

## Southwick & Widley Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Montgomery Room D-Day Memorial Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 8:00 pm

#### Present:

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

#### In Attendance: -

Eddie Mason – Clerk to the Council.

**22.001 Apologies for Absence:** Mrs P. Stallard, Mr Hibberd, Mr Parkinson, PCSO B. Towler and District Councillors T. Evans and A. Clear.

**22.002 The Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** - Proposed Mr A. Hinton seconded Rev Brocklehurst and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 should be signed as a true and accurate record.

**22.003 Matters Arising:** Watson asked that matters arising should be raised at the appropriate points on the agenda

#### 22.004 Public Participation:

- i) Mrs Stallard, in her capacity as County Councillor, had submitted a written report see Appendix A.
- ii) Mr Cutler, in his capacity as District Councillor:
  - a) Winchester City Council passed its budget on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022.

Last year, the Council could not accurately set its budget because of COVID-19. It predicted that there would be a 20% reduction in income. However, there will only be a 14% reduction. This reduction means that the Council has a surplus of around £2 million, which replenishes its reserves. One of the things that will benefit will be the grants reserve fund. Winchester is one of the few councils that gives a lot of grants. In previous years these grants have been cut by 30%. Another positive is that they expected the government to provide a three-year spending deal that would cut costs to Winchester by over two and a half million pounds. This hasn't happened and is being rolled over for another year, so Winchester is 1.3 million pounds better off.

As this money was unexpected, Winchester has decided to spend it by allocating £100,000 into the council tax hardship fund, half a million pounds on ancient monuments. Other beneficiaries will be the post-pandemic recovery fund, waste food collection, trialling electric buses for the park and ride and investment in fly-tipping and planning enforcement.

- b) There has also been some controversy in Winchester: When the decision to build the new Leisure Centre was made, to assist with its financing required that the old leisure centre be sold. Southampton University offered to buy the building and land, and the Council accepted their offer. After receiving their proposal, the Council got a pre-action letter asking that the site be returned to a park and accusing the Council of failing in its duty to advertise it. The Council, therefore, had to rescind its decision to sell. The matter was referred back to the Council, and several residents turned to put their case, but the Council's previous decision to sell the land to Southampton University was upheld.

**22.005 Community Safety:** Nothing

**22.006 Correspondence:** Councillors had received most correspondence before the meeting.

- i) One additional letter was received from the Southwick Parent and Toddler group requesting a grant of £78.

Proposed Mr Watson seconded Mr Hinton and unanimously agreed that a section 106 grant of £78 is given to the Southwick Parent and Toddler Group.

**22.007 Playing field matters:** Nothing

**22.008 Street Lighting Matters:**

- i) Mrs Houghton reported that light number 12 was continuously flashing and asked that it be reported.

The Clerk to report the faulty light to BCG.

**22.009 Roads & Highway matters:**

- i) Mrs Houghton reported that Common Lane is dangerous to walk down because of the encroaching vegetation.

Mr Cutler said that he would report this to the Highways Agency.

- ii) Mr Cutler Said that he had had several meetings over the last couple of months with the Deputy Leader of Hampshire County Council, Rob Humby. He had asked him why there was not a 30 mile per hour speed limit imposed throughout the village without getting any definitive answer. Mr Cutler does believe that we should now go back to Hampshire County Council requesting a 30 mile per hour speed limit for the village; he can then get back onto Rob Humby to chase it up on behalf of the village.

**22.010 Planning Matters:**

- i) Mr Watson reported that he had received a request from a Winchester City Planning Officer to have a meeting to discuss a piece of land adjacent to the Newlands Parrish council that is part of Southwick and Widley Parish Council. Mr Watson said This piece of land is strategically needed to be kept as a green belt, and the Southwick Estate, which owns the land, has stated that they have no intention of developing this land.

Mr Cutler said the local plan for Winchester has to be updated and extended every few years, and we are now looking at it up to 2039. Housing allocations are based on: Government policy, what's already allocated and potential windfall. We have to accept that an additional 3000 houses are required in the 15 years between 2024 and 2039. After public consultation, the collective view was that it should be split: half of the 3000 should be in Winchester, and half should be spread: 100 each amongst the bigger villages: Wickham, Denmead, Bishops Waltham, New Alresford, Colden Common and Shedfield and some of the smaller villages getting 50 houses West of Waterlooville would get few extra. What Winchester sees here is the opportunity to take 240 homes out of the whole equation. What the Council needs to do is to make sure that we have a representative from Widley on the Parish Council.

Mr Watson pointed out that it will be at least 15 years before these houses are built.

**22.011 Finance Committee:**

- i) Mr Cutler outlined the discussions of the Finance Committee and its proposal to increase the savings account up to £10,000, renamed the Council's, General Reserve Fund. The remaining £18,000 reserves are allocated £ 8000 to Street Lighting Reserve and £12,000 to Playing Field and Special Events Reserve. The medium-term target is to spend £18,000 over the next six years. This provides a policy for us to reduce the reserves over a period of time.

Mr Cutler said he would write this Reserve Policy up so it could be included as information for the annual audit.

