



# West Meon Parish Council

c/o Mrs D Heppell, Email: [clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk](mailto:clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk)

## **MINUTES OF THE WEST MEON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022 AT 7.30PM IN WEST MEON SPORTS CLUB**

**THOSE PRESENT:** Cllrs A Trenchard (Chair), C Adams, M Edwards & C Waller. Cllr Edwards chaired the meeting

**APOLOGIES:** City Cllr L Ruffell, Cllrs J Nicholson, R Gedye & G Silk

**BY INVITATION:** County Cllr H Lumby

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** None present

### Wmpc 2069 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda.

### Wmpc 2070 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 were **approved**.

### Wmpc 2071 **MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC**

No issues arising.

### Wmpc 2072 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR LUMBY**

Cllr Lumby had provided a report which had been circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix A).

Cllr Lumby reported on the need for West Meon local bus services to be integrated with south western railway times in Hampshire's new Local Transport Plan. These points were agreed to be raised and forwarded to HCC by the Parish Council.

He also reported on progress with speed cameras on the A32.

Cllr Lumby gave an update from HCC on the availability/progress of hosts for Ukrainian people. Cllr Trenchard advised that there are proposals to provide a lunch for Ukrainian families in the village hall.

The Parish Council reported issues of wheelie bins obstructing the traffic on Church Road, and issues with overhanging hedges near the Thomas Lord pub.

Cllr Edwards reported that HCC had repaired the step by the old railway.

## Wmpc 2073 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk advised that Arbor Venture are carrying the scheduled tree work on the recreation ground on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> May, from approximately 9am.

Mr Paul Wilcox sent his thanks to the Parish Council for the recent grant, and appreciates the financial support provided.

Cllr Nicholson sent comments that Victim Support should not receive a £200 grant next financial year as they have received a £300 grant this year. This was noted by the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that the Independent Playground Inspection report for Winchester City Council 2022 is due at the end of March 2022, but has not been received yet.

The internal audit is due on the 20th April 2022.

The Windsor bench has been ordered, and a date will need to be arranged for delivery.

## Wmpc 2074 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

Cllr Edwards reported that the West Meon Hut bus shelter has now been completed, and thanks should be given to Silk Services for their excellent work.

Complaints have been received by the Parish Council about chickens escaping from a garden in Heddon View. The Clerk is to contact them about this matter.

## Wmpc 2075 COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND RECREATION

No representatives were available regarding the boules court, but Cllr Waller confirmed that Mr Hugh Morris would speak about boules at the APM.

The Jubilee celebrations risk assessment is awaited from the organisers.

Cllr Adams reported a broken footpath sign on Doctors Lane, and this will be reported to HCC.

## Wmpc 2076 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Cllr Edwards updated the Parish Council on the progress of the three draft lease agreements with the rifle club, village hall and sports club. The first draft has been made available by the solicitors, to the village hall and rifle club. Maintenance issues of the car park were discussed, and it was unanimously **agreed** by the Parish Council that:

The Parish Council pays 50%, village hall 25%, sports club 20% and rifle club 5% for the maintenance of the car park. It was **agreed** that tenants must maintain and repair their properties and pay their own insurance. Cllr Edwards **agreed** that he would report back on existing payments for the septic tank.

Items discussed for the Parish news were; the lengthsman is due on 9<sup>th</sup> May, and cross cleaning.

Details of the arrangements of the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 were discussed, including refreshments at 7.00pm, all to be held at the Sports Club.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 in the village hall.

Schedule of payments

**Payments 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Hilliers' tree work	£320.00
Cyan bench	£660.00
WM Sports Club room hire	£25.00
Biffa Bins	£109.12
BACS D Heppell salary	
Expenses D Heppell	£49.64
BACS HMRC	£39.00

It was resolved that the schedule of payments listed above be **approved**.

Wmpc 2077 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING**

Lease agreement, Platinum Jubilee risk assessment, trees on the recreation ground, Parish News, end of year audit, dog monitoring on the recreation ground, military parade 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Wmpc 2078 **DATES OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June, 5<sup>th</sup> July, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting finished at 8.50 pm

Chair .....

