



DRAFT MINUTES

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

PRESENT:

Cllr Encke (Chair); Cllr Silcock; & Cllr Hand

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Lee (WCC; left 8.32pm); Jan Jarvie (FAG); and one member of the public.

Meeting started at 7.31pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2184	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of Betty Parvin and all other villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2185	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Mason, Dyson & Lamb. Apologies also received from Cllrs Pearson (WCC), Lumby (HCC) & Wallace (WCC).	
2186	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
2187	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2188	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. No questions from members of the public.	
2189	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2190	District councillor's report & questions arising	No report received. Cllr Lee commented as follows: • WCC Go Greener Faster Grant Scheme advice clinic 17/01/24. • WCC consultation re. budget saving/income generation - ideas to be submitted before 15/01/24. • Mayor's Awards - deadline for submissions 18/02/24. • Modernising our hospitals & Health Services Programme consultation - open until 17/03/24. • WCC has no responsibility for flooding issues but Cllrs Lee & Wallace are continuing to push other agencies for action.	

2190 cont.	District councillor's report & questions arising cont.	• Wed 10/01/24, 10am - deadline for posing questions to be raised at full WCC council. Cllr Lee will be raising the issue of flooding. • Flooding/SW issues - need clarity regarding responsibilities of EA/HCC/SW/WCC. • Portsmouth News has responded to Cllr Lee. Hopefully, an article on issues in Hambledon will be published. • Trials are being carried out by SW in villages west of Andover (and Alfriston & Firle in Sussex) using Tubo-gel to seal leaky pipes. It was noted that this would not work for Hambledon because the increased pressure is from outside the pipes, so sealant on the inside would quickly be displaced. • Decarbonising Transport Open Forum 29/01/24 6.30-9pm. Public meeting online.	
2191	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix A). No questions to HCC.	
2192	Police/PCSO report	No report received. [Post meeting note: PCSO Wheeler-Osman had hoped to attend in person but was unavailable on the night. Clerk has requested Dec 2023 stats for Hambledon.]	
2193	Mins of previous meetings (04/12/23)	Agreed as a true record.	
2194	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement - schedule for 2023/24 as follows: 07/02/24. Flooding @ bottom of Bury Lodge Lane - Cllr Lumby has chased on behalf of the PC and HH has confirmed that will revisit the site with the intention to patch the affected area by the junction. Rattling manhole covers - no update. Village maintenance - Clerk & Cllrs Silcock & Hand walked the Village 30/11/23 to start documenting what regular maintenance needs doing and when. The plan is to re-approach potential contractors with a schedule. Speed limit reminder - batteries received. Cllr Silcock & members of TPSWG considering possible placements etc. Cllr Silcock to discuss with BASS members. Clerk has requested that device & batteries are used or stored elsewhere due to space limitations. Large puddle on pavement outside 13 West St/The Cross Tree - Clerk has reported to HH online but no response received to date. Footpath 18 resurfacing - no progress. PC to decide whether to look for contractor quotes or not. WCC work at The Gardens - Cllr Lamb to update cllrs. Play Equipment Maintenance - repainting of lines on tarmac. Kevin Bentley has advised that the PC would be better to ask for a quote from a specialist who has line-painting machinery etc. Clerk to investigate costs. No update. Southern Water issues - letter to Environmental Health (copied to HPC cllrs; HCC & WCC Cllrs; & Flick Drummond MP) sent 19/09/23. Cllr Lee liaising re media coverage etc. Flooding on road near Kings Rest - reported to HH 13/10/23. No update yet.	Cllr Silcock

