

**OWSLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
9th JANUARY 2017
COMMENCING AT 7.30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, OWSLEBURY PARISH HALL**

PRESENT.

Parish Councillor John Chapman (in the Chair).

Parish Councillors: Paul Bowes, Will Martin, Paul Phillips, Roger Page, Gerry Tull.

IN ATTENDANCE.

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO): Michael Cleary.

District Councillor Laurence Ruffell (left after item 8/17)

County and District Councillor Rob Humby (arrived 8.16pm, left after item 10/17)

District Councillor Amber Thacker (arrived 8.40pm, left after item 10/17)

No members of the public were present.

1/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Parish Councillor Mark Egerton.

2/17 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS.

Councillors Bowes and Phillips declared a personal interest (as members of the St Andrew's Parochial Church Council) in matters affecting St. Andrew's Church. Councillor Martin declared a personal interest (as a member of the Morestead Parochial Church Council) in matters affecting Morestead Church.

3/17 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION UNDER S33(1) LOCALISM ACT 2011.

The Council unanimously **Resolved** to accept an application from Councillor Tull, in relation to affordable housing, for dispensation under Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011. Councillor Tull noted this would enable him to update the Council fully but undertook to withdraw from the meeting if the Chairman asked him to do so.

4/17 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Councillors noted their acceptance of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th December 2016, and the Council **Resolved** they were a true record.

5/17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

No members of the public were present.

6/17 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

District Councillor Ruffell commented on his involvement, at the request of the Council, on two Enforcement cases – Woodland View Stables and Hydes Barn (refer to paragraph 8/17(c)). He also noted the appointment of Laura Taylor as the CEO of Winchester City Council, and the proposed appointment of a new Leader of WCC.

County and District Councillor Humby noted his forthcoming meeting with the strategic highways team. The meeting would include discussion about the area-wide survey he had commissioned, and the potential impact of some of the options being considered as part of the Eastleigh local plan. County and District Councillor Humby suggested he meet with the Chairman, after he had met with the strategy team, to discuss traffic related matter specific to Owslebury. He confirmed that so far as he was aware, Eastleigh Borough Council had not requested, since the December Eastleigh council meeting, HCC to consider traffic modelling for the options under consideration. County and District Councillor Humby also noted the possible availability of a County Councillor grant under the HCC scheme, and asked Councillors to consider any projects they would like to put to HCC.

District Councillor Thacker noted her recent discussions with South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) on matters including the SDNPA work on settlement boundaries. Over a third of parishes had participated in the SDNPA workshops on the settlement boundaries and other aspects of the draft local plan. Public consultation would take place later in the year. She also commented that SDNPA had asked Eastleigh Borough Council to investigate the Park's concerns over certain of the options included in the Eastleigh local plan.

7/17 POLICE & NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT.

a) **Rural Communities Matter Conference.**

The Chairman noted he may attend the Conference and, if so, would report back to Council in due course.

b) **Accredited Community Support Officer (ACSO) Southern Parishes.**

The Clerk reported the ACSO was now full time with Bishop's Waltham and another parish. Accordingly the Council could not participate in the scheme for the time being.

c) **Police and Neighbourhood Watch reports.**

The Council noted the recent theft of paintings at Marwell Wildlife Park and concerns were expressed as to the reaction of the Police to information provided by a parishioner.

8/17 PLANNING

a) **Planning applications.**

SDNP/16/06292/FUL	Hydes Barn, Fawley Lane, Morestead
Proposal:	Reconstruction of flint barn to provide 2no bedrooms and 2no shower room.
Closing date:	26 th January 2017

Councillors expressed their great concerns about both the current application and the apparent failure of the owners to comply with the strict conditions attaching to the consent for a previous application for refurbishment and development of the main barn. Councillors concerns included:

- i. the need for clarity on the site plan, particularly in relation to protected areas;
- ii. the responses to certain of the questions in the applications documentation;
- iii. the absence of any wildlife and fauna protection reports – a fundamental weakness;
- iv. the introduction of a 1930s map to justify the development when such map was not mentioned in the original application;
- v. the owners have built a wall which was not included in the original application and it is unclear whether such a wall is permitted in a National Park under permitted rights;
- vi. the owners have parked a caravan on the land and that and other vehicles have had little regard for the protection of wildlife required as a condition of the consent for the original application.

The Council **Resolved** unanimously to object to the application and request it be referred to the Planning Committee should the officer be inclined to support the application. The Council also agreed to inform SDNPA of its concerns.

b) **Planning decisions.**

The Clerk reported he had not been informed of any planning decisions since the last Council meeting.

