



DRAFT MINUTES

West Meon Parish Council
06 Dec 2022; 7.30pm; West Meon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair); Cllr Waller; Cllr Edwards; Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Gedye & Cllr Silk

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Lumby (HCC/WCC; left 8.25pm); Cllr Bolton (WCC; left 8.25pm) & one member of the public.

Meeting started at 7.32pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2181	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of John Seymour-Howell and all other villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2182	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Adams.	
2183	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None.	
2184	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2185	Public questions & comments	<p>Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins.</p> <p>Member of the public spoke re VH Committee. Two points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warm spaces – not existing in WM currently. VH could be used but not manned and left cold unless someone using it (for cost reasons). Building to offer but little else. Not confident that people would use it. People that would benefit from it might not feel comfortable using it. [Cllr commented that East Meon runs one 11am-1pm Mon-Fri regularly have 15 people attending. Newspapers/magazines; chat; light lunch. Manning is an issue.] No official VH meeting has been held to discuss it. [Cllr Lumby commented that grants are available but demand is not necessarily there, at the moment.] [Cllr Bolton commented that cost of living crisis is changing people's habits e.g. keeping windows shut, turning down heaters – can lead to mould problems. Education is key.] Cllrs agreed to re-visit in January 2023. Dealing with electricity costs – electric car charging facility. Would the PC want one to be installed in the car park? There is one already at the West Meon Hut. Government is likely to be rolling out many more public charging points. 	Clerk

		Public ones operate at quite a large profit margin compared to private charging points. Cllr made the point that would be better to use less appliances that are more efficient, rather than producing more electricity at a cheaper rate.	
2186	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2187	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix A). WMPC cllrs asked Cllr Bolton the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why has parking sign been put so close to 16-23 Drs Lane? [Cllr Bolton confirmed that the sign was originally put in the wrong place, so now moved to see if it would put pressure on community to do things differently & solve the problem. May be better to use lawn at top and put a couple of bays there, and/or create some more disabled parking.] Cllr asked how many bungalows there [8 bungalows & 8 bays]. Cllr commented that originally the bungalows were for older residents & they would likely only have one car max. Possible now that there are families with 2 or 3 vehicles. [Cllr Bolton: Is there potential to create more parking in the village?] Cllrs considered not. 	
2188	County councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix B). WMPC cllr asked Cllr Lumby the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which authority works with Abri (maintenance service for Housing Association)? [WCC] Cllr has spoken to a resident who lives in Long Priors who only has one working heating appliance in the property. Other 4 do not work incl ones in children's bedrooms. Been in contact with Abri – either don't come out or no resolution. Cllr Waller to send Cllr Bolton details and he will take further. 	Cllr Waller
2189	Police/PCSO report	No report received.	
2190	Mins of previous meetings (07/11/22)	Agreed as a true record.	
2191	Clerk's progress report	Parish Lengthsman Agreement - Upcoming visits as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14/02/22 (this will be for a full day instead of two half days 15/12/22 and 16/02/23, as requested by cllrs). Planning Applications - Lippenwood Farm – trees that border Lippen Lane need cutting back. Cllr Edwards has advised Clerk that overgrowth is not as bad as first thought & therefore no need to report to HH at the present time. However, cllrs decided that it is a problem that needs addressing. Clerk to contact HH to report. Cllr Edwards to send exact location to Clerk.	Clerk Clerk/ Cllr Edwards
2192	Bank account	Bank balance - £123,000.45 @ 30/11/22 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statements 145 & 146 (01 Nov 2022 to 30 Nov 2022 & 01 Dec 2022 to 04 Dec 2022).	Clerk
2193	Grant request – WM Village Shop	Resolved: that the PC approves a grant of £500 to West Meon Village Shop for repair of the shop roof. This is dependent on the Shop providing the Clerk with a minimum of 2 itemised quotes for the work (in excess of £500). Cllrs voted unanimously for. Clerk to inform WMVS.	Clerk