2194	Clerk's progress report	Damaged bollards at East St pinch-point - have been reported to HH. Resignation of Councillor & Co-option - no applicants for co-option. Clerk to re-advertise. Remembrance Sunday post-event report: Cllr Silcock confirmed that TS Tenacity has confirmed summer Hort Soc Show availability but not yet Remembrance Sunday. Cllr Silcock to chase Feb 2024. Cllr Encke to add note in July Hambledonian article re everyone welcome to join parade. Clerk to chase Jan Zawada re bugler. Need to have bugler even if band not available.	Clerk Cllr Silcock Cllr Encke Clerk
2195	Budget/Precept 2024/25	Resolved: that the PC approves the budget and precept of £53,517.00 for the financial year 2024/25. Amendment to the draft budget as follows: • Reduce SG playground fund by £1k (£24k to £23k) • Increase parish maintenance by £1k (£3k to £4k) Cllrs agreed unanimously.	Clerk
2196	Q3 2023/24 Financial Report & Statements	Resolved: that the PC approves the Q3 2023/24 Financial Report & Statements.	Clerk
2197	Bank account	Bank balance @ 01/01/24 - £55,766.02 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statements 165, 02 Dec 2023 to 04 Dec 2023; and 166, 05 Dec 2023 to 31 Dec 2023.)	
2198	HP Instant Ink	Resolved: that the PC approves the increase in monthly cost of the HP Instant Ink service from £4.49 to £5.49 (the additional £1/month to be paid to the Clerk as the DD is taken from the Clerk's personal bank account).	
2199	BIFFA Recycling Service	Resolved: that the PC acknowledges and approves the increase in Biffa contract prices as of 30/12/23, as follows: <u>Haulage</u> Currently, PC pays £12.63 per lift (which is fortnightly; 1100L bin). Conversion rate for litres to cubic metres is to /1000, so 1.1 cubic metres. 1.1 x £1.38 is £1.52 increase per lift (total £14.15). <u>Rental</u> Currently, £1.54/week rental. A £0.03/day increase in rental would equate to a £0.21 increase per week (total £1.75).	

2200	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester Clerk salary (Dec 2023) £1,284.89 NEST Clerk pension (Dec 2023) £116.74 Hambledon Village Hall Hall hire (Dec 2023) £22.50 Biffa Waste Services Ltd [Direct Debit set up for hard plastics recycling bin @ VH.] Dec 2023 £56.46 Mr Wayne T Smith Christmas tree for Churchyard £95.00 HCC (Highways) Licence for GH planters £196.00 Nigel Foster HG website hosting (reimbursement) £202.30 Alfie Goodwin-Hudson Tennis Coaching (Dec 2023) £80.00 Moritz Flohr Tennis Coaching (Dec 2023) £60.00 The following invoices were received after the publication of the agenda and are hence in addition to those payments advertised: Jay Smith Tennis Coaching (Dec 2023) £40.00 LTA Operations Ltd Tennis court registration 2023/24 £68.00	Clerk
2201	Planning applications	• SDNP/23/05256/LIS - Bury Lodge, West Street, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4QL. Internal changes to layout so as to operate better as a private mansion with rooms more linked together and bedrooms having en suite facilities. Reverse changes made by previous owners in creating two apartments (not part of a separate planning application as un necessary). No external alterations by way of additions, changes or extensions. The only work to the outside is to refit two doorways back to where they originally existed, replacement porch canopy and re tile a dilapidated roof and extensive restoration to predominately the outside of the house (a smaller amount internally). A letter with more detail is enclosed in the application. [NO OBJECTION.]	Clerk
2202	Planning apps received after 02/01/24	None received.	
2203	Planning decisions	Noted, with the addition of: • SDNP/23/05027/APNB - Rushmere Farm, Rushmere Lane, Hambledon, Hampshire, PO7 4SG. 2 x polytunnels and 2 x shipping containers required for growing and storage of home grown vegetables. [Application Not Required - Prior Notific.]	
2204	FAG WG	Report received (Appendix B). Jan Jarvie reported the following: • Frequent notices go out to residents whose properties flood, but to date there have been no reports back to JJ of cellars being pumped. • BP has been witnessed full x2 this past week (without people pumping). Could blow manhole covers & then B2150 would need to be closed. • Sides of ditch around bridge (after BP outlet) appear to be deteriorating further.	

