



DRAFT MINUTES

West Meon Parish Council
5th September 2023; 7.30pm; West Meon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair); Cllr Edwards; Cllr Nicholson; Cllr Gedye; Cllr Waller; & Cllr Thomson (left the room 9.20pm & returned 9.22pm).

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Bolton (WCC; left 8.06pm); Cllr Lumby (HCC; arrived 7.53pm; left 8.06pm); & 1 member of the public.

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2441	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2442	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Silk. Apologies also received from Cllr Pett (WCC).	
2443	Disclosable pecuniary interests	Cllr Nicholson declared an interest in item 2456 (SDNP/23/03601/TPO - 1 Stones Yard). As a next-door neighbour, Cllr Nicholson will refrain from commenting and voting on this item.	
2444	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2445	Public questions & comments	<p>Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villager asked for updates on speed/traffic issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clerk & Cllr confirmed that conclusion on 20sPlenty has been delayed yet again (now Nov). ○ Cllr advised that PC deciding later in meeting on the deployment schedule for the temporary speed indicator device. [Clerk to send e-mail re rejection of proposed sites to Cllr Bolton for further consideration.] • At their request, Cllr Trenchard read out a note - from a villager who was unable to attend the meeting - re. recent road closures & lack of warning/information on diversions etc. To discuss with Cllr Lumby. 	Clerk
2446	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	

2447	District councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Report received (Appendix A). Cllr Bolton added the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20sPlenty – some villages put up 20sPlenty signs made by locals. Not enforceable but may be quite effective. Cheriton has quite a few & they appear to be sponsored. Need to be mindful of maintaining a balance between keeping the rural feel of a village & erecting new signs. • Doctors' Lane (addition of parking spaces) – WCC has now relented & accepted that the shrub they wanted to save will die naturally in the short term anyway. Eco matting to be laid down. Two new disabled parking spaces will be added. SDNPA planning consent will need to be sought. • SDNP/23/02695/FUL (The West Meon planning application) – Cllr Bolton asked for clarification on what the planning actually involves. Cllr confirmed that the business is Caffeine & Machine Ltd & the plan is for a pub/café with large carpark for car meets (not a lorry park). 	
2448	County councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Report received (Appendix B). Cllr questions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Trenchard re-read the communication on recent road closures & lack of warning/information on diversions for the benefit of Cllr Lumby. Clerk to forward letter to Cllr Lumby. • Speed indicator placements – Clerk to send e-mail re rejection of proposed sites & also e-mails re redundant speed signs on A32 to Cllr Lumby for further consideration. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2449	Police/PCSO report	Not received.	
2450	Mins of previous meetings (11/07/23)	<p>Agreed as a true record with the addition of the following under item 2425 (James Ulph/Fireworkfest organisers grant): <i>It was noted by councillors the event raises funds for the community shop and therefore any grant would indirectly support the shop.</i> Clerk to send copy of amended minutes to Cllr Nicholson for website & noticeboard.</p>	<p>Clerk/ Cllr Nicholson</p>
2451	Clerk's progress report	<p>Parish Lengthsman Agreement Timetable for 2023/24 as follows: (18th Aug 2023 – this was postponed as there was insufficient work; full day to be given in Nov instead.) 24th Nov 2023 31st Jan 2024</p> <p>Finance & Administration WG WMPC-WMVH lease ongoing. To be discussed agenda item 2466.</p> <p>Asset Register Internal Auditor has advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial cost prices of existing assets should be added in as 'best estimate', based on the total fixed asset value used for the AGAR 2021/22. 	

