

HART DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS

Minutes of a Meeting of the Association held on Tuesday, 4 July 2023 at 7.30 pm At Zebon Community Centre, Crookham Village

PRESENT

Name		Position	Parish/Town Council
Jane Worlock	JW	Chairman	HDC
Martin Whittaker	MWh	Secretary	Hook
Bob Schofield	BS		Fleet
Richard Milnes-James	RM		Winchfield
Marilyn Robson	MR		Elvetham Heath
Stuart Elborn	SE		Hartley Wintney
Chris Cornwell	CC		Hartley Wintney
Alan Jones	AJ		Church Crookham
Julia Ambler	JA		Crookham Village
Simon Ambler	SA		Crookham Village
Andrew Simonds	AS		Dogmersfield
Adam Bealey	AB		Rotherwick
Trish Monks	TM		Blackwater & Hawley
Jo Shaw	JS		Blackwater & Hawley
Tony Spencer	TS		Yateley
Gillian O'Connor	GO		Crondall
Stephen Highly	SH		South Warnborough
Mark Jaggard	MJ	Executive Director - Place	HDC

V1.1 9/10/23

		Action	
23/12	Introduction and welcome		
23/13	Apologies for absence		
	Apologies for absence were received from:		
	Diana Harvey, Hartley Wintney		
	Meyrick Williams, Winchfield		
	 Eversley (PC meeting) 		
	Robert Pettigrew, HALC		
	Paul Einchcomb, Fleet		
	The presence of 13 out of 21 councils satisfied the quorum of 7.		

23/14	Minutes of the meetings held on 18 April		
	The motion being proposed by BS and seconded by MR, the minutes of the meeting were approved unanimously as an accurate record.		
23/15	Matters arising from the Minutes		
	All actions reported as complete or on the agenda except		
	 22/56 Cllr David Neighbour to organise an s.106 information session Will be covered at the Development Management Liaison meeting 19 July at 1900 via Teams – will also introduce the new Planning team 23/16 MJ to update Eversley on their list of 30 outstanding enforcement cases. Complete. 23/16 MJ to look into a planning enforcement event for councils. Will be addressed at the Development Management Liaison meeting in September, which will also cover tree issues. 		
23/16	Hart District Council report – MJ		
	See Appendix 1		
23/17	Parish Questions for Hart District Council		
	Questions asked before the meeting:		
	See Appendix 2		
	Questions asked at the meeting:		
	None.		
23/18	Chairman's Update		
	HALC: The last board meeting was cancelled as the Chairman has stepped down. Next meeting is 7 July. Currently 3 vacancies on the Board.		
	County Executive: JW will circulate minutes.	Worlock	
	There has been extensive lobbying in Parliament and elsewhere to enable councils to hold hybrid meetings. NALC and HALC are supporting this.		
23/19	Treasurer's report and approval of accounts		
	(The accounts are included as Appendix 3)		
	TM asked that the totals be moved to below the figures that are in the total. With his amendment (made to the signed copy by JW). The motion being proposed by TS, seconded BS, the accounts were approved unanimously.		
	MWh will bring proposals for a new domain name and website to the next meeting.	Whittaker	
23/20	Parish Reports		
1.	Yateley – TS		
	 Road race takes place tomorrow 5 July. 		
2.	Crookham Village – SA		
	 Solar panels on Zebon centre finished today. Conservation area appraisal started yesterday and is running over the summer. Currently advertising for a Deputy Clerk. 		

3.	Rotherwick - AB				
3.	 Currently 3 vacancies on the council 210 saplings have been received from the Woodland Trust to be planted in November Currently assessing at the ponds and common to make themt more ecologically sound whilst trying to keep them looking good. Fly tipping increasing. Domestic refuse and garden rubbish blocking some minor roads. 				
4.	Dogmersfield – AS				
	(written report received)				
	 Traffic remains a key concern particularly given housing developments in the surrounding area We struggled with the handover of road responsibility from Hart to Hampshire and some yellow lines were painted before we had been able to consult the Parish as promised. The yellow lines were incomplete since no notice was given and cars were still parked where the lines were to be placed. There are a number of BESS sites either approved or in process of approval near the Fleet sub-station on land designated as countryside. We know other companies are actively contacting farmers to access more land. There needs to be an overarching strategy for such sites in Hart rather than just piecemeal approval. 				
5.	Fleet – BS				
	 Carnival will take place again this summer. Trying to move a badger sett in the cemetery, but can only move a limited distance, which would still be in the cemetery. Have applied for a C licence to be able to seal the sett, but this has cost £1900. 				
6.	Blackwater and Hawley – TM				
	 Experiencing problems in the cemetery with Leylandii roots lifting gravestones There will be a Fun Day on 29 July with free entry Memorial hall windows have now been replaced with tougher glass. CCTV has been upgraded; antisocial behaviour has reduced, with may have resulted from this Experiencing problems in obtaining payment for the use of football pitches. 				
7.	Winchfield – RM				
	(written report received)				
	 Reg16 now complete on the updated Winchfield Neighbourhood Plan - all comments sent by HDC to the Inspector to begin his examination. Inspection is due to commence this week. WPC, HDC Housing and English Rural to hold a drop in session on 26 July in the village hall to discuss potential sites for affordable housing. 				
8.	Elvetham Heath – MR				
	(written report received)				
	 We held our Annual Residents Evening on 24th May. It was very well attended and all the questions from the floor were answered on the 				

