

Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held Virtually on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 8:00 pm

Present:

Southwick & Widley Ward:

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

Also Present: District Councillors A. Clear and T. Evans

In Attendance: -

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council.

21.025 Apologies for absence: Mrs J. Houghton, Lt. Cmdr. M. Thompson and PCSO B Towler.

21.026 The Minutes of the Previous Meeting: - Proposed Mr T Parkinson seconded Mr A. Hinton and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th February 2021 should be signed as a true and accurate record.

21.027 Matters Arising:

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

21.028 Public Participation:

- i) Mrs P Stallard, in her capacity as County Councillor, had given a written report see Appendix A
- ii) District Councillor T. Evans
 - a) Winchester City Council has raised its council tax level by 3.0%, which means that a band D property will cost £147.34.
 - a) The fees and charges will increase by 3% except for garden waste and parking fees that are not increasing.
 - b) The District Council staffing level is being reduced by 27.
- iii) District Councillor A. Clear
 - a) There have been several fly-tipping incidents, which Winchester City Council are taking very seriously and, if possible, will prosecute.
- iv) Mr Cutler, in his capacity as District Councillor:
 - a) He said that he had received a complete update on the fly-tipping: previously, there had been one staff member trained to look for evidence of who had deposited it, but now all staff have been trained up, so all incidents of fly-tipping will be searched for evidence. He added that Police had washed its hands of fly-tipping

Mr Watson said that fly-tipping is a criminal offence, and it was the Police's responsibility to investigate it. He would be writing a strongly worded letter to the Police Commissioner.
- v) Mr Clark asked that a vote of thanks be given to the County and District Councillors for taking the time to attend the Parish Council meetings.

21.029 Community Safety: Nothing

21.030 Correspondence: The Councillors had received most correspondence before the meeting.

i) Mr Watson spoke about the stealth cameras to catch fly-tippers, which cost between £130 and £150 each. He said that he would investigate further and report to a future meeting.

Rev. Brocklehurst questioned the usefulness of the information gained by stealth cameras.

ii) Rev. Brocklehurst asked about drifting around the roundabout and why cameras had been judged to be non-beneficial?

Mr Watson said that it is not practical logistically to use cameras for drifting.

iii) Mr Watson asked the Clerk to talk about the nomination forms for the forthcoming election.

The Clerk said that he had agreed with Winchester City Council to collect nomination forms, copy them and email them to be checked. Winchester City Council will review them and notify the Clerk about any discrepancies.

The corrected documents will then be taken over to Winchester by the Clerk and submitted.

Mr Watson asked for a Zoom meeting to go through with potential councillors how to complete the nomination form.

iv) Mr Watson said that he had received further complaints about Widley Cemetery and asked the Rev. Brocklehurst for his opinion.

Rev Brocklehurst said that he had investigated and found that it was the responsibility of Winchester City Council. He suggested that there should be a site meeting to discuss what is desirable and what is reasonable to expect.

Mr Cutler said he would find who the responsible Officer is and set up a site meeting.

1.031 Playing field matters:

i) Mr Watson said that a working group consisting of Mr Parkinson, Mr Hibberd, Mr Hinton, and himself had looked at the Playing Field's required work. Their findings recommend removing the fence on the outside, including the Hawthorn tree and replacing it with a small fence around the children's play equipment with two gates, one for access and one double gate for machinery.

The cost of the work, including painting of the children's play equipment, will be approximately £9,000, of which the Southwick Estate has indicated that it will give a grant of £5,000.

21.032 Street Lighting Matters: Nothing

21.033 Roads & Highway matters:

i) Mr Watson gave a progress report on the litter bin project, which is proceeding.

21.034 Planning Matters: Nothing.

21.035 Members Business:

i) Mr Hibberd asked for a meeting to discuss the filling in the Parish Council nomination forms.

The Clerk was asked to arrange a Zoom meeting for Wednesday the 17th March at 7:00 pm.

ii) Mr Clark reported the coffee cups being deposited in the litter bins and said that these should be re-cyclable.

Mr Watson said that he would speak to the owners of the shop.