		<p>• Insurance amounts for each category should be reassessed to reflect assets which can be self-insured. Work has been done on this through the summer. Clerk and Cllrs Nicholson & Edwards need to meet to discuss.</p> <p>Community, Housing & Recreation WG Lengthsman (steps between Marlands Lane & Storeys Meadows) online enquiry has been sent to Hyde Housing. Chased 24/08/23. Response received – enquiry has been passed to Estate Management Dept (Mark).</p> <p>Public questions Removal of redundant traffic speed signs on A32 Clerk awaiting update from Ian Janes (HCC). Ian’s initial response 14/06/23 was as follows: ...’permanent Vehicle Activated Signs...These signs are operated by the County Council’s Casualty Reduction team who I will contact regarding the Parish Council’s request to have them removed. I will get back to you in due course.’ Casualty Reduction Team at HCC chased 24/08/23. Main contact is on A/L. ITS Team has been asked to respond.</p> <p>Speed Indicator Device To be discussed agenda item 2464.</p> <p>Police/PCSO report Clerk has corresponded with PCSO Reeves & asked for a brief written update on anything relevant to WM to be provided if he is unable to attend the meeting in person.</p> <p>Savings Account Clerk and Cllrs Nicholson & Edwards need to discuss.</p> <p>HMRC Direct Debit Variable direct debit for HMRC payments has been successfully set up. No further action required.</p> <p>Community, Housing & Recreation WG Footpath maintenance. Cllr Edwards liaised with HCC Countryside Services & various landowners over the resurfacing of fp13.</p> <p>Road Closure West Meon High Street Delay in letter being written/sent due to A/L hence Cllr Waller advised to wait until another incident occurs and then to make representations to Cllr Lumby as necessary.</p>	<p>Clerk/ Cllrs Nicholson & Edwards</p> <p>Clerk/ Cllrs Nicholson & Edwards</p>
2452	Bank account	Bank balance - £122,060.90 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statements 156, 01 July 2023 to 31 July 2023; 157, 01 Aug 2023 to 31 Aug 2023; & 158 01 Sept 2023 to 03 Sept 2023.)	Clerk
2453	Website host service charges	Resolved: that the PC continues to use the website services provided by HugoFox at a cost of £9.99/month (previously, services were provided foc.)	Clerk
2454	Payment of accounts	<p>Mrs J C Tester Clerk’s salary & mileage claim (July 2023) £564.61</p> <p>NEST Clerk’s pension (July 2023) £56.16</p> <p>Mrs J C Tester Clerk’s salary & mileage claim (Aug 2023) £564.61</p> <p>NEST Clerk’s pension (Aug 2023) £56.16</p> <p>West Meon Village Hall Hall hire (July 2023) £18.00</p> <p>West Meon & Warnford Sports Club Grant 2023/24 £500.00</p>	Clerk

		<p>West Meon & Warnford Care Group Grant 2023/24 £500.00</p> <p>James Ulph Fireworkfest Grant 2023/24 £500.00</p> <p>IONOS Cloud Ltd Westmeon.org.uk domain 08/07/23 to 08/07/24 £11.99</p>	
2355	Planning applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNP/23/03522/HOUS – Black Hedges Farmhouse, Lynch Lane, West Meon, Hampshire, GU32 1JH. To demolish existing conservatory and replace with Orangerie. Increase floor area by approximately 16 square metres. [NO OBJECTION.] 	Clerk
2456	Planning apps received after 30/08/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNP/23/03601/TPO - 1 Stones Yard, West Meon, Hampshire, GU32 1AR. G1 Lime and Ash - Prune back to previous pruning points to maintain clearance from building. [NO COMMENTS.] 	Clerk
2457	Planning decisions	Noted.	
2458	Planning WG	<p>No written report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VDS – Cllr Waller reported that responses to consultation have been received. A number of technical comments received which are manageable. However, a number of responses were received from residents of Woodlands who wish for the area to be recognised as a separate entity (exclusive representation). Cllr Waller explained that the VDS & landscape character assessment are not designed to support this. SDNPA want PC to consider comments, amend accordingly and then re-submit to them with a consultation statement. A further 6-week public consultation would then be held. Not the process that the PC had been lead to believe would take place. Potentially, two options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PC could tell SDNPA that the VDS won't be ready for re-submission for some time due to cllrs having other commitments – could be up to 2 years; or No amendments made other than addressing technical issues and, rather than re-submitting to SDNPA, keep it as a planning doc for PC to give to residents to assist them with their applications. This would mean that the VDS would not be adopted by SDNPA nor impact on planning decisions etc.). <p>Cllr Waller to draft a response to SDNPA for Clerk to send. Technical aspects to be dealt with but PC agreed to take a step back for a while. Thanks offered to Cllr Waller.</p>	<p>Cllr Waller/ Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Waller/ Clerk</p>

