



## DRAFT MINUTES

Hambledon Parish Council  
08 Apr 2024; 7.30pm; Hambledon Village Hall

### PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Silcock; Cllr Lamb; & Cllr Clarke.

### In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Jan Jarvie (FAG; left 8.08pm); and three members of the public.

Meeting started at 7.30pm

| Item No. | Item                            | Discussion & Decision   | Action |
|----------|---------------------------------|---|--------|
| 2275     | Acknowledgements                | Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of Joy Beagley and all other villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.  |        |
| 2276     | Apologies                       | Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Hand & Dyson.<br><br>Apologies also received from Cllrs Wallace & Lee (WCC); PCSO Wheeler-Osman.   |        |
| 2277     | Disclosable pecuniary interests | None.   |        |
| 2278     | Requests for dispensations      | None received.  |        |
| 2279     | Resignation of Councillor       | <b>Resolved:</b> that the PC formally acknowledges the resignation of Neil Mason and offers thanks for his hard work & commitment over the past eight years.<br><br>Clerk to inform Electoral Services and start the process of filling the casual vacancy. | Clerk  |

|      |  |   |       |
|------|--|---|-------|
| 2280 | Public questions & comments                      | <p>Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. Questions/comments as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoP (residents of Worlds End; Denmead parishioners) requested an update on the Fareham Road closure/over-pumping. Road closure is causing a lot of inconvenience to Worlds End residents, and many of the small lanes around Fareham Road are being ruined by the increased usage by vehicles. Would like to be kept informed e.g. via village e-mail/FAG updates etc. Chair confirmed that she had responded to the e-mail from Cllr Paula Langford-Smith, Denmead PC. Overview of the situation provided, and request for one contact e-mail address to be sent to the Clerk for inclusion in FAG updates distribution list.</li> </ul> |       |
| 2281 | Resume standing orders                           | Agreed.   |       |
| 2282 | District councillor's report & questions arising | <p>No report received from Cllrs Wallace &amp; Lee this month.</p> <p>The PC formally acknowledged the standing down, at the May 2024 elections, of Cllr Pearson as WCC district councillor of the Central Meon Valley, and expressed thanks for his hard work on behalf of the parish.</p>   |       |
| 2283 | County councillor's report & questions arising   | The PC formally acknowledged the standing down of Hugh Lumby as Hampshire County Councillor, and expressed thanks for his hard work on behalf of the parish over the past three years.  | Clerk |
| 2284 | Mins of previous meetings (04/03/24)             | Agreed as a true record.  |       |

|      |                                  |   |  |
|------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 2285 | Clerk's progress report          | <p><b>Parish Lengthsman Agreement</b> No update at the current time re schedule for 2024/25, although lead PC in the cluster has confirmed that the scheme will continue for the foreseeable future.</p> <p><b>Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane</b> - Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby to chase again (originally chased HH in Jan 2023 on behalf of the PC and HH confirmed that they would revisit the site with the intention of patching the affected area by the junction).</p> <p><b>Rattling manhole covers</b> - Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby to chase again (ref Paula Edwards/Cllr Lumby correspondence June/July 2023).</p> <p><b>Village maintenance</b> Agenda item 2297.</p> <p><b>Speed limit reminder</b> - device &amp; batteries to be passed to Cllr Clarke for storage.</p> <p><b>Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree.</b> HH reported back 'no maintenance work required'. Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby for assistance.</p> <p><b>WCC work at The Gardens.</b> Work started w/c 25/03/24 but has been delayed by bad weather.</p> <p><b>Southern Water issues</b> - Cllr Encke &amp; Clerk attended SW Drop-in event 21/03/24. Full report sent to cllrs. Awaiting confirmation from Keith Herbert (Pathfinder Lead; SW) re convenient date to meet PC members. Clerk chasing.</p> <p><b>Flooding on road near Kings Rest</b> Reported to HH 13/10/23. Response 'could not locate defect'. Likely that they visited when there was no road flooding but didn't look into the cause of previous flooding. Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby if he is able to assist.</p> <p><b>Damaged bollards at East St pinch-point.</b> Reported to HH online 06/11/23; enquiry reference number 21698987. Apparently, 'works completed' in Nov 2023. However, the solution appears to be traffic cones which is not a satisfactory long-term solution. Clerk has asked Cllr Lumby to assist.</p> <p><b>Remembrance Sunday</b> TS Tenacity has confirmed not available. Jan Zawada has not been able to find a bugler so far.</p> <p><b>D-Day 80 (06/06/24)</b> Cllr Silcock provided an update, as follows: Solent Overlaid Executive (SOE) has agreed to provide 20 vehicles on May Bank Holiday weekend. Murray Mahon and Cllr Silcock meeting with SOE this weekend. Current plan is for Sat afternoon - re-enactment; gun firing; History Group exhibition (Youth Hut); involve The Vine (e.g. sale of food/drink). Church may wish to do something e.g. lay a wreath 06/06/24. More detail idc.</p> <p>Big Pipe outlet ditch:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-mail sent to HH (via Cllr Lumby) re condition of ditch banks. Paula Edwards advised that Geotech team would visit. Requested details of site visit day/time so that Clerk &amp; Cllr Encke could attend. Chased 02/04/24. [UPDATE: Geotech team have already conducted site visit; report to be provided to PC idc.]</li> <li>• Land Registry search has confirmed that HCC does own the ditch.</li> </ul> <p><b>Blocked gullies opposite OFTR</b> reported to HH online (build-up of debris inhibiting drainage of water spilling out of SW manhole covers). Response was that the issue was SW's and had been passed on.</p> <p><b>Village Useful &amp; Emergency Info Leaflets</b> WCC Small Grant fund awarded £150. Clerk to take forward when time allows.</p> |  |
| 2286 | Q4 Financial Statements & Report | <p><b>Resolved:</b> that the PC has received and approved the 2023/24 Q4 financial statements and report.</p>   |  |