evening. Those attending enjoyed a glass of wine on arrival and ended the evening with a slice of pizza. We have recently set up a gardening club for residents. They have met three times and there is a good mix of experienced and novice gardeners so there will be a good exchange of ideas and knowledge. Their first project will be the front garden of the Key Centre. Our next big event is our Concert on The Green which is on Saturday 15th July from 3.00pm until 8.30pm. There are some great bands playing, lots of food outlets a bar run by The De Havilland Arms and a Pimms tent run by Hart Lions Club. You can, of course bring your own food and drink. This event is free and we welcome anyone who wishes to join us. Just bring your chairs, sit back and enjoy the music. 9. Hook - MWh 3 of the 4 vacancies have now been co-opted We are planning to build a new sports pavilion at a cost of around £1.9M, though experience of similar builds mean that this carries significant risk. There has been some disquiet in the community about perceived excess expenditure so far, but this is being resolved. The new Sainsbury supermarket is now open. However, 2 pedestrian paths, one into the car park and one from the new housing development, were removed from the plans at a late stage and are now causing access problems. These are being discussed with HCC and HDC, but it is far from clear what can be done and by whom. Shanly Homes have submitted a planning application for 55 homes on the key site of Geffery's House. Unfortunately this is not acceptable to the council on many grounds, especially quality of design. It will be interesting to see how effective the relevant policies in the Neighbourhood Plan will be in this case. The NP is due to be updated next year, and it's hard to find anybody who is looking forward to the task. In common with virtually every other council in the area, we are buying a SID. 10. Church Crookham - AJ Sports day end of May Sensory garden has been started Under 5 playing area has received objections, not sure going ahead. 11. Hartley Wintney - SE Currently down to 6 councillors Increase in break-ins on commercial premises Lucy Pygott centre is doing well with use for sports, parties, clubs etc. Work on pond will be undertaken underway in the autumn. There have been complaints about the lack of maintenance of 2 ponds. HDC agreed to transfer lease to the PC. The parish already has 15 ponds and has received £50K from HDC to upgrade and maintain, but balance will be financed by precept. HDC countryside team will meet quarterly to discuss maintenance of ponds, trees, commons etc. So far very the meetings have been very positive.

12.	Crondall - 60			
12.	 Crondall - GO Conservation Area appraisal near completion ASB – there has been an arrest, which should help Tennis Courts being resurfaced A resident has estimated the villages carbon footprint, which the PC is studying 			
13.	South Warnborough – SH			
	 Village gates being introduced, and road marking and speed signs have been refreshed The parish had no unified vision for next 5 years: a residents' survey has been undertaken and from this a "village reference statement" has been produced Still one councillor down, and a core group of 25 residents do most of the work. 			
23/21	Election of officers and represen	tatives for 2023/	2024	
	The following appointments we approved unanimously:	ere proposed by	BS, seconded by MR an	
	POSITION	NAME	COUNCIL	
	Chairman	Tony Spencer	Yateley TC	
	Vice Chairman	Simon Ambler	Crookham Village PC	
	Treasury Function & Financial Governance	HALC		
	Independent Examiner	Claire Inglis	Church Crookham PC	
	Director, HALC Board*	Tony Spencer	Yateley TC	
	County Executive Representative 1**	Simon Ambler	Crookham Village PC	
	County Executive Representative 2**	Julia Ambler	Crookham Village PC	
	County Executive Representative 3**	David Argent	Crondall PC	
	Hart DC Standards Committee Representative 1**	David Argent	Crondall PC	
	Hart DC Standards Committee Representative 2**	Trish Monks	Blackwater & Hawley PC	
	Hart DC Standards Committee Representative 3**	Julia Ambler	Crookham Village PC	
	Basingstoke Canal JMC Representative	David Jackson	Crookham Village PC	
	Rights of Way & Countryside Access Action Team Rep.	Trish Monks	Blackwater & Hawley TC	
	Hart DC Community Safety Partnership Representative	Bob Schofield	Fleet TC	