2204 cont.	FAG WG cont.	• As of 08/01/24 - aquifer levels are well over thresholds for Broad Half Penny Down and Whitedale. • Flooding at Grenvilles last Thursday. Not in Hambledon parish therefore cannot go onto the Hambledon Flooders List. Need to be re-directed to Denmead PC. • Sandbags - hessian ones don't appear to be available. Plastic ones are. George Crossley has offered to store filled bags. 80 sandbags cost approx £1k. Cllrs agreed that not within remit of PC to supply sandbags (filled or otherwise; other alternatives are available). Also agreed that if residents need something the advice should be to speak to a builders' yard or big DIY store for advice. • Need hoses for new pumps. JJ suggests buying reel of 2" hose. • JJ asked if PC could set up an a/c for Beaver Tool Hire. Need to buy hose; may need to rent a generator (circa £50/week). To buy would be circa £5k. • Cllrs agreed that PC needs to be a facilitator - ie set up account with Beaver Tool Hire & offer help, but not finance. • Cllrs asked what the trigger point to hiring a generator would be - start having power outages? JJ confirmed that it would. Then hire a generator in for a period of time. [Cllrs agreed that the PC should not finance the hiring or purchase of a generator.] • Cllrs asked who administers the Flood Action Plan (FAP). [JJ;PQ & NM; and PC owns it.] Needs to go onto PC website. JJ to send to Clerk. • The Vine - continues to be a problem. New pump & hose purchased; holes drilled through walls etc but no action being taken. [Manager likely to be only person who can influence property owner. JJ to deliver new materials tomorrow then responsibility down to land-lord and land-owner.] • Succession planning for FAG Chair - PC needs to start thinking about this. Cllr Encke asked JJ to write a few lines about what the role entails - for next available Hambledonian article. • May need to link FAP with the Church (e.g. out-reach actions). Formal thanks offered to Cllrs Lee and Wallace for their recent work on flooding issues.	Clerk Cllr Encke
2205	BASS WG	Report received (Appendix C). No further comments.	
2206	SDNPA CIL Funding	Resolved: that the PC defers discussing potential projects for the 2023/24 round of the SDNPA CIL funding until the Feb PC meeting.	Clerk
2207	Tennis WG	Frank Luard has reported the following: • New shed is being kindly donated by a villager. Will be 6'x6' (current one is 6'x4'; sits on paving slabs). PC expressed thanks to villager. • LTA registration delayed but now completed, bar payment.	

2208	Play & Playgrounds Re-vamp WG	Clerk confirmed that no progress has been made with SG play equipment. Cllr Encke to assist Clerk with taking this forward. Ref playground checks - have been weekly but cllrs agreed that fortnightly checks would be sufficient. Clerk to arrange schedule etc.	Clerk Clerk
2209	Annual Play Area Inspections Mar 2024	Resolved: that the PC agrees to The Play Inspection Company (organised by WCC) carrying out the annual inspection of the play equipment area at Hambledon Village Hall, at a cost of £54.95, with no optional extras.	
2210	Village Maintenance	Resolved: that the PC postpones discussions on sourcing a contractor to carry out general village maintenance to the Feb PC meeting. Clerk & Cllrs Silcock/Hand to arrange site meetings with contractors who have responded to Clerk's enquiries.	Clerk/ Cllrs Silcock & Hand
2211	Hambledon Greening WG	Report received (see Appendix D).	
2212	Vineyard Liaison Group	Resolved: that that PC appoints Cllr Hand to replace Paul Quinn on the Vineyard Liaison Group.	Clerk
2213	Reports & Issues	Correspondence received from residents on the following issues: • Leaf litter on paths & road between VH and Green Man - dangerous for pedestrians and negates any benefit of HCC drain clearing works (a co-ordinated approach between HCC and WCC is required). HCC and WCC Councillors have been made aware and Cllr Pearson has requested leaf clearance schedule from WCC. Clerk has sent request to Andrew Turner (WCC) for urgent clearance along route of Big Pipe. On-going. [Clearance happened Fri 5th Jan; Cllr Pearson asked to give feedback that not done completely incl drain at the bottom of Back Lane.] • Hambledon Vineyard - lack of progress completing Visitors' Centre; 'environmental damage'; stile on fp15b; & hope for good engagement of new owners with the village. • Southern Water - lack of action repairing/replacing sewage infrastructure.	
2214	Date/time of next meeting	• <u>Mon 12th Feb 2024</u> at Hambledon VH; 7.30pm (Cllr Mason away now until Mar 2024 meeting). NOTE - THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE FROM 05/02/24 DUE TO CLLR AVAILABILITY.	
2215	Confidential matters	No members of the public were in attendance. No confidential matters were discussed.	

