

Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Berewood Primary School, West of Waterlooville, on Tuesday 11th November, 2014 at 7.30pm

Present:

Mr J. Watson in the Chair
Mr B. Welch
Mrs J. Houghton
Mrs S. West
Mr A. Richards
Mr G. Clark
Mrs C Hatcher
Mr A Hinton
Mr N. Cutler

Co-opt Members:

County Councillor P Stallard
Major R Horsman – Southwick Park

In attendance:-

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council.

14.121 Apologies for absence: Reverend R Green and PCSO B Towler.

14.122 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 21st October 2014 should be signed as a true and accurate record.

14.123 Co-opt Council Advisors:- Proposed Mr Watson seconded Mrs West and unanimously agreed that County Councillor Stallard and Major Horsman should be co-opted as advisors onto the Parish Council.

14.124 Matters Arising:

- i) Mr Watson asked that matters arising be raised at the appropriate point on the agenda.

14.125 Public Participation:

- i) County Councillor Stallard:
 - a) County Councillor Stallard presented her written report see Appendix A.
 - b) Addition points she raised at the meeting:- County Councillor Stallard drew the Council's attention to item 3 on her report; Concessionary Travel Scheme 2015/2016. She said that the present arrangements which allowed bus pass holders to travel on the buses after 9:00am is being amended in line with the national standard of 9:30am and this change will save approximately £300,000.

Mr Cutler said that the Parish Council's Shared Taxi Scheme is not well used and should be investigated to see whether savings could be made by reducing the service.

Mr Watson said that he would get the usage statistics and bring them to a future meeting.

- ii) Mr N Cutler:
 - a) In his capacity as District Councillor informed the Parish Council that Winchester City Council, due to cutback in subsidies from the government, is looking at its Capital Projects Strategy,
 - b) He said that Winchester City Council had met to draw up its proposal to the Boundary Commission on its electoral review of Winchester; however because of lack of commitment by Councillors could only put forward suggestions.

Mr Watson presented the Parish Council's proposals to the Boundary Commission which is printed in full in Appendix B.

14.126 Community Safety: -

- i) Mr Cutler said that there had been a lot of complaints about motorcycles racing through Boarhunt but had received no complaints about drifting.
- ii) Mr Clark said that the drifters had changed their strategy from group drifting around the roundabout to an individual vehicle drifting once round the roundabout and then speeding away. This is making it harder to report the offenders. He feels that it would be better if Southwick was policed from Fareham rather than Bishops Waltham.

Mr Watson said that he has arranged to have the CCTV camera installed by SEC Contracting.

14.127 Correspondence – All of the correspondence had been issued to the Councillors prior to the meeting.

14.128 Playing field matters:

- i) Mrs Hatcher said the sub-committee had met to discuss Fenland Leisure Products quotation for the children's play area to re-furbish 4 of the 6 units of equipment and install two new major units for older children and a group of 3 'toddler' units.

Proposed Mr Watson seconded Mrs Hatcher and unanimously agreed that the Fenlands Leisure Products quotation be accepted in principal and that the Parish Council moves onto how to finance the project.

Mr Watson said that he would apply to see what grants the Parish Council can get.

The Council gave a vote of thanks to the sub-committee for the sterling work that it had done.

14.129 Street Lighting Matters:

- i) Mrs Houghton reported that although reported on several occasions light number 14 is still not working.
The Clerk said that he had reported the fault for a third time earlier in the day.
- ii) Lamp No 1 on Southwick Park was reported as not working. Major Horsman said that they are aware of this but have been unable to do anything about it because of the bad weather.

14.130 Roads & Highway matters:

- iii) The Clerk was asked to formally write to Winchester City Council requesting that they arrange for the removal of the Floral Tributes, placed at the scene of a fatal accident on the B2177 in December 2013.

Mr Cutler said that he would chase the clearance up with Winchester City Council

- iv) Mr Watson spoke about the Southwick: High Street/Priory Road Junction – proposal to install a mini-roundabout.

The Clerk was asked to reply saying that the Parish Council agrees to the proposal.

- v) The Clerk was asked to report the drains that are blocked between Castle Farm and Boulter Lane.
- vi) Major Horsman reported that the Southwick Park will be pruning trees on its land that are overhanging the public highway

14.131 Planning Matters:

- i) One planning application had been received:
W No: W20578/03 Case No: 14/02486/FUL
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Steven Allen
Proposal: Conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to a single dwelling together with associated alterations and landscaping.
Location: Cutlers Farm Newlands Lane Purbrook Waterlooville Hampshire PO7 6TN

Mr Cutler briefed the Parish Council about the application.

Concern was expressed by Parish Councillors about the effects the application would have on the wildlife in particular the nesting of birds such as swallows and owls.

Mr Watson asked the Councillors present to think about what the Parish Council's response should be and to let him know so that he could collate their comments.