2194	Payment of accounts	<p>Mrs J C Tester Clerk's salary (Nov 2022) £696.90</p> <p>NEST Clerk's pension (Nov 2022) £56.16</p> <p>Mrs J C Tester Clerk's expenses (Nov 2022) £7.11</p> <p>West Meon Village Hall Hall hire (Nov 2022) £15.00</p> <p>J West Christmas trees x6 £120.00</p>	Clerk
2195	Planning applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDNP/22/05459/HOUS & SDNP/22/05460/LIS – Court House, Court Lane, West Meon, Hampshire, GU321JG. Erection of replacement oil tank. [NO OBJECTION.] 	Clerk
2196	Planning apps received after 30/11/22	None received.	
2197	Planning decisions	All decisions were noted.	
2198	Portsmouth Water's draft water resources management plan	Resolved: that the PC has discussed Portsmouth Water's draft water resources management plan and does not consider it necessary to respond to the consultation.	Clerk
2199	Draft updates to the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan	<p>Resolved: that the PC has discussed the draft updates to the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan and will respond to the consultation as follows:</p> <p>‘With reference to Policy 4.44, the Parish Council would like to stress the important of CDE waste facilities NOT being placed in tranquil locations (inappropriate countryside locations).’</p> <p>Clerk to respond.</p>	Clerk
2200	Planning WG	<p>No written report. The following updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VDS - Cllr Waller commented that there has been a legal challenge to another VDS within the National Park so all new VDSs must have a further two consultations. One by SDNP with PC involvement; other purely SDNP. Two sections potentially ‘topical’ will be ‘building form design materials’ and ‘conclusion’. Layout will be sorted next week. That draft will then go back to SDNP. 	
2201	Community, Housing & Recreation WG	<p>No written report. The following updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreation ground – nothing to report. • Christmas lights - Stars cannot go outside the butchers shop because electricity supply points have been removed during renovations. Christmas tree with battery operated lights can still be placed there. How the High St looks during the festive period could be a strategic project going forward. PC could pay for installation etc. and the business could pay for electricity. Benefit to whole of the community. • Christmas trees – will be arriving this Friday. • Boules – eco-survey needed. • Metis Homes – no update. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish News – to be included in the next PC report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear drains outside houses; • VDS update; • Lengthsman coming for a day in Feb 2023; • traffic consultation update; and • how would villagers like to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III? To e-mail Clerk with suggestions. • Roadsign on Marlands Lane – tilting; needs work on it. Cllr Waller to send photo to Clerk & Clerk to report to HH. • Refuge bins on Church Lane (left on the road) – issue with rats. Residents need to continue to report to Environmental Health. • Traffic consultation by resident - progress has been made with comments via social media & written responses etc. To be discussed at Jan 2023 PC meeting. • ‘Tommy’ statues – two were received instead of one. RBLI have been informed. Awaiting advice on whether to post back etc. 	<p>Cllr Waller/ Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2202	Coronation of King Charles III	Resolved: that the PC does not make an application to WCC to request a road closure or form a working group to plan a village celebration in May 2023 to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. Cllrs agreed that the PC was very proactive for the Jubilee in 2022 and that there are other groups and individuals in the village who could take on event planning.	
2203	‘Warm Hub’ scheme	Resolved: that the PC would not, at the current time, look into setting up a warm hub in the village, but that the idea would be revisited in January 2023 (also see minute ref 2185).	Clerk
2204	Finance & Administration WG	No written report received. The following updates were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMPC draft leases – Rifle Club has responded & solicitor happy to deal with small issues raised. VH has also now responded. PC’s solicitor has advised to go back to VH Committee & request that they get their own legal representation so that solicitors on both sides can liaise. Clerk to write formally to the Chair of the VH. • Co-option of WMPC member – Cllr Nicholson has finalized a poster advertising the vacancies on the PC. 	Clerk
2205	Reports & Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gallagher Cyber Assist Webinar 30/11/22 – Clerk unable to attend due to IT problems but will look at recording and will report back at the Jan 2023 meeting. • New external auditor (for the 5-year period from 2022/23 to 2026/27) has been announced as BDO LLP. 	Clerk
2206	Date/time of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues 10th Jan 2022 at West Meon VH (Main Hall); 7.30pm. • Feb 2023 meeting changed to the 14th Feb. • To discuss next meeting - VDS; leases; Metis progress report; traffic review; warm hub; cyber assist; Lengthsman work for Feb 2023. 	Clerk
2207	Confidential matters	No members of the public/press were present and there were no confidential matters to discuss.	