The meeting closed at 9.33pm

Signed:

Cllr Encke (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

1. Household DIY waste charges ended

From 1 January 2024, residents using Hampshire County Council Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) will no longer be charged for disposing of their DIY waste - in line with the Government policy changes.

Up to two 50-litre rubble bags, or one bulky item such as a sink or toilet pedestal, will be accepted for free, at a maximum frequency of four visits over four weeks. Anything more than this amount will be chargeable at current rates, as permitted by national legislation, to cover specialist disposal costs. DIY waste can be accepted at all HWRCs in Hampshire except New Alresford due to its restricted size. Customers must also be able to lift, carry and empty out their DIY waste.

The Council estimates that the removal of the charges could impose an additional cost to Hampshire council taxpayers of up to £2 million every year. This is because recycling or disposal of DIY waste, such as soil, rubble, asbestos and gypsum board, requires specialist processing and the fees we currently charge help to cover these expenses. This will need to be taken into account as part of the Council's savings proposals to help meet a £132 million budget shortfall faced by the local authority from April 2025. This will include a review of Hampshire's HWRCs.

2. Schools

Parents with children due to start school or move to a junior school in September 2024 are reminded that they have until **Monday 15 January 2024** to submit their primary school applications. Parents will have the best chance of being offered a place at one of their preferred schools by applying on time and naming three preferences on their applications.

A recent survey across secondary schools and colleges in Hampshire shows a large increase in the percentage of young people both experimenting with, and using vapes. The survey shows that experimentation with vapes increases from 4% in year 7 to 53% in year 13. Similarly, vape use increases from 7% in year 10, to 18% in year 13. The Council is therefore continuing its clampdown on shops selling vapes illegally to underage buyers. Test purchase operations took place in December 2023, with visits to 17 different premises with teenage volunteers helping officers by going into the businesses to attempt to buy a vape, also known as an e-cigarette. Since September 2023, Trading Standards has prevented the sale of over £200,000 of illegal vapes and e-cigarettes by removing them from shops across Hampshire.

3. Fire and Rescue Authority Mid-Year Update

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service has published its mid-year update on their annual performance. This provides useful (and positive) insights as to the activities of the service and is well worth a look. The update can be seen at [https:// www.hantsfire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/HIWFRS-2023-24-Mid-Year-Performance-Update-Report.pdf](https://www.hantsfire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/HIWFRS-2023-24-Mid-Year-Performance-Update-Report.pdf)

4. Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan consultation

The consultation on the updated plan is expected to start during the week beginning **8 January 2024** and to last for eight weeks. Details can be found at [https:// www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update](https://www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update)

5. Climate change and nature recovery

The Council has published its Climate Change Annual Progress Report which highlights the progress of council backed community initiatives and its own efforts to tackle climate change. One example is the Solar Together scheme - over the past two years, 2,100 households have purchased competitively priced solar panels, resulting in the installation of 7,400kw of rooftop solar power, which has the capacity to save an estimated 46,000 tonnes of carbon emissions. Separately, the Council is launching a survey asking residents where they would like to see improvements for nature recovery, their views on nature priorities and what action they may be taking locally to help nature in their area. This is an important first step in the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy which is intended to create a blueprint for the recovery of nature in Hampshire – outlining what we can do, where the opportunities for doing it are, and considering how it can be delivered alongside wider positive environmental outcomes for people and nature, such as reduced flood risk. It will provide organisations with a framework for developing nature recovery projects and help prioritise funding and investment in Hampshire's nature's recovery. Here is a link to the online survey.