- iii) Mr Cutler raised the sixteen temporary portacabins that had been built on land between Creech Farm and Creech Wood for housing foreign workers employed on building the new Solar Farm.

Mr Watson said that he would write to Winchester City Council Planning to get advice.

14.132 Members Business:

- i) Mr Watson said that as this is the first meeting held in the Berewood Primary and asked what Councillors wanted to do about future meetings.

It was unanimously agreed that three meetings each year should be held in the Berewood Primary School in February, July and November.

- ii) Mr Watson said that he had got a quote for a notice board for the West of Waterlooville and that Grangers Plc had agreed to put it up free of charge.

Mr Watson was given delegated authority to proceed.

14.133 Orders for Payment:

- i) Proposed Mr Clark, seconded Mr A Richards and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should pay its bills:

Cheque List November 2014

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
880	001312	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	232.60	0.00	232.60
879	001312	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
878	001312	PC World (Paid to Clerk)	Stationery	24.99	5.00	29.99
877	001312	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Postage)	19.67	0.00	19.67
876	001312	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Mileage)	8.08	0.00	8.08
881	001313	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks Tax	58.20	0.00	58.20
883	001314	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	63.10	0.00	63.10
882	001314	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	39.00	0.00	39.00
884	001315	Southern Electric Contracting	Street Lighting	555.68	111.14	666.82
885	001316	Panache Travel Ltd	Administration	320.00	0.00	320.00
Totals Paid				1341.32	116.14	1457.46

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Date of the next meetings: 9th December 2014

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14.125 Public Participation:

iii) County Councillor Stallard:

1) Top for Highways Maintenance

Hampshire County Council has come out top of all County Councils in a national survey of residents' satisfaction with local Highway Maintenance services. It also took the top spot in satisfaction with street lighting and highway enforcement, second in winter maintenance, and third in satisfaction with the overall condition of the highways.

Hampshire also ranked high, coming fifth out of all County Councils for its scores in all highways and transport issues which included highways, tackling congestion, public transport, walking and cycling, and road safety in the National Highways and Transport (NHT) Public Satisfaction Survey 2014.

This is the seventh year of the survey where residents were asked their views on a number of key issues, with 78 local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales taking part. Hampshire County Council has taken part in the survey since it started in 2008, one of 26 authorities to do so.

2) Financial Update

Like all other Local Authorities the County Council has to make significant savings and has consequently drawn up programmes to achieve savings of £102 million by March 2015 and another £100 million by 31st March 2017. New initiatives and service re-design are being explored to maintain levels of service but it is anticipated that Council tax will remain at zero.

3) Concessionary Travel Scheme 2015/2016

Hampshire County Council acquired responsibility for the administration of concessionary travel in April 2011 at an annual cost of £13.5 million. The published scheme is updated annually and on 27th October 2014 the Executive Member for Transport gave approval for the scheme to be published and implemented from April 2015.

Since it commenced, the Hampshire scheme has incorporated a number of enhancements for those people with disabilities. On 24 February 2011, the County Council approved the extension from 0930 to 0900 for older persons. However, it has now been approved to discontinue the 0900-0930 Monday to Friday extension to the older person's pass from the start of 2015/2016 scheme as this will deliver an estimated saving of £300,000.

The concessionary travel scheme will still enable -

- **Free** travel at all times for Disabled Hampshire Pass holders on journeys commencing in Hampshire to destinations in England
- **Companion** – The Scheme will allow certain Hampshire pass holders who have been issued with a 'Companion pass' to be accompanied by a companion who is eligible for the same free travel benefits as the pass holder. The companion may be anyone whom the pass holder considers appropriate to provide assistance
- **Half Fare Travel** on Community Transport Services such as Dial-a-Ride and Call&Go providing that the pass holder meets all relevant eligibility criteria; and
- **Alternative Discretions** - Travel vouchers worth £32 are offered as an alternative concession for those entitled to a disabled person's pass. These are only valid on participating taxis, voluntary car schemes, Dial-a-Ride and Call&Go.

The move from 0900 to 0930 will affect 22 journeys on infrequent routes across 245 services, both commercial and subsidised, in Hampshire. For those specific journeys where there is currently a departure between 0900 and 0929 and no further journey until 1031 or later, passes would be allowed from 0900 on those specific journeys. No changes are proposed for those eligible for a disabled person's pass which allows travel at all times.

Patricia Stallard
County Councillor for Winchester Southern Parishes
[Denmead, Boarhunt, Southwick, Wickham, Knowle, Whiteley]

Southwick and Widley Parish Council

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28th November 2014

To: The Review Officer (Winchester)
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sirs,

Review of Ward Boundaries in Winchester City Council (WCC) District

The Parish Councillors for Southwick & Widley have been examining the potential impact of the Boundary Commission's Review and have used figures from their Web Site as the basis for our comments and observations.