	* This person is a member of the board of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils and is expected to attend board meetings. If unavailable, no substitutes are allowed. The appointment is subject to ratification by HALC.	
	**These people are members of the County Executive, a Hampshire-wide group of representatives of the Associations of Parish and Town Councils, which meets with HALC board members to discuss matters of mutual interest.	
23/22	Date and venue for next meeting: Dates for the next period, every 3 months:	
	 17/10/23, Blackwater & Hawley Town Council 16/1/24 (Elvetham Heath – TBC) 16/4/24 (Crondall – TBC) 9/7/24 (AGM) (Hook – TBC) 	
23/23	Any other business None	
23/24	Meeting closed 2125.	

Martin Whittaker, Secretary, <u>HartDAPTC@gmail.com</u>



Hart District Council update

Date: 4 July 2023

Elections

The elections took place in May. Two new Councillors were elected where the previous Councillors had stood down. All other seats were retained. Overall, there was no political change in the Council.

Climate Change Action Plan

New appointment, Liz Vango-Smith - Sustainability & Climate Change Officer

A new Climate Change Action Plan is being considered by Cabinet on Thursday 6 July. The draft Action Plan maps out our climate change priority actions for the next few years. It has a focus on our direct emissions as a Council, as well as looking at partnership working at a district-wide level.

We hope to work closely with our stakeholders, including the Parish and Town Councils, to see where we can support any local initiatives and plans.

If anyone would like to get in touch imminently to discuss their own climate actions and priorities and how we can work together, please get in touch with Liz:

liz.vango@hart.gov.uk

Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

The public consultation on the LCWIP began in June and will close on 20 August 2023.

The Planning Policy team have been promoting the consultation across Hart district and at local events. The next promotional event will be in Yateley on Wednesday 5 July (at Waitrose and at an evening running event).

Please may I remind Parish and Town Councils to complete the on-line consultation:

https://hart-lcwip-hampshireonline.hub.arcqis.com/

Next steps will be to analyse the consultation responses, consider with Sustrans and HCC.

The LCWIP plus proposed changes in light of the consultation will be considered by Overview & Scrutiny on the 14 November 2023, and then Cabinet on the 7 December 2023

Settlement Capacity & Intensification Study

The Corporate Plan includes the goal to 'undertake a Settlement Capacity & Intensification Study to enable the prioritisation of future opportunities for development, ensuring that we properly research opportunities within our defined towns and villages before building on green fields.'

The purpose of this study is to undertake a comprehensive evidence-based study to review the potential capacity within the district's settlements to accommodate future growth. The study will seek to identify regeneration opportunities, the potential for intensification of development.

The Council has commissioned Urban Intelligence to undertake this work. There will be engagement with Parish and Town Council's after the summer holidays to assist with the call for sites.

Planning (Development Management) engagement sessions

Next session is Wednesday 19 June at 7pm.

This will provide an opportunity to meet the new Development Management Team Leaders. The key subject is in relation to S106 matters.

Conservation Area Appraisals

The Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee set up a Task & Finish Group to consider the approach to reviewing conservation area appraisals. The Overview & Scrutiny Committee received an update from the working group and endorsed a number of actions. The Executive Director – Place will provide a response to these actions in the Autumn.

The process was really helpful, and it is hoped this will provide greater clarity to any Parish and Town Council who are planning on reviewing the conservation areas in their area.

Household Support Fund

The Housing Solutions team are operating the Hardship fund again this year with funding from Hampshire County Council from the Household Support Fund.

Anyone facing a genuine emergency and struggling to meet their housing costs can apply to the Council's Emergency Housing Costs Fund.

The funding is for exceptional cases and where existing schemes do not meet this need. It is not a cash award and will be paid directly to suppliers or in the form of vouchers.

To apply or for more information, please contact 01252 774420 or email hardship@hart.gov.uk

The scheme runs until 31 March 2024 or until all funds have been distributed. The funds are limited, and the Council will prioritise households in the most need, with a proportion of the funds ring-fenced to support households with children, people of a pensionable age and those with disabilities.