|      |                                       |  |       |
|------|---------------------------------------|--|-------|
| 2287 | Bank account                          | <b>Bank balance @ 01/04/24 - £51,603.97</b> (Cllrs have been provided with bank statements 169, 02 Mar 2024 to 04 Mar 2024, and 170, 05 Mar 2024 to 01 Apr 2024.)  |       |
| 2288 | Payment of accounts                   | <p>Mrs J C Tester <b>Clerk salary (Mar 2024) £923.50</b></p> <p>NEST <b>Clerk pension (Mar 2024) £75.14</b></p> <p>Hambledon Village Hall <b>Hall hire (Mar 2024) £74.50</b></p> <p>Biffa Waste Services Ltd <b>[Direct Debit set up for hard plastics recycling bin @ VH.] Mar 2024 £62.28</b></p> <p>Alfie Goodwin-Hudson <b>Tennis Coaching (Mar 2024) £160.00</b></p> <p><b><u>The following payment is in addition to those noted on the agenda:</u></b></p> <p>Mrs J C Tester <b>Expenses (Land Registry searches - title register for land containing BP outlet ditch) £19.95</b></p>                     | Clerk |
| 2289 | Planning applications                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDNP/24/01153/HOUS - 4 Stewarts Green, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SU. Two Storey Side &amp; Rear Extensions. New Driveway Access. [OBJECTION - proposed extension is too large and the balcony is out of keeping with the rest of Stewarts Green/contrary to HVDS.] Clerk to check South Downs Local Plan &amp; HVDS and compose final response.</li> </ul>   | Clerk |
| 2290 | Planning apps received after 02/04/24 | None received.   |       |
| 2291 | Planning decisions                    | Noted.   |       |
| 2292 | FAG WG                                | <p>Report received (Appendix A). Jan Jarvie reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whitedale &amp; BHD readings - rate of climb not as high as expected. No cellar pumping. EA low on resources. Cannot lift alert. Longest flooding season we've had. No issues in The Vine. BP has been full at least five times this flood season (without lots of cellars pumping into it). Surface water all being handled by the BP. No known plan from HH for maintaining BP.</li> </ul>  |       |
| 2293 | BASS WG                               | <p>No written report received. Cllr Silcock commented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing for APM. Planning to use an electronic voting system.</li> <li>• Suggestion given that the BASS display (and perhaps SG play equipment info) is made available from 7pm (whilst refreshments are served), so that residents have the opportunity to look at the proposals before the presentation is made and voting undertaken.</li> <li>• Three written responses to Hambledonian article so far.</li> <li>• Clerk to contact Hambledon Vineyard re attendance at the APM.</li> </ul> | Clerk |
| 2294 | Tennis WG                             | No report received this month.   |       |

