

Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Virtually on Tuesday 12th May 2020 at 7.30 pm

Present:

Southwick & Widley Ward:

Mr J. Watson in the Chair
Mr A. Hinton
Mr N Cutler
Mrs P Stallard
Mr G Clark
Rev. S. Brocklehurst

In Attendance: -

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council.

20.066 Apologies for absence: Mrs J Houghton, Mr Richards, Mr T. Parkinson, Lt. Cmdr. M. Thompson, PCSO B. Towler and District Councillors: T. Evans and A. Clear.

20.067 Election of Chairman: The Chair handed over control of the meeting to the Clerk for the election of the Chair.

The Clerk asked for nominations:

Mr Cutler nominated Mr Watson, which was seconded by Mrs Stallard.

Mr Watson said that although he was willing to stand, he felt that it would be preferable if someone else took over.

Mr Watson's nomination was unanimously agreed

Mr Watson signed the declaration of acceptance of office and took the Chair.

20.068 Election of Vice-chairman: Proposed Mr Watson, seconded Mr Cutler and unanimously agreed that Mr Hinton should be elected Vice-chairman of the Parish Council.

Mr Hinton signed the declaration of office.

20.069 Election of Finance and Management Committee: It was unanimously agreed that the following be elected onto the Finance and Management Committee: Mr Watson, Mr Clark, Mr Richards, Mrs Houghton and Mr Cutler.

20.070 Election of Cheque Signatories: It was unanimously agreed that the cheque signatories should be: Mr Watson, Mr Cutler and Mr Richards and that until the emergency is over that the Clerk is included as a signatory.

20.071 Standing Orders:

- i) Mr Cutler suggested that although the Standing Orders should be adopted, the Finance Committee should review them before the end of the year.
- ii) It was unanimously agreed that the Standing Orders should be adopted.

20.072 Financial regulations: It was unanimously agreed that the Financial Regulation should be adopted.

20.073 Financial Risk Assessment: It was unanimously agreed that the Financial Risk Assessment should be adopted.

20.074 The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: - Proposed Mrs P Stallard seconded Mr N Cutler and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 21st April 2019 should be signed as a true and accurate record.

20.075 Matters Arising:

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

20.076 Public Participation:

- i) Mrs Stallard in her capacity as County Councillor:
 - a. Reported that although most care homes in Hampshire are privately owned, the County Council does have a few and that she had hoped to provide details of the number that had died from COVID-19 in them. Unfortunately, she could not obtain these figures but added that she could confirm that all Hampshire owned care homes have always been provided with an adequate supply of Personal Protection Equipment.
 - b. She also has responsibility for Children and Young People, and as anticipated, they are getting more referrals from their telephone service and Police about domestic violence; this has resulted in having to take more young people into care. This surge was expected and has been handled by taking on more staff and transferring existing staff.
 - c. Because working with children and young people means everything they do is highly accountable, she is pleased to say that they have achieved all statutory government targets.
 - d. Alongside this workload, she is also part of the team responsible for the allocation of applications for school places. So as well as her other responsibilities of dealing with the Covid-19, refugees, safeguarding children's issues and placing children in care, her team has also had to deal with 22,500 school application forms which have had to be processed ready for when the schools start in September.
 - e. School extensions and building plans are continuing and are all on target for the scheduled completion date of September.
 - f. The County Council is under pressure from critical workers, who are struggling to get child care. Most child care is in the private sector, which, due to Covid-19, are closed.

The County Council has managed to negotiate agreements with Child Minders to stay open in selected areas. The problem is that critical workers who have a contract with a Child Mending Agency are having to pay even though the service is not being provided. To offset this what the County Council is doing to this is to pay the childminding fees.

The Councillors present expressed concerns that the Child Minding Organisations after receiving a substantial Government grant and furloughing its staff are still charging parents for a service that it is not providing.

Mrs Stallard said that this she will be raising this with the Government Minister.

- g. The County Council has also set up a crisis line for 11 to 17 year old's the number for this is 0300 303 1590.
- ii) Mr Cutler in his capacity as District Councillor:
 - a. Said that Mr Watson's letter to the District Council's Chief Executive was very much appreciated. The staff at the District Council have all been working very hard, and the message was perfect for morale.
 - b. Over 80 per cent of the staff are still working mainly from home and that all services are being maintained.
 - c. The Bin collection is continuing, as usual, the exception to this is the bulk bin collection which cannot be done due to the closure of Waste Recycling Centres.
 - d. Fly-tipping has increased; however, it is hoped, that with the opening of the Waste Recycling Centres, it will reduce.
 - e. The Government gave the District Council 29 million pounds to distribute to small businesses and the hospitality sector. They have managed to allocate 80 per cent of this money. However, finding the last 400 firms that are considered eligible is proving difficult.
 - f. The District Council, because of Covid-19, is losing 1 million pounds per month. Scenario planning has shown that if lock-down ends by the end of June, they will have lost only 6 million pounds; however, if the lock-down continues then they could lose up to 12 million pounds and this is out of an 18 million pounds income.