Full details of the scheme can be found by visiting the cost of living support hub

Food Safety - Environmental Health

There are over 700 food businesses in the district. The Environmental Health team inspect the premises and provide the ratings. The food premises in the district are regulated to a very high standard of compliance as demonstrated by the Food Hygiene Rating System (FHRS) ratings below:

- Rating 5 501 premises
- Rating 4 83 premises
- Rating 3 15 premises
- Rating 2 3 premises
- Rating 1 2 premises
- Rating 0 none

HFRS rating of 5 equates to 'Very Good', 4 equates to 'Good'. 3. relates to 'Generally satisfactory'. 2. 'Improvement necessary'. 1. 'Major improvement necessary', 0. 'Urgent improvement necessary'.

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Here for Hart Forum (including Parish and Town Councils) met in June to discuss the data mining project, and the community hubs and youth engagement projects were also touched upon. Work has now started to collate datasets from our partners, as well as local, regional and national datasets.

Rushmoor Borough Council and Hart District Council continue to work together around the opportunity to deliver the Supporting Local Business workstreams.

Web Content Accessibility Guidance (WCAG)

Hart District Council wrote to all Parish and Town Councils in June in relation to digital accessibility. I will not seek to summarise this advice, but I can re-share it that would be helpful.

Appendix 2: Questions for from Hart District Council submitted before the meeting (MJ)

Questions

Q1 Shawn Dickens, Eversley PC:

Why is HART now charging Parish Councils for planning advice on community projects? Eversley has spent 2 years in a working group, on the point of submitting a pre-application the group was presented with a cost £1247.40 by the planning admin. HART has spent years promoting Parishes to work with communities to find rural exception sites. Rural exception site for nine dwellings. The business case for waiving the fee:

- The proposal is a community benefit initiative.
- The application is from the Working Group which comprises of Eversley Parish Council, Hart DC
- Housing Strategy and Development Team and English Rural HA. The Parish Council updates its constituents on progress, through its minutes and website.
- This is a not-for-profit initiative, which if successful would provide a housing resource, specifically to address need within Eversley Parish now and on into the future.
- The scheme is small and the request modest in its scope, "local planning authorities are strongly encouraged to provide at least a basic service without charge."
- There are examples of good practice in Hampshire (Test Valley BC) where fees for exception sites are not required.
- These schemes are not financially driven, but rely on a partnership approach, with contributions from the landowner, the Parish Council, the District Council's Housing and Planning Teams, the community and the housing provider.

Whilst a modest discount has been offered since the request. I find it a shocking policy by the LPA.

Response:

I have separately responded to Mr Dickens so I will seek to provide a general comment. However, the figure quoted by Mr Dickens is incorrect, the figure (after the 25% discount) was £779.63 plus VAT.

While there maybe a number of very worthwhile schemes being applied for across Hart district, we still have a range of costs which need to be covered, including Officer time. If we were to provide free advice it would be all Council Tax payers who live in across the whole of Hart district who then have to subsidise the work in one parish.

Q2 Winchfield PC

- 1. When will HDC publish the results of the public consultation on the SPD on Parking and Cycling?
- 2. What is the date of the Planning team call to all PCs expected in July to introduce new arrivals?

Response:

The Cycle and Car Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) will be considered by the Council's Overview & Scrutiny Committee on the 17 October 2023, and Cabinet: 2 November 2023.

The papers for the two committees will include a table which lists the responses to the consultation, and the recommended response.

As referred to earlier, the next Planning Parish and Town Council Engagement evening is on Wednesday 19 July @ 7pm.

Q3 Yateley TC

- Yateley Town Council would like to ask Mark Jaggard about the issue of Nitrous Oxide use amongst young people and what the local Police response/strategy is, in particular the use of large catering size propellant containers. We have had several concerned local residents contact us about this.
- 2. We are aware that, though HDC made very good progress some years ago with their recycling plans and activities we have been told these were not updated which means we now lag behind many other local councils for instance not collecting any sort of plastics or food waste. Could you let us know please what plans there are to bring these up to date and when are we likely to see evidence of these plans in place?

Response:

This is really an issue for the Police, and the question should be directed to them.

However, I do have further information. Nitrous Oxide itself is legal to own. That is not to say that it is not a controlled substance. It falls under the category of a psychoactive substance, which means that is it an offence to supply it however not an offence to own it.

There is potentially scope to deal with people found to be in possession of large quantities of Nitrous Oxide, especially the large blue cans of it. This can potentially be dealt with as possession with intent to supply (PWITS). Often this is not the case and is much harder to respond to smaller quantities.

One of the biggest difficulties in policing Nitrous Oxide currently is that it is freely available to purchase, especially online.

