. To find out more about the Wheels to Work scheme contact 0845 521 6405**

4. Climate Week Award

***Insulate Hampshire* has won the “Best Local Initiative” category in the 2013 Climate Week Awards, beating competition from three other finalists: the Lake District National Park Authority, Greater London Authority and the London Borough of Camden. The Climate Week Awards consider the work of the United Kingdom’s most innovative, effective, and ambitious organisations, communities and individuals to combat climate change. The Awards recognise the most inspirational projects and initiatives from all across Britain.**

**The *Insulate Hampshire* scheme has been responsible for installing over 18,600 insulation measures in Hampshire homes. As a result, Hampshire residents are expected to collectively save over £91 million in fuel bill savings and over 9,000 tonnes of CO2 over the lifespan of their insulation measures.**

**5. Early years communication support in Children's Centres**

**Children with speech and language difficulties will benefit from specialist support now available through Hampshire County Council's Children's Centres. Working closely with the NHS speech and language therapy services to support individual children a team of professionals will also help parents and Children's Centre staff to better support children's communication development and ensure they have a language rich environment. The team is part of just under £1m committed to improve and develop speech and language support services added to this year's HCC budget and will be delivered through Hampshire's Children's Centres from 81 locations around the County.**

**6. Parish Lengthsman Scheme**

**A successful Parish Lengthsman trial in Hampshire has led to the development of the scheme for rolling out in other areas of the County and a proposal to extend the scheme to 43 parishes. The role of the Parish Lengthsman has been re-introduced to give local communities more say in the upkeep of their surroundings and to play an active role in the highways service to improve village environments.**

**In the initial trial, 10 Parish Councils in Meon Valley and Test Valley were given a budget of £1,000 each for work such as minor drainage clearance, grass clearance from the back of footways and sign cleaning. Other Parishes in the New Forest and Winchester District joined the trial in its second year.**

**While there is some flexibility in how each Parish can operate its Parish Lengthsman service, the main principle is that small highways jobs can be locally managed and carried out more efficiently by employing a dedicated resource. Parishes can either employ their own Lengthsman or commission a Lengthsman service from the County Council's highways maintenance contractor, Amey.**

**7. Secondary School Choice**

**The County's schools admissions service has been able to offer 99.5% of parents a place for their child at a school of their choice - with 96.2% getting their first preferred school, around 10% higher than the national averages released by the Department for Education last year. The numbers getting a school of their choice is a record high. In total the service handled just over 13,000 on-time applications for Hampshire secondary schools. The admissions team is now handling the primary school applications with offers due to go out on 16 April. In total the department will have dealt with 33,000 applications this year for children who are either starting primary or secondary school or transferring from infant to junior school.**

**Patricia Stallard  
Winchester Southern Parishes**