The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the Reserve Policy

- ii) The minutes of the Finance and Management Committee Meetings held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021, having been circulated, were received

## 22.012 Members Business:

- i) Proposed Mr Watson seconded Mr Hinton and unanimously agreed that £1000 be reserved for the Queen's jubilee celebrations.
- ii) Rev Brocklehurst outlined the village's Queen's jubilee celebrations. All events are along the national guidelines and will be documented in the next parish magazine. Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June is the coronation day Saturday the 4th June will be a street party, and Sunday the 5th June will be a church service.
- iii) Mr Hinton said that he had been approached by residents of numbers 51 to 58 High Street who had all received letters from Winchester City Council: saying that their bins were unsightly being left outside the Red Lion public house. The bins must be put out on the day of collection no earlier than 8:00 am and taken in after collection no later than 11:00 am.

Mr Cutler asked Mr Hinton to provide him with a copy of the letter so that he could raise it on behalf of the residents with Winchester City Council.

- iv) Mr Watson said that he had looked at the enforcement list, and it had on it the Vicarage as an open and unresolved case.

Mr Cutler explained that due to COVID-19, the enforcement section had fallen behind with its workload.

## 22.013 Orders for Payment:

- i) Mr Watson drew the Council's attention to the new NJC pay scales for the Clerk and that the national living wage was going up to £9.50 from 1st April for the litter collector. Noted
- ii). Proposed Mr Cutler seconded Mr Hinton and unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should pay its bills.

### Cheque List January 2022 – No Meeting

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
1670	TRAN73	CartridgeInk (Paid to Clerk)	Stationery	9.98	2.00	11.97
1669	TRAN73	Grammerly.com (Paid to the	Stationery	89.80	17.96	107.76
1668	TRAN73	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
1667	TRAN73	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	264.76	0.00	264.76
1671	TRAN74	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks Tax	66.20	0.00	66.20
1672	TRAN75	D-Day Memorial Hall - Hall Hire	Hire of Room	138.00	0.00	138.00
1673	TRAN76	Viking Direct	Stationery	85.00	0.00	85.00
1674	TRAN77	BCG Electrical Services Ltd	Street Lighting	353.30	70.66	423.96
1675	TRAN78	BB Online Uk Ltd	Web Site	43.90	8.78	52.68
1676	TRAN79	Zurich Insurance	Administration	728.51	0.00	728.51
1678	TRAN80	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Play Equipment Inspection	8.91	0.00	8.91
1677	TRAN80	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	80.19	0.00	80.19
<b>Totals Paid</b>				1888.55	99.40	1987.94

### Cheque List February 2022 – No Meeting

Transaction	Cheque No	Creditors Name	Payment For	Nett	VAT	Gross
1680	TRAN81	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
1679	TRAN81	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	264.76	0.00	264.76
1681	TRAN82	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks Tax	66.20	0.00	66.20
1683	TRAN83	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Play Equipment Inspection	8.91	0.00	8.91
1682	TRAN83	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	89.10	0.00	89.10
<b>Totals Paid</b>				448.97	0.00	448.97

**Cheque List March 2022**

<b>Transaction</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Creditors Name</b>	<b>Payment For</b>	<b>Nett</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Gross</b>
1685	Int Tran1	SWPC Reserve Account	Administration	1846.07	0.00	1846.07
1685	TRAN84	Eddie Mason	Clerks Expenses	20.00	0.00	20.00
1684	TRAN84	Eddie Mason	Clerks Salary	320.33	0.00	320.33
1686	TRAN85	HM Revenue & Customs	Clerks Tax	80.20	0.00	80.20
1688	TRAN86	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Play Equipment Inspection	8.91	0.00	8.91
1687	TRAN86	Mr David Tyman (Litter Picker)	Litter Collection	71.28	0.00	71.28
<b>Totals Paid</b>				2346.79	0.00	2346.79

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Date of the next meetings:12<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Southwick & Widley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Montgomery Room D-Day Memorial Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 8:00 pm

22.004 Public Participation:

i)

1. Helping Families in Need

The County Council has awarded several Community Grants - through its connect4communities programme - to projects that ensure vulnerable households do not go without necessities, such as food, fuel and warmth this winter. The County Council, has worked with partners, including voluntary and charity groups, to coordinate a range of measures that support families facing hardship. Funding is provided to local authorities by the Department for Work and Pensions from its Household Support Fund.

The County Council has allocated £1.75 million to community grants to help organisations develop initiatives tailored to local needs. The type of projects awarded funding, include:

- Community groups that provide food parcels and recipe cards to local families with children and the elderly
- .Cook and eat sessions where whole families learn how to make healthy and affordable meals and how to reduce food waste
- .Mobile larders that provide low-cost food, especially in remote rural areas across Hampshire
- .A 'grow and eat' programme at a community allotment, which will bring together schoolchildren, community volunteers and local allotment association to grow produce and supply the community pantry for local families to enjoy.
- A community cafe run by volunteers that provides wraparound support services and offers opportunities in hospitality to young people.