|      |                               |   |           |
|------|-------------------------------|---|-----------|
| 2295 | Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG | Stewarts Green play equipment - the Clerk reported that the consultation undertaken at the Hort Soc Spring Show yielded 33 responses: Option 1: 4 votes; Option 2: 10 votes; & Option 3: 19 votes. Option 3 consists of Robinia wood Climbing System 6 and a Jungle (basket) Swing. So far, two quotes have been received: one final and the other indicative. Awaiting confirmation of whether third supplier is able to provide this equipment. If not, an alternative will need to be sought.<br><br>Councillors discussed the pros and cons of the different safety surfacing options and agreed that grass matting would be the most cost-efficient. |           |
| 2296 | Stewarts Green Play Equipment | <b>Resolved:</b> that the decision to appoint a contractor for the supply and instalment of replacement play equipment in Stewarts Green is postponed to the May PC meeting, when there should be three comparable quotes available.  |           |
| 2297 | Village Maintenance           | <b>Resolved:</b> that the PC awards the contract for carrying out general village maintenance to JH Tree Services at an annual cost of £3,750 + VAT. Clerk to contact JH and draw-up contract.  | Clerk     |
| 2298 | Hambledon Greening WG         | No report received. Cllr Lamb reported the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heat pump ‘speed dating’ event 17/04/24.</li> <li>• Work continues at The Gardens.</li> <li>• HG offering to provide a tree or similar. Cllr Lamb to liaise with WCC.</li> </ul>   | Cllr Lamb |
| 2299 | SDNPA Renewable Energy Study  | <b>Resolved:</b> that the PC will delay responding to SDNPA’s consultation on renewable energy until the May PC meeting.  | Clerk     |
| 2300 | Reports & Issues              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDNPA Parish Meeting 13th Mar 2024 - attended by Cllr Encke who will provide a brief verbal report. [Main focus was on affordable housing - as a Parish you can join the First Homes Scheme. Generally want 100+ homes. But PC would become contractor and landlord. Many smaller PC’s looked into sites etc but not able to take further.]</li> <li>• Cast metal bollard outside of George House has been hit by a vehicle. Bollard intact but surrounding tarmac damaged. Kim Knight has been asked to assess and mend. Currently, no witnesses or footage of the incident.</li> </ul>                         |           |
| 2301 | Date/time of next meeting     | • <u>Thurs 9th May 2024</u> at Hambledon VH; 7.30pm.  |           |
| 2302 | Confidential matters          | No members of the public were in attendance.  |           |
| 2303 | Clerk’s Working Hours         | <b>Resolved:</b> that the PC approves the Clerk’s request to amend working hours timetable to Mon-Thurs 9am to 12.30pm; additional 1 hour to be worked on a flexible basis.   |           |

**The meeting closed at 9.27pm**

**Signed:**

**Cllr Encke (Chair)**

**Dated:**

**Signed:**

**Joanna Tester (Clerk)**

**Dated:**

**Overview**

We are still finding our way through the 2023-24 flooding season, with the same sort of scenario we had for 2022/23. The forecasts from the Met and the Beeb follow the same theme of “unsettled,” and considering the feedback from the EA, Flood Warnings will continue for an unknown time in the distance. There is now an unfortunate gap in our FAG planning activities driven by weather conditions prolonging the two major risk elements: 1) Southern Water cessation of the Bury Lodge over-pumping operations and sewerage failures with no remedies in sight, and 2) maintenance solutions for the Big Pipe and components by Hampshire County Council at some point, which enables us to do our own planning.

In terms of the timeframes, the issues with Southern Water might realistically be addressed sometime in 2025/26. The development of a plan for a permanent “fix” is anybody’s guess, and will continue to have an effect on our preparations for every flooding season to come. In consideration of our ability to make headway for our own flooding resiliency, maintenance of the Big Pipe and ditches is a prerequisite, and there are a number of elements involved with HCC’s ability to perform where heavily resource driven, frustrating us with a lack of inputs.

**Looking Ahead**

In our review of the events of the 2022/23 season, and it’s leftovers running from January to April 23, it does serve as a good source of changes to come. Water levels in cellars were higher than this latest experience, and measurements in East Street were about twice as high, but were prolonged, and some are yet to dry-out. The aquifer level at Whitedale is hanging stubbornly at the flood trigger point. Many of the pumps and hoses are still rigged this month; we’ve had many days of low pressure, cyclonic winds, and a few fierce thunder storms to think about, as well.

Good progress has been made with the update and reorganisation of our village Flood Action Plan, giving the HPC and FAG an opportunity to perform a finite analysis of best ways to manage expectations, determine priorities and provide easy access to the village on our website. We will also be submitting our plan to meet the requirements of the new “Community Emergency Plan” to HCC.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jan Jarvie  
Flood Action Group