2459	Community, Housing & Recreation WG	<p>No written report. The following updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girls' Football Club at WM – trees along bank are overhanging one of the pitches. Permission has been requested to cut them back. May need planning consent. Cllrs Waller & Edwards to look at the trees & report back at the Oct meeting. Football Club has also asked if they can place a directional sign on the A32 'Clanfield Football Club'. Cllrs agreed to refuse. • Parish News – Items to be included in the next PC report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDS – hopefully positioned outside Meadow House end of Oct. • VDS consultation has been completed. 	<p>Cllrs Waller & Edwards</p> <p>Cllr Nicholson</p>
2460	Registered charity no 301982 'Recreation Ground'	<p>[Background: Charity Commission has contacted past PC member (and trustee of the charity) asking to see annual reports as reporting is overdue by 1658 days. Trustees listed online are past and present WMPC members (Cllrs Edwards & Waller). Cllr Waller has requested associated documents.]</p> <p>Resolved: that the PC approves the following actions going forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Waller to chase copy of documents later this week if not received. 	Cllr Waller
2461	Adult gym equipment	<p>Resolved: that the PC leaves the adult gym equipment in situ and re-assesses when the new children's play equipment is installed. It may be that the contractor will be able to assist with finding a buyer.</p>	
2462	Non-road-legal vehicles (Rec Ground carpark)	<p>Cllr Waller advised PC as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'We are WM' notice went out in July 2023. • There are now four vehicles left in the carpark. All are non-road-legal. PC legally responsible for anything that happens to those vehicles whilst they are on PC land. • Two vehicles owned by the same person. Not fair use. • SORN vehicles must be on private land not on public or council land. DVLA has confirmed that land maintained at public expense is not considered to be off road. • What is fair use i.e. how many road-legal vehicles can an individual fairly park on PC land? <p>Cllr Nicholson confirmed that the PC's Best Parking Policy needs updating. Cllrs agreed that it must include the concept of 'fair use'.</p> <p>Resolved: that the Clerk produces a letter to be posted through the doors of vehicle owners, giving 15-days' notice before PC will arrange for the vehicles to be removed. At the same time, report to DVLA.</p>	Clerk
2463	Recreational Ground Carpark Use policy	<p>Resolved: that the PC updates its 'Best Parking Policy' to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicles must be road legal. • This includes tax & MOT, and must <u>not</u> be SORN. • To be fair to everyone, limit of x no. (tbc) of vehicles per household. • Not a permanent place to leave vehicles & no caravans. 	