6. Roads

A reminder that part of the A32 Droxford Road near Wickham – from the crossroads junction with the B2177 Southwick Road and Bridge Street to north of Rookesbury Park Farm – will shut for one week starting on Monday, January 8. A final report for your perusal, this time the County Council's Highways Service Annual Review for 2022/23 which offers useful insights into the Highways team's activity over what has been an exceptionally busy and challenging period. You can access the review via the link. You will notice the continuing intensive focus on fixing potholes and other road defects following confirmation of the 3-year Stronger Roads Today campaign in July. This has enabled the deployment of significantly more repair teams

and specialist equipment with the primary aim of making our roads better, fixing defects more quickly, and addressing the widespread deterioration from last winter's wet and freezing weather.

7. Happy New Year

My best wishes to everyone for 2024, I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division hugh.lumby@hants.gov.uk

APPENDIX B Overview

FAG Report Jan 2024

At the start of a new year we remain in the throws of a heavy rainy season, with scattered and quickly changing forecasts from the Environment Agency(EA), and various other weather prognosticators, redefined almost by the hour. The trend levels at Broadhalfpenny Down and Whitedale have been fluctuating to a great extent in the "trigger point" range, and we continue to monitor the data as an important source of information.

04/01/23	BHD 58.020 AOD	Whitedale	51.394 AOD
03/01/24	BHD 61.360 AOD	Whitedale	55.723 AOD

We expect a large number of people in the village are watching the same trend charts. To ensure we keep Tom Woods and the EA in the picture, the latest Hambledonian article from the FAG encourages greater feedback and two-way communication from people in the village to capture their observations. (See item 8)

Latest Advice from Tom Woods at the EA:

Thank you very much for your update. Really useful to know what's going on. Your article for the local magazine looks good, thank you for trying to find out more information. I just had a few days off over the Christmas period, so please feel free to continue sending any information my way, I'll be monitoring the levels full-time again.

Groundwater flooding in Hambledon – Flood Alert Update

In Hambledon, groundwater levels are high but currently slowly falling. However, in the last 7 days, more than half a month's rain (56 mm) has been recorded at Worlds End. Groundwater levels in Hambledon are expected to begin rising again from tomorrow (04/01/2023). Properties along West and East Street are experiencing ongoing cellar flooding. Groundwater is inundating the sewerage system. Fareham Road is flooded and the football pitch is being affected by a mixture of groundwater and sewerage. The weather forecast for the next five days is for relatively small amounts of rain. However, there is a possibility that heavy rain (45mm) could be recorded in Hampshire on Thursday (04/01/2024). Groundwater levels in Hambledon are expected to rise for at least the next 7 days. If heavy rain affects the area, levels could rise very quickly. Further cellar flooding is expected during this time. We are liaising with Hambledon Flood Action Group. If you use pumps to help reduce water levels, please ensure that they are operating. This Flood Alert will be updated by 17:00 on Wednesday 10/01/2024.

Sewerage Situation

The operation at the Bury Lodge Station continues on a grand scale, similar to the set-up at the beginning of 2023. They have supplied a container module equipped with a toilet, washing, cooking and storage facilities. (It looks like they plan on remaining for an extended period of time) We have been speaking regularly to the full-time tenders of the pumping machinery, nursery tanks and distribution manifolds that transfer the liquids to the steady rota of road tankers. There's plenty of gear totally blocking Fareham Road to any type of vehicle, including bicycles. So far there has been very little odour, and the atmosphere remains calm on the site

Update on Activities of the FAG

Last month we produced a list of items that we are progressing during the Flood Season.

1) The Vine requires assistance from the FAG: a good deal of effort was required to provide the unobstructed route for the discharge hoses leading down to the street drain. Four holes had to be drilled through the thick brick walls of the refrigeration spaces to ensure a clear fire exit. This was a formidable task, and thanks to eager volunteer labour the job has been completed. The pumping arrangement has not been connected, however, due to pending safety considerations.