The District Council's latest plans are contained in the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) signed off by Cabinet last year. It is the cross Hampshire strategy to extend the collection of recyclable materials (including pots, trays, and films) and food waste to those streams outlined in the 2018 central government consultation (which is still largely not concluded/published by Defra).

The timescale for the implementation of this strategy is driven by the construction of a new Material Recycling Facility (MRF) by Hampshire County Council (the statutory Waste Disposal Authority) that is capable of sorting such materials. This £30M investment has been agreed by Hampshire County Council and planning permission gained for its construction in Eastleigh. The forecast open date is April 2025.

Q4 Hook PC

There is a long-standing parking problem on Hook Road by the junction with Station Road. In November 2021 an Experimental Traffic Order (ETO) was imposed to stop parking on the verges, valid for 18 months. This appears to have been effective. In March 2023 Phil Sheppard agreed to pursue measures to make this Order permanent.

Now that the Agency Agreement with HCC has ended, it is not clear who has responsibility for making his happen. It was not clear in March whether HCC could make permanent an ETO imposed by HDC, and if not, how this might be done.

Could the situation be clarified so that Hook PC knows what steps to take next?

Response:

Mr Sheppard moved to Hampshire County Council on 1 April 2023, when the highway traffic management agency was transferred back to the County Council.

The County Council has appointed a new Team Leader, Brian Cainey, who is responsible for traffic management in 'the north area' which includes Hart district. The best email address for the team at the County Council is:

traffic.management@hants.gov.uk

Brian Cainey has informed me that:

"This is on our programme and is being progressed. We have consulted with the Local Member, Cllr Glen, and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Police, and both have confirmed their support of the proposal to make this order permanent. The new order is currently being drafted in preparation for advertising."

Q5 Crondall PC

Wilson Plant (Bowling Alley) – the site is governed by both HCC (the Wilson Plant) and HDC for the rest of the site, with this part of the site being used as a car park for lorries. There are concerns about breaches but with HDC not taking part in the Wilson Plant Liaison Panel, despite requests to do so, these are not being investigated and policed. Can we have an assurance that HDC will actively be taking part in the panel going forward and that necessary inspections of the land will be done.

Photographs taken this Saturday at 4.30 pm by a parish councillor plus a video of activity are included below, with an attached video, for information.

Response:

Given the late question this is information which I have been able to collect. I will ask my Planning Enforcement team to respond to the Parish Council if there are other matters.

Planning permission was granted by Hampshire County Council as a county matter (relating to a waste planning use). Part of that permission was to ensure a bund was constructed and planted. It would appear that the digger is working in that location.

It appears the trade effluent company is parking their 3 vehicles within the red line of the waste site, controlled under the County Council granted planning permission. The other uses have been on site for longer and may have established rights.

Given the late question I have not had time to research the answer and in the absence of proper warning you cannot confirm if we have ever been invited to such a meeting or asked to respond to complaints.

Nevertheless, the Council cannot commit to supporting ad hoc meetings out of context with workloads and other commitments.

However, I do understand that one of our local Councillors already attends these particular meetings and therefore an officer presence would be superfluous.

If there were issues raised relevant for Hart, then our local Councillor attendance is a good conduit for issues to be passed on to us.

I would also like to suggest that HDAPTC is probably not the best forum to discuss detailed casework related cases. I would remind all Parish and Town Councils that if

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you have a planning enforcement case, please email the details to enforcement@hart.gov.uk

Appendix 3: Accounts as approved

(note that the format changes requested by TM have not been made in this version)

HART DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT, YEAR END 31ST MARCH 2023 (Unaudited account)

INCOME	Year-end 31.03.2023		Totals	Year-end 31.03.2022		Totals
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grant from HALC	350.00			300.00		
Interest Income	0.00	350.00		0.00	300.00	
EXPENDITURE						
Secretary	(300.00)			(300.00)		
Laptop PSU	0.00	(300.00)		(24.99)	(324.99)	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR			50.00			(24.99)
Cash balances brought forward:						
Lloyds Bank Current Account	445.08			470.07		
NS&I Investment Account	8.70	453.78	453.78	8.70	478.77	478.77
Cash balances carried forward:						
Lloyds Bank Current Account	503.78				445.08	
NS&I Investment Account (Note1)	0.00		503.78		8.70	453.78

Note1: NS&I Account closed; balance transferred to Lloyds Bank A/C on 24.10.2022

CHAIRMAN	TREASURER		
Name:	Name: Hampshire Association of Local Councils		
Signature:	Signature on behalf of:		
Date:	Date:		
I hereby confirm that these accounts agree with the books of account and supporting records.			
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER			
Name:			
Signature:			