The Clerk updated the Council on his discussions with the Drainage officer in connection with the successful planning application submitted by Marwell Activity Centre. The Council remained concerned about drainage issue and the protection of the environment and agreed to closely monitor the position and to seek the advice of the Environment Agency.

Action: Drainage and environment	By Whom:
• Clerk to seek advice of Environment Agency.	Clerk

c) **Enforcement matters.**

District Councillor Ruffell noted that in relation to Woodland View Stables, the Enforcement officer was seeking a meeting with the owners to consider their non-compliance with planning conditions. He would update the Council in due course.

District Councillor Ruffell had acted on the Council's previous concerns in relation to the non-compliance of planning conditions in relation to Hydes Barn. An Officer had visited the site and work had now stopped pending evidence the owners had complied with the planning conditions. The officer was also awaiting the outcome of a review by the ecology officer. The Enforcement officer would now visit the site on a regular basis to ensure on-going compliance with the original, and any subsequent, planning conditions. District Councillor Ruffell agreed to update the Council in due course.

Action: Woodland View stables and Hydes Barn	By Whom:
• District Councillor Ruffell to update the Council on any further developments.	District Cllr Ruffell

d) **WCC consultation re 2017-2020 strategy.**

Councillors agreed to submit individual comments on the consultative document.

e) Affordable housing.

Councillor Tull expressed his frustration that no significant progress had been made with either ActionHants or Footsteps Living. The slow progress was not only of concern to those parishioners interested in affordable housing, but also hampered his own decision making. The Chairman noted that whilst the matter did not directly involve the Council, he would make enquiries as to the progress being made.

Action: Affordable housing.	By Whom:
• Clerk to make enquiries as to status of discussions with ActionHants.	Clerk

f) SDNP proposed settlement boundary.

The Clerk noted he had been informed SDNPA would be providing additional information shortly on the proposed settlement boundary for the parish.

g) Advisory Group – Eastleigh local plan options.

The Chairman summarised developments since the last Council meeting. He noted Eastleigh Borough Council had met in December and, contrary to press reports, determined to investigate all options under the emerging Eastleigh local plan. The Council and Action against Destructive Development group (ADD – supported by local councils, MPs and interested parties), would need to monitor the actions of Eastleigh Borough Council in arranging for HCC to undertake traffic modelling and in its duty to consult with WCC, notably on property owned by WCC. The Chairman stressed the Council’s interest was not in the number of houses Eastleigh felt had to be built, but in the impact on the parish of additional traffic arising from housing developments near to the parish.

i. Grant to ADD.

The Clerk noted that since the December meeting a donation of £100 had been received from a member of the public (S139 LGA 1972), for the protection of the parish from additional traffic. The Council **Resolved** unanimously to provide a grant of £100 under S137 LGA 1972 to ADD. The Council considered such a grant would be in the best interests of all parishioners and, together with funds from other sources, would enable ADD to continue to acquire expert highways and other advice to assist the council in its work to protect the parish.

9/17 HIGHWAYS.

Traffic management.

The Council agreed to postpone further consideration of traffic related matters (notably in the light of the on-going work on the Eastleigh local plan) until after County and District Councillor Humby’s meeting with the highways strategy group.

Action: Traffic management.	By Whom:
• .Chair and Clerk to meet with County Councillor Humby	Clerk/JC

10/17 RIGHTS OF WAY.

a) Improvements to rights of way.

Councillor Tull noted the improvement made to the ROW near to Whiteflood Cottages. Further work would be undertaken in due course.

Councillors noted that whilst the hedge running alongside the ROW to the rear of the Glebe field had been trimmed, there were overhanging branches affecting the use of the ROW. The Council **Resolved** unanimously to engage a contractor to remove the branches and authorised the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements, subject to a monetary cap of £100.

Action: .Hedge by Glebe field ROW	By Whom:
• .Clerk to arrange for overhanging branches to be removed.	Clerk

Councillors noted the hedge on the Glebe field would be trimmed and reduced in size in due course, and that the gate to the ROW would be repaired or replaced by the PCC in due course.

b) HCC 2017 cutting programme

The Council asked the Clerk to select the cutting programme for HCC..

Action: HCC cutting programme	By Whom:
• .Clerk to select five routes	Clerk

11/17 OPEN SPACES, RECREATION AND PLAY GROUNDS.

a) **Benches for Recreation Ground.**

Councillor Tull noted the proposed benches were nearly ready for the Council to review for suitability. Accordingly the matter was deferred to the next meeting.

b) **Christmas lights.**

Councillors commented on the success of the Christmas lights for the village and asked the Clerk to thank the Christmas lights committee on the Council's behalf.

c) **Cricket pavilion.**

Councillors noted with dismay that despite the efforts of the Sports Club, the window at the back of the pavilion had yet again been broken. Councillors suggested it may now need to be boarded-up.