21.036 Finance and Management Committee:

1) The minutes of the Finance and Management Committee Meetings held on the 9th December 2020, having been circulated, were received.

ii) Mr Cutler commended to Council that its reserves should be maintained at the same level as the Precept. The surplus on reserves to be allocated to projects over the next three years.

The reserve policy was unanimously agreed.

21.037 Orders for Payment:

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

Interim Cheque List February 2021

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
1574	TRAN47	BCG Electrical Services Ltd	Street Lighting	374.61	74.92	449.53
Totals Paid				374.61	74.92	449.53

Cheque List March 2021

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
1577	TRAN48	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks Tax	66.20	0.00	66.20
1576	TRAN48	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
1575	TRAN48	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	264.74	0.00	264.74
1579	TRAN50	BCG Electrical Services Ltd	Street Lighting	574.15	0.00	574.15
1581	TRAN51	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Play Equipment Inspection	8.75	0.00	8.75
1580	TRAN51	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	70.00	0.00	70.00
1582	TRAN52	D-Day Memorial Hal	Grants	500.00	0.00	500.00
Totals Paid				1503.84	0.00	1503.84

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Date of the next meetings: 13th April 2021

Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held Virtually on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7:30 pm

21.028 i)

1. Children's Food & Activity Schemes

I have recently awarded grants totalling £384,576 to local organisations that are providing free activities and a meal to disadvantaged children during the Easter break [2nd April to 16th April 2021]. The aim of this Holiday and Activity Food Programme is to make free places available to eligible children for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week and for six weeks a year. This will cover four weeks in the summer and a week's worth of provision in each of the Easter and Christmas holidays in 2021. Organisations can also offer additional places to fee paying families. Nurseries, schools and sports activity providers are among the [Easter grant recipients](#).

The County Council will be seeking applications for the summer holiday (26th July to 1st September 2021) in the coming months and again, later in the year, for Christmas. Organisations should go to the [connect4communities.org](https://www.connect4communities.org) website –

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities/for> details as well as application forms and guidance. Parents and carers wishing to find out what is on offer locally should search the Family Information and Services Hub – <https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/home.page>

2. Choice of Secondary School

Almost 98% of parents in Hampshire have been offered a place for their child at one of their preferred choices for a secondary school in September. The County Council received 14,483 on-time applications this year – an increase of 66 applications compared with the number received for places in September 2020 (14,417).

The admissions team is now busy processing primary school applications with offers due to go out to parents on 16th April 2021.

3. £2.1 billion Spending on Local Services 2021/2022

At the last full Council meeting budget plans for the forthcoming financial year were agreed, which will see funding focused on the County's ongoing work in tackling COVID-19, support for vulnerable children and adults, and key investments in Hampshire's roads and infrastructure to support economic recovery, as well as climate change mitigation. We will be investing a total of £13 million to maintain the County's 5,500 miles of roads and mend potholes. Furthermore, and building on our commitment to become carbon neutral by 2050, an extra £1.2 million will be invested in carbon reduction measures across the County Council itself, aligned to the aims of our wider Climate Change Strategy.

We have a capital programme worth £418 million over the next three years to help boost jobs and the quality of the environment. This provision for Hampshire's infrastructure brings the County Council's four-year total capital investment in Hampshire, to £744 million – one of the largest capital programmes anywhere in the country.

The annual council tax charge for a Band D property will be £1,350.45 – an increase of £1.23 per week, equating to 4.99%, of which 3% is ring-fenced for adults' social care at Government request. For further information on the capital and revenue budget visit

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=163&MId=6561>

4. Solent Freeport

The County Council has welcomed the news that there is to be a Solent Freeport, which will have the potential to attract £2 billion investment and create 52,000 jobs. The Solent Freeport is one of eight announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his recent budget.

The proposal was submitted by the Solent LEP on behalf of a coalition of businesses, local authorities and other partner organisations in response to a competitive process designed to establish a number of UK Freeports. Successful areas benefit from tax reliefs, simplified customs procedures and streamlined planning processes to promote regeneration and innovation. The area will also be able to retain business rate growth to reinvest locally. The Freeports will begin operations from late 2021.

Patricia Stallard

Lead Executive Member for Children's Services & Young People and Apprenticeships

Hampshire County Council

Divisional Member for Winchester Southern Parishes

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