		<p>Cllr Nicholson to draft and send to Clerk & other cllrs 06/09/23 for approval. To then be placed on website & PC noticeboard.</p> <p>Cllr Trenchard informed the PC of issues with parking for The West Meon Music Festival 14-17 Sept 23. Organisers have been informed that the use of the Rec for parking will be weather dependant & they will need to speak to Cllr Edwards on Mon 11 Sept. Cllr Edwards will be positioning a temporary fence so that vehicles can't go past top of bank. They will need to park along the fence-line adjacent to the infant play area, with rear of cars to the fence. Two representatives from TWMMF must be present at all times to orchestrate the parking.</p>	<p>Cllr Nicholson</p> <p>Cllr Edwards</p>
2464	Over-flow parking at WM VH	Resolved: that the PC revisits this proposal at the Oct PC meeting. Cllr Edwards to price-up potential costs.	Cllr Edwards
2465	Playground equipment	<p>Resolved: that the PC goes out to tender for the new playground equipment on the Rec Ground, and advertises on Contract Finder. Tender specifications and time-scale as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget £50k + VAT • Similar spec to fort design. • Cllrs Waller & Edwards and the Clerk to agree on exact specification & time-scales etc. 	Clerk/ Cllrs Waller & Edwards
2466	Deployment dates for temporary speed indicator device	<p>Resolved: that the PC hires the TSI device from Corhampton & Meonstoke PC on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last two weeks of Oct as a trial run. If not available on these weeks, Clerk to request the next two weeks. 	Clerk
2467	Open Spaces funding	Resolved: that the PC uses the £51.89 currently held in the WCC Open Spaces 'sport pot' for WMPC to purchase table tennis bats & balls (to be kept in the Village Shop).	Clerk
2468	Motorbike Noise & Nuisance Parish Forum Report	Cllr Waller to send written report to the PC via e-mail. [Post-meeting note: report received, see Appendix C.]	Cllr Waller
2469	Finance & Administration WG	No written report received & Cllr Edwards and the Clerk confirmed that there is no current update on leases and land registration.	Cllr Edwards/ Clerk
2470	Capital projects	<p>Resolved: that the PC looks to take forward the following capital projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's play area (£12k in addition to the circa £38k from CiL fund) • Christmas lights (Cllr Waller to look at quotes for Oct PC meeting) • Grasscrete for back of VH (additional parking) 	Clerk Cllr Waller Cllr Edwards
2471	Flood Action Group	<p>No written report received. Cllr Gedye reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ditch has been cleared. • Dying trees @ West Meon House – planning approved for their removal but nothing yet done. 	

2472	Reports & Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNPA has published the final Equine Development TAN, the draft consultation on which the PC responded in November last year. 	
2473	Date/time of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tues 3rd Oct 2023 at West Meon VH (Small Hall); 7.30pm. Agenda to include car parking/VDS/tender/TSI devices/lease/boules/Christmas lights 	
2474	Confidential matters	Members of the public/press were excluded from the meeting. No confidential matters were discussed.	

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

Winchester City Councillors' Aug 2023 Report

Road Schemes

Two potentially disruptive sets of works are scheduled for this month:

Morestead Road: scheduled to be closed 24/7 for up to 6 weeks from 18 Sep 23 from its junction with Hazeley Road to Bar End. This is likely to result in significant increases in traffic on Hazeley Road, and potentially also through Owslebury, and the Lane End/Wheely Down route from the A32 to the A31, affecting Warnford, Beauworth, Cheriton and Tichborne parishes.

M27 Jct 10: preparatory works for the improvements to Jct 10 to serve the Welborne development will cause partial overnight closures of the A32 and the junction slip-roads on various dates in Sep and Oct 23. Details are here.

South Downs Local Plan Review

Parishes have been asked to complete a Parish Priority Statement to support the Local Plan Review. Whilst the deadline given is in Oct 23, the Planning Policy Team has indicated that extensions will likely be granted, particularly if that would permit full consultation with Parishioners. It is emphasised that, whilst a valuable opportunity for communities to state their preferences for development and amenities, the statements will not form part of the future Local Plan but will certainly inform its compilation. Demonstration of effective community consultation will be an important factor in the weight given to the preferences expressed and will also serve to support CIL and other grant applications.

WeCAN Parish Councillor Climate Info Event

Sat 16 Sep –1000-1200 - hosted by Winchester City Council at their Colebrook St offices, for parish councillors and clerks. An opportunity for parish councillors to find out more about the climate crisis - the science behind it, the impact and how carbon emissions can be reduced. Taster sessions on Carbon Literacy Training and Climate Fresk - both are engaging, collaborative and interactive methods of exploring climate crisis issues. More information and booking here.