20.077 Community Safety: PCSO B Towler had provided a written report see Appendix A.

20.078 Correspondence: All correspondence had been issued to all Councillors before the meeting.

20.079 Playing field matters:

- i) Mr Clark said that the grass on the playing-field needs cutting.

Mr Watson said that he would contact Mr Richards to see if he could get it cut.

20.080 Street Lighting Matters: Mr Watson said that Colas are coming to look at the reported problems with the street lights tomorrow.

20.081 Roads & Highway matters:

- i) Mr Watson reported:
 - a) that problems with Highways would be looked at and put right.
 - b) The traffic signs around the village are illegal and not approved, and this meant the Agency has to make a proper application for a one-way system. Then adequate public consultation will be necessary
- ii) Mr Clark reported that there are two horrendous pot-holes as you enter the village from the B2177 on the left-hand side by the bridge.

Mr Watson asked Mr Clark if he had reported them on the County Highways web-site?

Mr Clark said he had not, so Mr Watson said that he would report them.

20.081 Planning Matters: Nothing

20.082 Members Business:

- i) Mr Hinton asked that a vote of thanks, be recorded to Mr Watson and the Revival Team for the VE Day sound system and everything that was done, outside the Church.
- ii) Mr Clark also added thanks to the Rev. Brocklehurst for his service from the tower.
- iii) Mr Watson said that there should be speakers there permanently.

The Rev Brocklehurst reported that he had asked the people who did the temporary speaker installation for a quotation to get a permanent sound system.

- iv) Mr Watson reported:
 - a) There had been a lovely gesture by some RAF Sergeants. They had put together ten care parcels, to be distributed amongst the elderly and needy of the village.

Mr Watson had shared them around the village.

- b) Mr Watson said that he had received complaints about the person who arranges the Rural Running Events; because he had advertised on his web-site a run on Friday around the golf course and to ask participants to park in the village car park.

Mr Watson considered that this would constitute an illegal gathering, so he had passed it on to the Police who are going to deal with it

- v) Rev Brocklehurst reported:
 - a) that the Millenium Clock had stopped and asked if the Council was aware of this.

Mr Watson said that we are waiting for an electrician to come and move the power supply to the clock from the flat to the shop.

Rev Brocklehurst suggested that the Parish Council should pay a sum of money to the flat owner to cover the cost of electricity for the clock.

Mr Watson said that he would take this on board.

- b) Rev Brocklehurst asked whether they should get some blue foil to put over the exterior Church lights so that the Church would be lit up blue.

This Councillor gave general support to this proposal and asked the Rev Brocklehurst to get an estimate for the filter paper.

20.083 Orders for Payment:

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

Cheque List May 2020

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
1492	001683	Zoom Video Communications	Web Site	119.90	23.98	143.88
1493	001683	Crafty Arts (Paid to Clerk)	Stationery	23.87	4.77	28.64
1491	001683	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
1490	001683	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	257.71	0.00	257.71
1494	001684	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks Tax	64.40	0.00	64.40
1496	001685	National Association of Local	Administration	39.10	0.00	39.10
1495	001685	Hampshire Association of Local	Administration	256.26	0.00	256.26
1489	SO200406	Hampshire Playing Fields	Membership Fees	20.00	0.00	20.00
Totals Paid				801.24	28.75	829.99

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Date of the next meetings:

9th June 2019



Police Incident Reports

April 2020 – May 2020

- 12/04/20** **Southwick Road. Vehicle Seizure.** Disqualified driver was stopped driving and admitted driving without insurance or an MoT. Reported for Summons.
- 17/04/20** **Southwick Road. Criminal Damage.** Damage of a padlock on a sluice causing lake water level to drop.
- 18/04/20** **Southwick Road. Suspicious person.** Report via Gamekeeper whatsapp group of vehicle poaching on the Southwick estate.
- 21/04/20** **Southwick Golf Club. Attempt Theft.** Report of an attempted break in to where the golf clubs are stored on site.
- 23/04/20** **Belney Lane. Suspicious vehicles.** Online report of sus vehicles attending property.

There are reports from surrounding locations of poachers, rogue traders and suspicious vehicles scouting locations. Please be vigilant, stay safe and stay well.

*Compiled by PCSO 14916 Towler, 09/05/20
barry.towler@hampshire.pnn.police.uk*