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

Winchester City Councillors December Report

Planning Department Improvements

I raised with Julie Pinnock, who is service lead for the Built Environment and head of planning at WCC, some of the frustrations voiced to me by various parish councillors. Specifically, the quality of submissions sent through to the parishes for comment, the unacceptable delays in progressing applications and lack of feedback.

I originally raised some of these issues with Simon Finch who left and so Julie came back with the following paraphrased response:

“I can advise that the National Planning guidance sets out the validation requirements in order for an application to be submitted to and accepted by the Local Planning Authority as valid. Here is a link to the national policy. Making an application - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

We are required to validate applications provided they meet the national criteria, as well as the relevant Local validation list. Once an application has been validated we formally notify Parish Councils and near neighbours to enable them to comment on the proposals. Comments can include the quality of submission. I do agree that some submissions are superior to others and make it easier to interpret the plans and submission.

My team use their experience of the planning system when making judgements on whether they can interpret the plans and be satisfied on what they are being asked to consider by applicants/agents. We do very much welcome Parish Council comments, they (like Ward Members) have the best understanding of what is happening locally and can input valuable information to us to take into consideration. It is not possible to respond individually to Parish Councils or residents on each case, but we do publish the case officers report which covers the material planning considerations and what has led to the case officer recommendation.

I would acknowledge that there had been some delays in progressing some applications within our National Park Team. The previous Team Leader and one of the Planning Officers left at around the same time. We have successfully recruited to both posts and have put some additional temporary resource into the team so we are able to progress applications in a timely way.

Lisa Booth has been appointed as the Team Leader for our National Park planning team. I know Lisa would be happy to chat over any specific cases with you and the Parish Council. Her telephone number is 01962 848244.

I hope this is useful – I would be happy to discuss this with you and do let me know if you have any other feedback from the Parish Council meetings you attend.”

Winchester Mediation Services

As a specialised local charity, they assist the Winchester and District area with a range of disputes. They have seven trustees on the board and a pool of eight highly trained and experienced volunteer mediators and support volunteers.

They specialise in neighbour and/or landlord and tenant disputes. They have been the mediation provider to the Winchester City Council housing team since 2002; the Winchester City Council's official Assessment Service for tenant disputes since 2010; and have also been working with Environmental Health since 2018.

Beyond working with the Council, they also work with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and local housing associations in addition to undertaking employment mediation.

Mediation can de-escalate conflict, resolve disputes and provide an effective alternative channel to formal, adjudication based dispute resolution.

Although the majority of disputes are, on the face of it, related to noise, disputes of this kind are often complex and multi-layered meaning that there are often multiple triggers. Over two years, 20 - 22, the breakdowns were very similar with over 50% disputes about noise. Other issues involve, Pets, Damage to property, Gardens and boundaries, Parking, Children Harassment and verbal abuse.

Parish council members are often approached about issues and may not realise WMS are able to assist. They can also take referrals from members of the public who are not council tenants.

For assistance from dedicated and highly trained mediators, contact WMS on winchestermediation@yahoo.co.uk

Road Closures for Coronation

Due to the significant number of submissions the council is expecting, applications for Coronation Party road closures are invited to begin now and they need to be submitted at least 12 weeks in advance so that residents can be confident of getting the legal process completed in time for the event, therefore the final date for submissions is Friday 3rd February 2023. Applications after this date will be accepted, but no guarantee can be given they will be processed in time. Another option if you do not want to apply for a road closure would be to celebrate in one of Winchester's beautiful open spaces or parks with your friends and neighbours.