WEST MEON Storey's Meadow Steps

The Land Registry plan (attached) for the Storey's Meadow site, when compared to the WCC interactive map, clearly shows that the larger part of the steps fall within the red line of the Housing Association's

ownership. The maintenance of the steps is therefore likely to rest with Hyde Housing. Should that prove insufficient to 'nudge' the Association into action the Public Sector Housing Team at Winchester CC could be engaged to assist.

OWSLEBURY & MORESTEAD Accessibility and parking at Beech Grove

A review of parking for the older persons' bungalows at Beech Grove has shown that there is no space for further spaces. It would, however, be useful to know how many, if any, of the residents are Blue Badge holders, which may allow exceptional work to be undertaken.

KILMESTON, BEAUWORTH Community Transport

It is becoming clear that, unfortunately, nationally no Party sees many votes in pursuing initiatives for improving rural bus services. Within Hampshire, the County Council has no funding to improve the situation as costs escalate and is doing its best to maintain the status quo. It is therefore likely that any improvement will have to come from the voluntary sector. We are fortunate to have the Meon Valley Community Bus Association (MVCBA) and its recent annual meeting demonstrated that there may be some room for manoeuvre in expanding its offer. A major change in its operation during the past year saw it taking on an HCC contract for the scheduled Wednesday (market day) run to Petersfield. It might be possible for its Winchester runs (currently the first Friday of each month) to become a fixed weekly run; similarly, it might be possible for these runs to be routed through Kilmeston and/or Beauworth to replace a link lost many years ago. But there is clearly no point in pursuing these ideas if there is no demand to be served. It would therefore be useful if those parishes were able to poll the needs and wishes of their residents.

UPHAM, Land to the south-west of the Alma Inn

The 2023 update to the SHELAA was taken by the Winchester Cabinet 18 Jul 23 and the map attached shows the sites that have been put forward by developers in Upham, and includes a sizeable swathe of land around Alma Lane/Sciviers Lane, although not all in the ownership of developers. Of course, it is only that area of the parish outside the SDNPA boundary that is included within the search area for the Winchester SHELAA so not too surprising that Alma Lane/Sciviers Lane become targets. The SDNPA equivalent of the SHELAA has yet to be published. A Land Registry search shows that the freehold of the Alma and its car park is still held by the brewery (Mitchells & Butler) but the land beyond to the south-west was transferred a couple of years ago to Chiswell Properties. Copies of the Land Registry Title and Plan are attached.

Resurgence of ADD to address Eastleigh Local Plan Review

It is assumed that ADD would wish to build on (apologies!) the existing agreed position statement with the SDNPA achieved for the current Eastleigh local plan with a view to ensuring something similar is in place at the end of the review. It is suggested that there needs to be some audit of whether the aims of this statement have been achieved, albeit that the current spate of construction on land to the east of Fair Oak is yet to complete. The Parish Council may be best placed to lead this work.

Neil Bolton Jerry Pett Winchester City Council Ward Members for Upper Meon Valley

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor's Aug 2023 Report

1. Schools

Residents may be aware of the recent news story regarding schools in England due to close imminently as a result of their buildings containing unsafe concrete: School buildings in England to shut over concrete safety fears - BBC News No Hampshire school is being closed. Cranbourne College in Basingstoke is the only site where RAAC has been identified among Hampshire County Council's maintained schools. Temporary works have already been undertaken to one section of the building to make sure it is safe and another area has been taken out of use since the beginning of the year, however, the school is expected to open as normal at the start of the autumn term. Meanwhile, the council is encouraging families to do all they can to support regular school attendance for their children from the beginning of term. The first few days back in school are especially crucial in paving the way for a successful year. Attendance rates are improving locally, but are

still not back to pre-pandemic levels. Educational specialists advise that attending school every day, unless unwell, is best for children to ensure that the solid foundations for their future education and employment can be laid. It is also one of the best ways of protecting a child's mental and physical health. The County Council's website provides advice and guidance on school attendance including parental responsibilities and what to do if a child is unwell or expected to be away from school for a long period of time.

