

Minutes of the meeting of Hambledon Parish Council held on 5 December 2016 at Hambledon Village Hall, West Street, Hambledon, PO7 4RW, commencing at 7.30pm

PRESENT: Cllr Thornton in the Chair, Cllrs Mrs Birdwood, Higham, Mrs Thistlethwayte, Mrs Wigley and Wood. Also present: eleven members of the public and Mrs Sue Hobbs Locum Clerk.

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Quinn for personal reasons and from HCC Cllr Roger Huxstep. A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of accepting the apologies received.

RESOLVED: That the apologies for absence received be accepted.

(Power used: Local Government Act 1972 s85)

2. TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No Declarations of Interest were received.

(Power used: Localism Act 2011 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulation 2012)

3. TO RECEIVE RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS FOR NO MORE THAN TEN MINUTES TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT TO RAISE QUESTIONS ON ISSUES NOT INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA

A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of suspending the meeting for no more than ten minutes to allow members of the public to raise questions on issues not included on the agenda.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders be suspended for no more than fifteen minutes to allow members of the public present to raise questions or issues that are not included on the agenda.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chair permitted the members of the public present to give their views regarding the recent Hambledonian article concerning expenditure for future projects. Concerns were raised about affordability of some of the projects, which some considered to be cosmetic and not high priority items. Reference was made to the Hambledon Parish Plan and the priority issues highlighted. Issues which were considered by some residents to be high priority included improvements to the mobile phone signal and flood mitigation and that items such replacement bus shelters were not thought to be high priority. Concern was raised as to the possibility of the precept increasing by a significant percentage, as any increase could be unaffordable for some residents. Some residents present at the meeting expressed their concern that the article did not include projected costs for the projects suggested.

POLICE REPORT

The Police were not present at the meeting, but Cllr Higham briefed Members about a recent incident which occurred near Hambledon primary school, to which the Armed Response Unit was called.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Huxstep was not present at the meeting and a report had not been received in time for the meeting.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Weston was not present at the meeting and had not provided a report.

MIK NORMAN

Mr Norman was not present at the meeting and had not provided a report.

4. TO RECEIVE RESOLUTION TO RESUME STANDING ORDERS

A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of resuming Standing Orders to resume the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the meeting be resumed.

5. TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 7 NOVEMBER 2016

The Chair itemised the minutes for accuracy.

(5) Cllr Higham wished to make it known that he had not received the playground inspection reports in the past.

(5) It was requested that reference to the application for a grant of £1500.00 for the Village Hall car park be deleted.

(14)(c) Cllr Higham confirmed that he has the defibrillator box in his possession.

(16) It was requested that the minutes and agenda be posted on the Hambledon Parish Council website in future.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 7 November 2016, together with the amendments, be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

(Power used: Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 Para 41(1))

6. TO RECEIVE THE PARISH CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

(4)(10)(a) Rights of Way – Members suggested this item be removed.

(4)(ii) Fingerpost – It was noted that a quotation from HCC was anticipated.

Firework event – Cllr Higham briefed Members on safety considerations experienced during the recent event, which would need to be taken into account when organising another event in future.

8. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The list of accounts to be approved had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. It was noted that the account to Orchard Dene for £1193.22 had been previously approved. At the meeting held on 20 September 2016, Members approved the expenditure for the planting and design of the Green Man area.

A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of approving the accounts as presented to be paid, excluding the account for Orchard Dene for £1193.22.

RESOLVED: That the accounts as presented be paid, excluding the account for Orchard Dene for £1193.22.

(Power used: Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12 Section 151)

9. TO RECEIVE BALANCE SHEET TO 30 NOVEMBER 2016 (IF AVAILABLE)

The Locum Clerk advised that she could not access Hambledon Parish Council's online bank statements, as a password was required. Consequently, the balance sheet could not be presented. Councillors asked the Locum Clerk to contact the previous Clerk for this information.

10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(i) SDNP/16/05371/HOUS - 1 Stewarts Green, Hambledon, PO7 4SU. Single storey side extension. After some discussion, a proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of raising no objection, but that the roof should be more in keeping with adjacent properties and consideration be given to the Village Design Statement.

RESOLVED: To raise no objection, but that the roof should be more in keeping with adjacent properties and consideration be given to the Village Design Statement.

11. TO RECEIVE PLANNING DECISIONS REPORT

The Planning Decisions Report had been distributed to Members prior to the meeting and its contents were noted.

12. TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE PLANNING INSPECTORATE RE: SDNP/15/05787/LIS - GREENFIELDS, EAST STREET, HAMBLETON, PO7 4RX

The Appeal was received and noted with no further comments received.

13. TO DISCUSS PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUEST FOR 2017 – 2018 FINANCIAL YEAR, INCLUDING A SUGGESTED INCREASE TO THE PRECEPT TO £24,000.00

The Chair spoke about his suggestion that the precept request for 2017 – 2018 could be increased to £24,000.00, to help fund some of the projects identified in the Vision document. A comment was received that the precept had been previously set at £20,000.00 and then held

at £14,000.00 for five years, with an annual underspend. During this time, the previous Clerk's hours had been increased and a new website had been commissioned, the costs of which had been absorbed to the detriment of village maintenance and grants made to local organisations. It was noted that village maintenance costs were likely to increase in the future and that an additional £10,000.00 to the precept would help implement items within a ten-year improvement project. A comment was made that new issues would arise over time and Hambledon Parish Council would be able to prioritise projects in the future.