Action: Open spaces	By Whom:
• .Councillor Tull to provide possible benches for councillors to consider.	Clr Tull
• Clerk to thank Christmas lights committee	Clerk
• Clerk to discuss 'window issue' with Sports Club	Clerk

12/17 FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND STATUTORY.

a) **Payments and receipts.**

The Council **Resolved** unanimously to approve the following payments and authorised the Chairman and Councillor Phillips to authorise electronic payments as necessary.

Voucher	Amount (£)	Payee	Purpose	
PAYMENTS				
79	260.14	M Cleary	December net pay	Electronic
80	172.80	HMRC	PAYE for December	Electronic
81	83.74	M Cleary expenses for Dec	Travel £5.40, postage £1.14, broadband and telephone quarterly allowance £30.95, home working quarterly allowance £31.25, stationery £15	Electronic
82	21.00	OPHMC	December hall hire	Electronic
83	20.00	John Chapman	Chairman's quarterly allowance	Electronic

The Council noted the following receipts:

Amount (£)	Payer	Purpose	
11.25	P Harrison	Use of play area for December	Electronic
0.04	Lloyds	Interest	Electronic
100.00		Donation for ADD campaign	Cheques

b) **Grants and donations for 2016/17.**

The Council considered grants (under S137 LGA 1972) to local organisations which provided direct benefit to all or a significant number of parishioners. The Council **Resolved** unanimously to make the following grants:

	Nature	Grant £	Council vote
<i>Church maintenance grants</i>			
St. Andrews Church	Churchyard maintenance	400	Cllrs Bowes and Phillips abstaining – all others in favour
Morestead Church	Churchyard maintenance	200	Clr Martin abstaining – all others in favour.
<i>S137 LGA1972 grants</i>			
Age UK Mid Hants	Continuing assistance with Senior Citizens club and provision of mini bus	200	Unanimous.

Total		£900	
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c) St. Andrew's Church and Glebe field.

Councillor Philips noted the PCC were considering the possibility of providing lavatory facilities on land owned by the Church or the Council. The facilities would be of use not only to church attendees, notably for weddings and funerals, but also visitors to the Glebe field. Whilst Councillors commented on the difficulties involved such as capital costs, planning permission and the on-going costs of maintenance, the Council agreed to consider any more detailed proposals put forward by the PCC.

13/17 CLERK'S REPORT.

The Clerk commented on the actions taken on matters determined at previous meetings and not included on the agenda (Appendix).

14/17 CODE OF CONDUCT.

There were no matters the Chairman wished to discuss with the Council.

15/17 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.

There were no special matters, other than a litter pick for the village, which Councillors wished to discuss at a future meeting.

16/17 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

It was agreed the next Council meeting would be held on 13th February 2017 commencing at 7.30pm in the Committee Room.

The meeting closed shortly before 9.20pm

Chairman ...John Chapman.....Date: 13th February 2017

APPENDIX: CLERK'S REPORT

Action: Recreation Ground	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragon's teeth to be installed on bank at Recreation Ground. 	PP/GT
<u>Temporary measures taken pending installation of teeth</u>	
Action: Staggs Gate pond	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to review boundaries; 	Clerk
<u>In hand – search arranged and maps being reviewed.</u>	
Action: Traffic management.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Egerton to discuss with school governors and seek their support. • Chairman to write to parents and to parishioners. 	ME/JC/ Clerk
<u>Agreed to hold-back for time being</u>	
Action: Bridleway from Greenhill to Red Lane	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to inspect and assess. 	Clerk
<u>In hand</u>	
Action: Cyclists and HGVs.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to acquire signage re cyclists and HGVs 	Clerk
<u>In hand – signs available and ready to be installed</u>	
Action: Red lane lock.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors to make enquiries re key. 	Councillors
Action: Woodland View stables	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to update District Councillor Ruffell 	Clerk
<u>Note sent to Cllr Ruffell</u>	
Action: Owslebury Bottom dangerous trees.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .Clerk to contact landowners concerned. 	Clerk/JC
<u>Main landowner agreed to undertake work; owner of other tree to be contacted</u>	
Action: Hedge on ROW Glebe field	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .Clerk to contact owner's representative and arrange for hedge to be cut-back. 	Clerk
<u>Outstanding.</u>	
Action: Gate on Glebe field.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .Councillor Tull to inspect and report-back. • Councillor Bowes to reflect on need for replacement. 	GT PB
Action: Swing seat.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • .Clerk to acquire swing seat. 	Clerk
<u>In-hand</u>	