## **Hampshire County Councillor report**

**April 2022**

### **1. Homes for Ukraine**

The County Council is working with local district and borough councils, as well as key local partners such as the NHS and Hampshire Constabulary, to prepare for the provision of immediate support and assistance to Ukrainians arriving in Hampshire under the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme. An initial £100,000 has been set aside to provide immediate support and assistance.

The position is developing rapidly and remains fluid. Several key areas of activity are currently being prioritised:

- a process for home visits is being put in place; individual sponsors will be contacted by the County Council regarding these, as soon as they have been formally notified by Government of an impending arrival.
- a process is also being set up to allow sponsors to receive a 'thank you' payment of £350 per month direct to their bank accounts.
- DBS checks are required of all sponsors under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, as well as enhanced DBS checks for hosts who will have Ukrainian children staying with them. These will commence as part of the home visit process and will be undertaken by HCC.
- guest families will be assisted with school admissions so that formal education can continue as soon as possible; queries about school places can be directed to

[https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/contacts\\_places](https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/contacts_places)

- the County Council's adult social care team is liaising with NHS representatives regarding how support will be provided. GP support and the provision of crisis mental health assistance is a key consideration.

A dedicated 'Support For Ukraine' webpage ([www.hants.gov.uk/ukraine](http://www.hants.gov.uk/ukraine)) has been set up and is being regularly updated with the latest information, together with signposting to updates from central Government.

### **2. Covid-19 update**

Changes have occurred to the national Covid testing regime, as part of the Government's 'Living with COVID' plan, which has been made possible largely thanks to the successful vaccination programme; this has placed the UK in a strong position to now treat Coronavirus like other respiratory diseases.

Recent changes include the closure of testing sites for people with symptoms and the end of the provision of free tests for the general public in England.

Anyone wishing to get tested will be able to purchase an LFD test from pharmacies. Limited free symptomatic testing will continue for a small number of at-risk groups and will also remain available to social care staff. Guidance

on testing arrangements for visitors to care homes is provided on the gov.uk webpages.

The current data shows a picture of increased COVID-19 activity and continued high case rates across all ages in Hampshire, with the highest rates currently among 35-39 year olds, and rising infections in the aged 60+. Despite hospitalisations decreasing since the peak of the Omicron wave, there is a slight upward trend in those admitted to hospital with COVID-19, which HCC's Public Health team are monitoring closely, alongside outbreaks within the community.

More information can be found on the 'Keep Hampshire Safe' web page at [www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus/covid-changes-faqs](http://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus/covid-changes-faqs).

### **3. New community pantries**

Five new Community Pantries are opening in Hampshire with support from the connect4communities programme, led by Hampshire County Council. Each pantry will help families who are facing hardship to access food at reduced prices. There is now at least one community pantry in each of the 11 districts in the HCC local authority area, with a total of 20 across Hampshire. For more information visit [www.connect4communities.org](http://www.connect4communities.org).

### **4. Roads**

The countywide clear-up following the severe storms in February continued into March. Storm Eunice alone generated over 5,000 reports with the highways team attending to almost 2000 fallen, damaged or dangerous trees, many of which needed emergency or urgent works. Specialist teams continued to inspect and prioritise tree related issues throughout March.

In addition, across the county 11,395 square metres of carriageway were resurfaced in February, 16,521 gullies and other drainage was cleared and 4,905 potholes were repaired.

The Task and Finish group set up to investigate 20mph speed limits in residential areas has had its first meeting and will now begin reviewing the evidence. The outcome is expected later in the year.

It is worth noting that there is a different process to reporting rights of way issues to HCC, as opposed to Highways issues. Residents should use this link, which enables the team to raise a job order and update the complainant.

Problems on rights of way | Hampshire County Council ([hants.gov.uk](http://hants.gov.uk)).

### **5. Queen's Green Canopy**

The first tree has been planted in The Queen's Copse, created as part of the the Queen's Green Canopy initiative to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. The oak tree, in the River Hamble Country park, will be one of 350 sapling trees on this site, including English Oaks and smaller Scots pines along with Cherry, Silver Birch, Field Maple, and Hornbeam. These will be complemented by a shrub layer of native hedge plants to increase the biodiversity of flora and fauna.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division  
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