The Chair estimated that the potential Band 'D' equivalent increase would amount to approximately £1.64 per month, less than the cost of half a pint of beer. In comparison to neighbouring parishes, Hambledon's precept compares favourably. A suggestion was received that a compromise might be acceptable and after extensive discussion, a proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of referring this issue to the next meeting to be held on 9 January 2017.

RESOLVED: That the budget and precept request for 2017 – 2018 is referred to the next Council meeting to be held on 9 January 2017.

14. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE REPAYMENT OF A £1000.00 TEMPORARY LOAN TO AN ANONYMOUS DONOR FOR TENNIS COACHING, DUE TO RECEIPT OF HCC GRANT OF £2000.00

Concern was raised that the grant had yet to be received from HCC and that Cllr Huxstep was not present at the meeting to give a report on the progress of the grant. A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of referring this issue to the next meeting to be held on 9 January 2017.

RESOLVED: That this issue is referred to the next meeting too be held on 9 January 2017.

15. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE QUOTATION TO PROVIDE GOALPOST FOR THE GLEBE FIELD AT A COST OF £320.00, TO BE FUNDED FROM THE OPEN SPACE FUND

A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of accepting the quotation received.

RESOLVED: That the quotation for £320.00 to supply a goalpost be accepted.

16. TO RECEIVE UPDATED INFORMATION RE: GREEN MAN PROJECT

The Chair provided an update, that the kerb sett was to be re-negotiated, following advice received from HCC. Views were exchanged as to whether granite setts were suitable for the area. Some discussion followed regarding the original contract. Hambledon Parish Council would assume responsibility for the maintenance of the area and therefore a query was raised whether the Council would need to extend its insurance cover. A further update would be provided at the next meeting.

17. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS TO HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS RE: CONTRACTS

The Chair had circulated proposed amendments to Hambledon Parish Council's Standing Orders to comply with information received following his attendance at a recent HALC training session. The amendments read as follows:

1. Replace 18e with “All tenders will be accepted by the council on the basis of the Most Economically Advantageous Tender assessed from the point of view of the council.”

2. Replace 18f with “Where the value of a contract is likely to exceed £164,176 (or other threshold specified by the Crown Commercial Services from time to time) the council must consider whether the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI No. 102, as amended) and the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 (SI No. 274, as amended) apply to the contract and, if either of those Regulations apply, the council must comply with EU procurement rules.”

A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of making the amendments as detailed.

RESOLVED: That the amendments to Hambledon Parish Council’s Standing Orders as received, be accepted.

(Power used: Local Government Act 1972 Section 135)

18. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND ISSUES (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

(i) To receive notice of the Winchester District Association of Local Councils (WDALC) Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday 6 December 2016 at Durley Memorial Hall, SO32 2AA, at 7.00pm. This item was noted.

(ii) To receive notice of Hampshire Playing Fields Association (HPFA) Annual General meeting to be held on Friday 9 December 2016 at the Meadowside Leisure Centre, Whiteley, PO15 7LJ, at 1.30pm. This item was also noted.

(iii) To receive notice of request from WDALC for nominees to attend HM The Queen’s Garden Parties 2017 (response required by 16 December 2016). A suggestion was received that a local resident be nominated.

(iv) To receive notice of Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) ‘Negotiate a Better Outcome in Planning’ course to be held on 25 January 2017 at Winchester Guildhall, at 10.00am. This item was received.

19. TO RECEIVE RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS FROM CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED ‘THAT IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL/SPECIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED, IT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PUBLIC AND PRESS BE TEMPORARILY EXCLUDED AND THEY ARE INSTRUCTED TO WITHDRAW’

A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of excluding the public and press from the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the public and press be instructed to withdraw from the meeting.

Power used: Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s2)

20. TO DISCUSS SUGGESTED CHANGES TO PROSPECTIVE PARISH CLERK’S CONTRACTED HOURS

It was highlighted that the previous Clerk was contracted to work ten hours per week at Spinal Column Point (SCP) 21. A proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of

advertisement being placed with the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC), with a closing date of 16 January 2017.

RESOLVED: That an advertisement is placed with HALC and SLCC for the Parish Clerk's role at SCP 21 for ten hours per week.

21. TO DISCUSS REIMBURSEMENT OF EX-PARISH CLERK'S CILCA FEES

The ex-Parish Clerk had refused reimbursement of his Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) fees and Members wished to write to the ex-Clerk to convey the Council's thanks for his honourable decision.

RESOLVED: That a letter of thanks is sent to the ex-Parish Clerk.

22. TO RECEIVE INFORMATION RE: THE SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY (SDNPA)

Members discussed the information received and a proposal was received, seconded and voted in favour of the Chair responding with the suggestions discussed.

RESOLVED: That the Chair responds to the SDNPA with the suggestions discussed.

23. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Monday 9 January 2017 at Hambleton Village Hall, at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.