

Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held in the Montgomery Room, D-day Memorial Hall, Southwick on Tuesday 11th February 2020 at 7.30 pm

Present:

Southwick & Widley Ward:

Mr J. Watson in the Chair

Mr A. Hinton

Mr Neil Cutler

Mr A Richards

Revd. S. Brocklehurst

Mrs P. Stallard

Mrs J. Houghton

Mr G. Clark

Also Present: District Councillor Therese Evans

In Attendance: -

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council.

20.013 Apologies for absence: Mr A. Adams, Lt. Cmdr. M. Thompson, PCSO B. Towler and District Councillor A. Clear.

20.014 The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: - Proposed Mr A. Hinton, seconded Mr A. Richards and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th January 2019 should be signed as a true and accurate record.

20.015 Matters Arising:

- i) Mr Watson asked to have “matters arising” raised at the appropriate points on the agenda.

20.016 Public Participation:

- i) Mrs Stallard, in her capacity as County Councillor, had provided a written report see Appendix A; also, she reported the following:
 - a) That the County Council have now prepared a budget and said, she will provide more details.
 - b) She asked to receive comments on the proposals for the Library Service.
 - c) The County Council is looking for volunteers amongst the male community to help as counsellors with male mental health problems.
 - d) The County Council have produced a plan to become carbon neutral.
 - e) The County Council will be providing additional funds for repairs caused by the recent spate of bad weather.
- ii) District Councillor T. Evans reported:
 - a) That Biffa had won the contract for refuse collection.
 - b) Winchester City Council is planning to be carbon neutral by the year 2024.

20.017 Community Safety:

- i) Mr Watson said he had enquired about the concerns the village has with drifting and fly-tipping and he had investigated the use of video surveillance cameras. He said that it would be legal for the Council to fit cameras and to record data provided by them.

Rev. Brocklehurst suggested that we consult with other Local Authorities to get advice about their use.
- ii) Mrs Houghton reported that a boy had gone missing last week and after a search was found in Boulter Lane.

20.018 Correspondence: Most correspondences had been issued to the Councillors before the meeting.

Correspondence not issued:

- i) Environment agency – Application – Mr Watson to read
- ii) NHS Southern Trust informing that they have vacancies for Trustees and were seeking applications from volunteers. - noted

20.019 Playing field matters:

- i) Mr Richards asked for permission to extend the grass cutting contract of PC Garden Contracts who had said that there would be a nominal increase on last years charge.

This proposal was unanimously approved.

20.020 Street Lighting Matters:

- i) Mr Watson said that BCG are working through the remedial work prioritising the most urgent work first.

20.021 Roads & Highway matters:

- i) Mr Cutler said that the warning sign on Porchester Lane had been knocked over.

Mr Watson said he would report it to Hampshire County Council.

- ii) Mr Watson had spoken to the Highway Engineer about the bank in Porchester Lane which is being eroded and that he had informed him that it is the responsibility of the Southwick Estate.

Southwick Estate has notified him that they are monitoring the situation.

20.022 Planning Matters:

- i) Rev. Brocklehurst said that planning permission to put up a plaque commemorating Robin Thistlethwayte has now been granted and work would be proceeding.

20.023 Members Business:

- i) Mr Richards asked about the gravel left by County Council Highways which is blocking the pavement in the layby?

Mrs Stallard said she would look into it.

- ii) Mr Watson said that he had explained to Winchester City Council how the Council had determined its 2020/21 Precept.
- iii) Mr Watson notified the Councillors present that this year they are up for re-election.

20.024 Approve Council's Risk Assessment

- i) Proposed Mr Cutler seconded Mr Hinton and unanimously agreed that the 2019-20 Risk Assessment should be approved.

20.025 Orders for Payment:

- i) Proposed Mr Watson, seconded Mr Hinton and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should pay its bills:

Cheque List February 2020

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
1462	001668	Ryman Stationery (Paid to	Stationery	16.65	3.33	19.98
1461	001668	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses (Mileage)	8.08	0.00	8.08
1460	001668	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
1459	001668	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	257.71	0.00	257.71
1464	001669	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Play Equipment Inspection	8.75	0.00	8.75
1463	001669	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	52.50	0.00	52.50
1466	001670	Viking Direct	Stationery	55.96	11.19	67.15
1465	001670	Viking Direct	Postage Stamps	70.00	0.00	70.00
1467	001671	BCG Electrical Services Ltd	Street Lighting	591.20	118.24	709.44
Totals Paid				1080.85	132.76	1213.61

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Date of the next meetings: 10th March 2020

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20.016 i)

1. Our Young People are Great

Final 2019 GCSE performance statistics released in February confirm that Hampshire pupils continue to perform better than their peers nationally at the end of Year 11. In Hampshire, 68.4% of pupils taking the exams achieved a pass at grade 4 in English and mathematics, compared with 66.7% last year and a national average of 64.9%. The figures are the final analysis of GCSE grades following examinations taken in 2019, adjusted to take account of the outcome of Appeals. Last year's examinations saw the final rollout of the three-year implementation of the 1 to 9 grade ratings for GCSEs - with 9 being at the very top of the scale and a pass grade being 4 or above.

Hampshire's consistently high standards in education are reflected in well over 90% of our schools being judged good or outstanding by Ofsted. Where a school requires it, Hampshire offers a very successful Schools Improvement Service to help all our schools achieve the highest possible standards.