- 2) The supply of Sandbags is still an open issue awaiting further planning and action.
 - 3) Emergency Equipment – two Tsurumi pumps have been ordered and received. Regarding the power generator, there is still ongoing effort needed to make the selection, and the buy or rent decision. (action Jan Jarvie)
 - 4) Verifying and updating of the vulnerable people and properties information register. (More help with getting the information correct and “tested,” is needed, in particular with regard to those vulnerable to infrastructure failures, e.g. power outage or sewerage problems.
 - 5) Reviewing and updating of the volunteer lists, identifying new people to contact, exploring and documenting the skills available, developing and establishing the requirements for a “war room” if and when the size and extent of the flooding events dictates the need. This remains Work In Progress (WIP) (Need a project manager)
 - 6) Collecting and verifying the contact details for support from outside of the village, such as police and fire services, district councillors, key members of Hampshire County Council, Winchester City Council, Scottish and Southern Electricity. A huge benefit would be to identify a representative named individual that can be available “on the ground” from Southern Water. We had such a person in 1994, 2000 and 2001, who kept us informed of the status of their activities, which really helped to relieve some of the anxiety. This needs more energy.
 - 7) More Information from HCC – what help can we expect from them during a serious flooding situation? There has been a total lack of response to the major problems we’ve raised with the poor maintenance of our main flood defences, and what can we expect to see in the way of support in dealing with the effects of those failures. Still open issue, but needs serious consideration from all parties affected/
 - 8) Keep your thoughts and ideas coming – all input is appreciated! We need to capture hands-on experiences, observations, the lessons learnt, photographs, and ways to improve our efforts, along with future lead volunteers. This is very much in hand at this time, and good progress is being maintained.
- Note:** There is always somewhat of a lag in enthusiasm in the situation we’re currently in, but past history has taught us that it will all get sorted quickly when the serious cellar pumping commences, and the war office is created and staffed! “When the going gets tough, the tough get going!”

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Jarvie
Flood Action Group

APPENDIX C

BASS Working Group Report Jan 2024

The BASS WG is meeting with SDNPA and Hampshire Highways reps on Thursday 11 Jan @ 10am. The purpose of the meeting is to summarise briefly the results of our survey, the speed data gathering exercise and our proposals for changes around the Village to improve traffic and pedestrian safety, and then to explore with officials what is actually possible, at what cost and over what timeline plus exploring sources of SDNPA/HCC funding to help offset the cost.

APPENDIX D

Hambledon Greening Report Jan 2024

Repair Café:

- The next Repair Cafe and recycling collection will be held in Hambledon on January 20th 2024 from 10am - 12pm.

Community Energy group:

- 3 working sub-groups have been suggested that will meet prior to a plenary in late February to discuss ways forward:
 - To investigate and establish whether Hambledon has the grid capacity to support a community energy scheme
 - To conduct a survey of our current and future energy requirements as a community

- To develop a community engagement plan

Retrofit:

- 40 villagers requested thermal images and we are very grateful to the six volunteers who used the two cameras borrowed from the national Greening Campaign and the two owned by villagers to complete most of that list between Dec 3rd and 22nd. A few are still to be done in the New Year using the two privately-owned cameras.
- The national Greening Campaign has organised a follow-up online seminar from 7-9pm on Thursday Feb 1st to give advice to villagers on how to make the best use of their thermal images, focussing on issues such as insulation and energy use. It will involve three experts: Christine Seaward from the Sustainability Centre, either Peter Moss or Stuart Mills from the Hampshire Retrofit scheme and Adam Goulden from the Environment Centre.
- This will be advertised to the whole community.

Biodiversity:

- Lee Hulin, the National Trust Countryside Manager for Hinton Ampner Estate, Speltham Down and Ludshott & Selborne Commons, has replied to our request to help with possible surveys of flora and fauna on Speltham Down. He is very grateful for our interest and will be in touch in February or March 2024 to discuss options for the spring and summer survey season.

2024/2025 budget:

- The HGC Committee has asked me to request that our annual budget for 2024-25 be increased to £1000 (from the £900 requested in my previous report), to cover possible extra expenses from the Community Energy initiative still being planned.

We are grateful as always for your support.
Dr Penny Mahon (secretary of HGC)