Councillor Neil Bolton, Upper Meon Valley ward Nbolton@winchester.gov.uk

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Upper Meon Valley ward Hlumby@winchester.gov.uk

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor report December 2022

1.HCC reorganisation - Hampshire County Council is carrying out an internal reorganisation, with some changes in its senior leadership. This has necessitated a change in responsibilities of the Council's Cabinet. With effect from 1 January 2023, there will now be as follows:

- Adults' Health and Care - Cllr Liz Fairhurst (lead member) and Cllr Jan Warwick
 - Children's Services - Cllr Edward Heron (lead member) and Cllr Steve Forster
 - Universal Services - Cllr Nick Adams-King (lead member) and Cllr Russell Oppenheimer
 - Hampshire 2050 and Corporate Services - Cllr Rob Humby (leader) and Cllr Rob Chadd (deputy leader)
- Cllr Kirsty North will continue as Cabinet Member for HR, Performance, Communications and Inclusion and Diversity.

2.Leader calls on Government to address local government underfunding - Rob Humby, the leader of Hampshire County Council has called on the Government to take urgent action to address the looming financial crisis facing upper tier local government over the next few years. In a letter sent to the Prime Minister, Chancellor and Secretary of State, Councillor Humby, and Kent County Council Leader, Councillor Roger Gough, have outlined the drastic budget implications facing the two authorities, and the need for Government's immediate help and a clear plan for long-term financial sustainability, if the two County Councils are to avoid filing bankruptcy notices within the next year or so. Councillor Humby commented that "both Hampshire and Kent are high-performing, financially well-run and long respected County Councils. However, we face budget deficits over the next few years of a scale that has never been seen before – but not of our own doing. Our budgets are now at breaking point. We have gone as far as we

can to close the budget gaps we have faced to date, and there is nowhere left to go in future without severely impacting some of the most vulnerable people in our society. ”The two leaders have asked the Government to put local councils on a long-term sustainable financial footing. Their request includes more annual funding to keep up with growing demand for adults and children’s social care services or legislative changes to reduce the demands on these services; fully funding the social care funding reforms and more money for growth in special educational needs; as well as greater freedom and flexibility around setting council tax and charging for services, alongside legislative changes to help local government help itself.

3. Winter support - Hampshire’s most vulnerable residents will not be left out in the cold this winter, thanks to a range of measures to help people with the costs of food, fuel and other essentials. Using its latest round of Household Support Funding from the Department for Work and Pensions, Hampshire County Council will be investing more than £7 million in a wide variety of schemes and initiatives targeting households facing hardship, between now and March 2023. The initiatives will expand on what was offered in the previous funding round to include support for foster carers registered with the County Council, unpaid carers, care leavers, and people with disabilities. It will also widen the support available to reach out to those who may not be eligible for other assistance but are nevertheless in need. Details can be found by emailing connect4communities@hants.gov.uk or visiting the [connect4communities](http://connect4communities.com) website.

4. Minerals and Waste Plan update consultation - Hampshire’s five minerals and waste planning authorities are asking residents, local groups and businesses to help scrutinise proposed changes to Hampshire’s Minerals and Waste Plan to ensure that it will continue to ensure provision of a steady and adequate supply of minerals and sufficient waste infrastructure, as well as maintain communities, protect the local environment and address the impacts of climate change. The consultation allows residents to comment on local sites that have been identified for minerals extraction and transportation. Sites for waste processing, recycling and disposal facilities are also indicated in the Plan - so that the millions of tonnes of household and commercial waste generated across the county can be dealt with as efficiently and sustainably as possible. The proposed updated plan and the response form can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update. The consultation will close at 17:00 hours on Tuesday 31 January 2023. 5. Boundary Commission review of constituencies The Boundary Commission for England have published their revised proposals for parliamentary constituency boundaries. A final public consultation has commenced which closes on 5 December 2022. The revised proposals and maps can be viewed here [South East | Boundary Commission for England \(independent.gov.uk\)](http://South East | Boundary Commission for England (independent.gov.uk))

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.
Councillor Hugh Lumby Meon Valley Division