Southwick & Widley Electoral District

Southwick & Widley (Polling District XW), currently form half of the electoral ward of Boarhunt and Southwick (WG & XW), both being predominantly rural farming areas and villages with a total electorate of 1064. However, Southwick & Widley Parish also extends to the MDA known as the West of Waterlooville and is responsible for just over 75% of the development area, which has outline planning permission to develop over 3,500 dwellings. Indeed, the projected Electorate for 2020 is determined to be 3,284 and is of course dependent upon market conditions being favourable. It is the view of Southwick & Widley Parish that this projection figure is optimistic as a target for 2020; however, it could be achieved by 2024.

Future requirements

We have taken account of the indication that WCC will reduce the number of Ward Councillors to around 45 in number, constituting geographical groups of 3 member wards, each with around 6,500 to form the basis for new ward electorate areas.

Options for Southwick & Widley Parish

Standing Alone is not a realistic argument for Southwick & Widley, our electorate projections only justify 1.5 Ward Councillors and we would not therefore put forward this as a proposition.

Alignment with Denmead Parish, with whom we already work closely, could initially appear appealing until consideration is given to the 2020 electorate projections, when it becomes clear that the total combination of both Parishes would exceed 9,500 electors. Our conclusion for this option is in support of that proposed by Denmead Parish; that by 2020 Denmead will have a total electorate of over 6,600,

enough to justify its continued existence as a three member ward in its own right, and should maintain its current social cohesion.

Alignment with Wickham Parish was also suggested and considered by this Council. But a ward extending some 10 miles in length from Waterlooville to Shedfield would not be practical to administer effectively with such a diversification in sociological components. Whilst the potential electorate numbers of 6756 might meet the desired target we concluded that effective representation of the needs and wishes of the inhabitants of the villages of Southwick & Boarhunt would not be met fairly.

Alignment of Swanmore and Newtown with Boarhunt and Southwick appears to be the most compelling option for our Council. Linking the Parishes of Southwick & Widley, Boarhunt, Soberton and Swanmore would establish a potential electorate totaling 7187, using the figures provided by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. But, if the West of Waterlooville MDA grows at its current rate, that figure would only reach just under 6000 by the year 2020. Furthermore, this alignment of existing Parishes would retain a common historic heritage associated with the Southwick Estate and establish a single ward with common interests.

Retain Southwick & Widley and Boarhunt Parishes as a Two Member Ward because of the special factors associated with the West of Waterlooville MDA. This Council strongly supports the suggestion proposed by Denmead Parish Council, in that there are special considerations to justify a two member ward option for the Ward of Boarhunt and Southwick. This slowly expanding development (part of the Southwick electoral district XW) will take over a decade to reach completion. Initially it is the view of this Council (and shared by Denmead Council) that the area of the MDA will best develop alongside the existing Boarhunt and Southwick as a two member ward whilst a 'shadow' Parish Council for the MDA is promoted and developed by both Denmead and Southwick & Widley Parish Councils.

Special Factors to Consider

Southwick & Widley as Part of the Major Development Area is a special and significant factor that must be considered in all future decisions. The new development being built West of Waterlooville will have just over 80% of its geography placed within Winchester City district and 75% (of that 80%) forms part of Southwick & Widley Parish. We have worked closely with Denmead Parish Council (who cover the remaining 25% - of the 80%) and are convinced that the demographic of the MDA will require its own representation of interests and could conceivably become a Parish in its own right in due time. With this in mind and with the recognition and approval of Winchester City Council, a group of Denmead and Southwick & Widley Parish Councillors, already exists in the form of the West of Waterlooville Advisory Group. They have co-opted residents from both the Taylor Wimpey and Grainger building development areas, together with appropriate Ward Councillors, County Councillor and interested Council Officers to promote the interests of the new community that is emerging. We see this as a key step to creating transitional management over what could be a ten year period before the MDA has sufficient numbers of electorate to become ready to stand alone as a new single Parish entity.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this Council would urge the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to make a special consideration and take the view that the interests of this area are best met by either retaining ***Southwick & Widley and Boarhunt Parishes as a Two Member Ward*** or aligning ***Swanmore and Newtown with Boarhunt and Southwick as a Three Member Ward***. But we would also wish to press the Commission to accept that its current boundary review should ensure that no

additional hurdles are placed in the way of enabling this new community (of the MDA) being represented by its own Parish Council.

Cllr James Watson
Chairman
For and on behalf of, Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Copies to: Boarhunt & Southwick Ward Councillor
 Denmead Ward Councillors
 Boarhunt Parish Council
 Denmead Parish Council
 Soberton Parish Council
 Swanmore Parish Council

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Watson", followed by a period. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Jim Watson – Chair of the Parish Council