2. Grants to the Community

More than £700,000 in grants have been awarded to community organisations across Hampshire to support vulnerable people to maintain their independence. A further £237,799 in grants is being allocated to a variety of community organisations in Basingstoke, East Hants, Fareham, Hart, Havant, New Forest and Rushmoor, as part of the Local Solutions Grant Award. These are smaller grants to organisations whose focus is to meet the needs of people in single localities, rather than across the County. Each recipient organisation has had to demonstrate how it has engaged with local people on how best to help them to stay independent. To see all grants to the community visit <http://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s43099/Decision%20Report.pdf>

3. Help shape Hampshire's Library Service for the Future

A 10-week public consultation opened in January 2020 asking Hampshire residents for their views on:

- the emerging vision for Hampshire's Libraries to 2025;
- the level of need for library services in specific local communities;
- proposed changes to the Library Service and the potential impacts;
- and any alternatives that respondents may wish to propose.

The way people use library services is changing, and we need to make sure our services evolve to meet these needs. At the same time, we are facing an anticipated budget shortfall of £80 million by April 2021 and are having to look across all of the County Council's services to find savings which can help to bridge this gap as demands for services rise, particularly in social care. The Library Service is required to identify £1.76 million towards the County Council's overall savings target.

The County Council is conducting a ten-week public consultation which looks at options for delivering savings from the Library Service budget. This represents 16% of the overall budget for the service. This still means that a budget of around £10 million would remain.

As well as increasing income and improving business efficiency, the consultation includes proposals for changes to the way services are delivered. This includes options to close up to 10 council-run libraries and reduce opening hours in others. It also considers exploring better ways to deliver library services in deprived communities. No decisions will be made until all the consultation responses have been fully analysed.

The consultation is open until Wednesday 18th March 2020. Feedback received will inform decisions to be made by the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage in summer 2020. To take part in the consultation please visit www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation or fill in a printed copy from any Hampshire County Council library.

4. Looking for 60 Men!

Hampshire County Council is inviting up to 60 individuals who are interested in leading local men's groups across the County to come forward to help with an initiative which aims to connect men in order to support better physical and mental health.

Hampshire charity [Community First](#) has been appointed by Hampshire County Council to manage a dedicated men's leadership project to help men set up or run groups in their local community. Whether you are a member of an existing men's club or are interested in setting up a new one, this project is designed to give men the confidence and skills to bring together men of all ages to share interests, activities and friendship. The initiative is part of the Hampshire County Council funded [Men's Activity Network](#) in Hampshire which provides resources, funding and skills-sharing to support men to connect through community groups. Research shows that men's groups can have significant benefits to men's overall health and wellbeing, as they provide somewhere for men to meet and participate in a skill or activity together, pop in for a chat, and find out about local services, thereby addressing issues such as loneliness and depression.

Anyone interested in finding out about the men's leadership project should get in touch via stepbystep@cfirst.org.uk. The project will run until December 2020, targeting areas where men's groups could be of particular benefit in each of Hampshire's 11 district areas.

5. Our Commitment to Zero Carbon

A programme of tree and wildflower planting on highways land and verges in Hampshire will be part of a climate change action plan, as we press forward with a commitment to carbon neutrality for the County.

The action plan covers all direct and indirect carbon emissions from the County Council's own activities – such as fuel, energy and waste. These activities account for around one per cent of all carbon emissions for the county of Hampshire. Therefore, the plan sets a target for Hampshire as a whole, which aligns with the national Government target of 2050. The Cabinet has agreed all recommendations in the report, including revoking the policy prohibiting consideration of wind turbines on County Council land, and establishing a programme of tree and wildflower planting on highways land and verges.

Hampshire County Council has taken an innovative and long-term approach to reducing carbon emissions from its estate and assets since Cabinet approved a Strategic Plan in July 2010. The original targets set for the Council's buildings, street lighting and business travel at that stage were: a. Phase 1 20% reduction by 2015. Phase 2 40% by 2025. Carbon Neutral by 2050. Over the last 9 years, a significant reduction of over 43% has been achieved. The first phase target was exceeded, and the second phase target achieved early in 2018 – 7 years early. Members have approved a new stretching target of 50% by 2025. Progress to date would indicate confidence that that can be achieved. Carbon emission reductions of 21,800 tonnes of carbon have been delivered to date – equivalent to planting a forest of trees covering 8,700 acres or 4,300 football pitches. Phase 1 of the Plan achieved energy savings of around £30million including reductions in the school estate. Phase 2 has achieved a further £1.96million in the County Council's corporate estate and street lighting. In addition, a total of nearly £400,000 in Carbon Tax savings has been achieved.

6. Useful Contacts

Given the recent storms and bad weather, I thought you might find the following contact information useful

- Fallen trees on the highway can be reported direct to the County Council at www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems
- Fallen trees on rights of way can be reported direct to the County Council at www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/reportaproblem
- Details of flood alerts and updates are available from the [Environment Agency](#)

7. Public Health

As a Local Authority, we continue to carefully monitor the situation in Wuhan, China, alongside our colleagues in Public Health England and the NHS to ensure we are well prepared should things change. To find latest updates visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

Patricia Stallard
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