Emergency funds have also been disbursed through schools and other organisations for families with children suffering extreme hardship. For example, in households where they find themselves without cooking facilities or white goods or need extra bedding and warm clothes as they move from a shelter into their own accommodation. Applications for Community Grants are still open. Organisations wanting to apply should go to [connect4communities.org](https://www.connect4communities.org) -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

2. Ukraine

Hampshire County Council has expressed solidarity with the nation's people - and stated its preparedness to support the UK Government if called on to help the unfolding humanitarian crisis. None of us would have expected to have seen such hostilities in Europe in these modern times, and we condemn the attacks on Ukraine's innocent citizens. Should Government seek our support, we will assist as needed - building on our experience of supporting refugees and evacuees from previous conflicts. See <https://www.hants.gov.uk/ukraine>

3. Carbon Neutral Bollards

Introducing carbon neutral bollards Hampshire County Council are committed to doing all it can to tackle climate change. In a first for the UK, the Council are trialling low-carbon bollards. These traffic bollards installed by Hampshire Highways are made from a plant-based biopolymer, derived from sugar cane. This makes them lighter, easier to install, and because they replace concrete, they reduce the carbon costs of manufacture. We're determined to play our part on the critical issue of climate change and carbon reduction and lead the way in sustainable construction.

4. New Schools in Hampshire

Ten new schools will be built and opened by September 2025 in a bid to meet the ever-increasing demand for school places. It is estimated that more than 22,000 new school places will be needed by then - and while some will come from the expansion of pre-existing schools, the County Council has a duty to ensure every child has a seat in the classroom. Three schools will open their doors to pupils in the next academic year with the main pressure on school places coming from new housing developments.

Currently the Department for Education is working on the assumption that every new school built will be an academy or free school. Therefore, once the County Council has built these schools, they will be handed out on 125-year leases, although the Council will retain the freehold of the land.

**5. 24-hour Detox Centre will provide intensive support to those with drug and alcohol addictions.**  
The Dame Carol Detoxification Service, in Kings Road, Fareham, will give help to those people with life-threatening addictions from across the south of England. People from as far as Kent, Buckinghamshire and Reading can be referred to the service, which will serve 20 local authorities in total. The nine-bed unit will provide specialist harm reduction and recovery and will also offer crucial on-the-job experience and training for medical and nursing trainees in the field of addictions. Funding for the Centre came from Public Health England, which gave Hampshire County Council £1,220,837 for the project.

**6. Household Waste Recycling Centres**  
The system of booking to visit Hampshire's household waste recycling centres (HWRCs) is to be made permanent following feedback from users who overwhelmingly supported the approach. It was introduced in June 2020 in response to the pandemic but also helped smooth visits and reduce queuing. The ability to book multiple trips will remain.

**7. Walking, Cycling and Bus Priority Improvements**  
Proposals to upgrade the A27 Delme roundabout in Fareham and widen Park Road South in Havant, as part of the wider regeneration of South East Hampshire are to be considered. Both schemes have been designed in line with the Government's ambition for people to transition to more active and sustainable forms of travel and reduce reliance on the car. This includes supporting greater use of local bus services as signalled by the national Bus Back Better strategy. In addition, they will also contribute to a reduction in carbon emissions in line with Hampshire County Council's Climate Change Strategy.

The two schemes meet the key ambitions set out in Hampshire County Council draft Local Transport Plan 4 - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20220214DrfLTP4> - which aims to reduce the overall need to travel, reduce dependency on the private car and provide a transport system that puts people first and enables high quality prosperous places to live. The draft plan is due to be consulted on publicly this Spring.

**8. Hampshire's Kitchen Heroes**  
In Food Waste Action Week last March, a new website - Hampshire Kitchen Heroes - was launched by Hampshire County Council with the aim of helping residents to save money and the planet with incentives and rewards, for reducing household food waste. The website features over 20 different food waste saving actions. People can earn 'Green Points' by taking steps like checking their fridge before they shop, keeping a food diary of what's being wasted and sharing their favourite recipes using leftovers. These points feed into leader boards allowing people to compete with other residents across the County to be the ultimate Kitchen Hero.

The resident who earns the most 'Green Points' for their actions each month, will win a £20 voucher from a choice of Hampshire-based experiences, Marks and Spencer, Love2Shop or for a donation to be made to a local food bank. Hampshire Kitchen Heroes is open to all residents in the Hampshire County Council local authority area - sign up at: [hampshirekitchenheroes.co.uk](http://hampshirekitchenheroes.co.uk)

**9. Choice of Secondary School**  
More than 98 per cent of parents in Hampshire have been offered a place for their child, at one of their three preferred choices for a secondary school in September 2022. Of those who applied for a Year 7 place (for September 2022) by the application deadline, more than 92 per cent have been offered a place at their first choice school. The County Council received 14,982 on-time applications this year - an increase of 499 applications compared with the number received for places in September 2021 (14,483).

The Admissions Team is now busy processing primary school applications with school place offers due to go out to parents on 19th April 2022

**10. Standing Down**  
The Leader of Hampshire County Council has announced his decision to stand down from that role as from May this year, although he will continue to work as a County Councillor until the next County elections in May 2025.

Patricia Stallard,  
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