2.County deal

The proposed county deal, with the councils across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight seeking substantial devolution and funding of £1.14 billion from central government in return for a more combined structure, will not be proceeding after Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight sought a separate deal. The leader of Hampshire County Council, Councillor Rob Humby, regretted the outcome, commenting that the deal could have made a significant contribution to Hampshire's economic recovery, by stimulating economic recovery, regeneration and business growth. Separately, the government has announced that the core functions of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) will transfer to local authorities, including HCC, from April 2024. LEPs are non-statutory, business-led partnership bodies that are responsible for local economic development in England. They bring together the private sector, local authorities, and academic and voluntary institutions to help boost the local economy and drive growth.

3.Solar panels for homes - Solar Together

I have mentioned this scheme before, whereby residents can join in the bulk buying of solar panels or batteries for their homes, which both reduce energy bills and boost local renewable energy generation. A new round has opened and residents have until 27 October to register their interest online, for free and without obligation – www.hants.gov.uk/solartogether.

4.Roads

Hampshire County Council has pledged to spend an additional £7.5m a year over the next three years to fix thousands more potholes. This is on top of the £13.5m currently spent a year on reactive pothole and road defect repairs. Progress is already being made, with road defects being fixed at a record rate - in May and June alone, 19,697 potholes and other problems were repaired and 33,671 square metres of surface design and micro asphalt was laid. There will be a number of closures on the M27 and the A32 over the next couple of months as preparatory works commence for the new Welborne development between Wickham and Fareham. Updates can be seen at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/m27junction10>. The new policy on 20mph speed limits is now due to be considered for approval in November.

5.Covid-19 vaccinations

A Covid-19 vaccine programme is to start this month as a precautionary measure following the identification of a new Covid-19 variant. It will be offered to those most at risk from winter illness, including all adults over 65 years old and over, front line health and social care workers, carers aged 16 to 64 and pregnant women. An annual flu vaccine will also be available at the same time, where possible.

6.Shedfield Equestrian Centre - Avery B update

The operator of the Avery B site at Shedfield Equestrian Centre recently applied for retrospective planning permission for its operations on this site. The application was refused by Hampshire County Council's regulatory committee (effectively its planning committee). The application was made to HCC as it is the waste authority for Hampshire. The applicant has stated that it intends to appeal against the refusal and has six months in which to do so. In the meantime, HCC has now served an Enforcement Notice. Serving this notice brings the appeal process forwards, as they have to appeal an enforcement notice within 28 days rather than the 6 months to appeal the refusal. The notice will take effect around 25th September. The notice will require the cessation of import of waste within 1 day (from when the notice becomes effective); the clearance of waste within 1 month; the removal of all plant, machinery and structures within 3 months; and the reinstatement of the land to agriculture within 6 months. However, if appealed then the notice's requirements will be held in abeyance until the appeal is decided, so effectively there will not be any change until an appeal decision is made.

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

APPENDIX C

Cllr Waller's Report on Motorbike Noise & Nuisance Parish Forum

This was an online forum hosted by the Deputy PCC. Parish reps asked questions and raised points of interest.

Overall, all parishes represented felt the new cameras were working and motorbike noise and speed was reduced where the cameras were sited i.e. north on the A32 and East on the A272.

I asked about the decision making on siting the cameras, about the lack of cameras heading South of WM on the A32 and why there were so many between WM Hut and Langrish. No detailed explanations were forthcoming. I also asked about the proliferation of signs on the A32/A272 regarding speeds and cameras, especially as both HCC and SDNP wanted to reduce road clutter and signs. I asked why the speeds were not painted onto the road, as they are in some places on the A32, to reduce signage. No answer was given.

Overall, the meeting was a report back by the Deputy PCC and a chance for that person and County Councillors and East Hants MP Damian Hinds to signal how proud they were of their achievement with the cameras. No credit was given to campaigning parishioners from across the district or CANS who for years have pressed three successive PCCs for action.