

HECKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 7th August 2019, 7.30pm, Heckfield Memorial Hall

PRESENT: Parish Councillors – Simon Richards (Chairman), Brian Baker, David Hunt, Ian Bowman (newly Co-opted Parish Councillor); Guest – County Cllr David Simpson.

19.27 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies Paul Burton, Stephen Harnett
Ward Cllr Anne Crampton, PCSO Nick Greenwood.

19.28 CONFIRMATION OF NEW COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION

Co-option of Ian Bowman as Parish Councillor as agreed at May AGM.
Declaration of Office signed and witnessed.

19.29 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING of AGM 9th May 2019 agreed and signed.

19.30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the Agenda – None.

19.31 PLANNING

Applications considered since last meeting

19/01594/HOU (Validated 22 July) Danmoor House, Reading Road, Heckfield RG27 0JY. Erection of a single storey extension to the existing annexe following part demolition of the existing annexe. Converting existing kitchen to bedroom, additional bedroom and en-suite, relocation kitchen and dining and adding windows to north east elevation. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

19/01566/LDC (Validated 11 July) Whitewater Stables, Bramshill Road, Heckfield RG27 0LA Use of a building as a dwelling house. *Parish Council response: Due to length of time the building has been used as a dwelling the Parish Council is content to defer to the judgement of the case officer.*

19/01559/HOU and 19/01560/LBC (Validated 09 July) 27 Church Lane, Heckfield. Insertion of metal flue to roof slope. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

19/01150/HOU (Validated 24 June) Hamilton House, Reading Road, Heckfield RG27 0JY. Convert existing garage to habitable annex. *Parish Council response: No objection providing remains ancillary to host dwelling.*

19/01081/HOU (Validated 13 June) Beeches, Bramshill Road, Heckfield RG27 0LA. Demolition of existing detached single storey annex and erection of a detached one and a half storey annex. *No objection providing remains ancillary to host dwelling.* (See **APPENDIX I** for full list of current applications relating to the Parish.)

19.32 HIGHWAYS

i Causeway junction discussion

Comments

- Two accidents / 'shunts' yesterday and today at Malthouse Lane / A33 junction.
- Cllr Simpson urged reporting and recording of all accidents. Police will only record injury accidents. Statistically, where one accident recorded, 17 others presumed. 'Near misses' can't be counted.
- Following six months' consultation phase, now should be in the six months' monitoring phase. At the June Highways meeting HCC said they were monitoring via a private company.
- No visible signs of monitoring, no cameras, 'black boxes', cables.

For signature

- The 'no right turn' measures at the junction have made the locality more dangerous, increased likelihood of accidents. Not at the Causeway junction itself but problem and danger now displaced – to the Malthouse Lane / A33 junction, and the A33 layby where drivers attempt to pull in then U-turn.
- Proof needed. Action from June Highways meeting that 'Cllr Simpson will request details of the Causeway Junction monitoring'.

AGREED Unanimously that letter be sent to Highways, copied to Cllr Simpson requesting full detail of locations monitored, data collected and – if not already happening – that monitoring be undertake at junction Malthouse Lane with A33, plus???

ACTION: Clerk.

ii **Speed limit reduction**

Reducing speed limit is a regulatory and statutory process. Cllr Simpson noted that Traffic Police are statutory Consultees and their agreement is needed. Traffic police will not agree to a speed limit which they are unable to enforce (because - they say - it is below the 'natural' speed of the road). HCC recently received a letter from former Transport Secretary Chris Grayling warning against installation of 'illegal' road signs which had not been agreed via all legal processes.

Ian Bowman suggested that the Parish should officially request a speed limit reduction, then HCC will need to officially respond and explain the response.

AGREED To submit a formal request to HCC to reduce the speed limit on the B3349 Heckfield, from New Inn to Heckfield roundabout. Speed limit here is presently an anomaly as the B3349 from Hook, through Rotherwick and though Mattingley has a limit of sometime 50 but mostly 40mph. Therefore, there would seem to be no wider strategic impact of reducing the speed limit – on this short stretch of road – to that already in place along most of its length from Hook. The Parish Council requests the speed limit to be reduced to 40mph.'

Proposed Ian Bowman, seconded David Hunt, agreed unanimously.

ACTION: Clerk.

Detail reasons – road dissects Village, pedestrian safety, school bus, residents' concern re traffic, residents' loss of amenity, horses, rights of way crossing. Also to note the ongoing and significant growth in housing – in Heckfield itself at the Risely development, but particularly large scale development in Hook and beyond, constantly increasing traffic flow on B3349 (former A32) as the main connecting route between Hook / M3 and Reading / M4.

Cllr Simpson noted that A331 Blackwater Valley bypass recently has speed limit reduced to 50mph for air quality reasons. Lower speed limit, air quality improves. Not suggesting Heckfield has notable problem with air quality, but requesting a measurement will provide a benchmark for any future deterioration. (Also to note that drivers (including motorbikes) accelerate through this short section, then have to brake at the roundabout or at the corner at New Inn.)

iii **Next Highways meeting** (See **APPENDIX II** for draft Minutes of June meeting.)

Suggested w/c 9th September

Availability – Ian Bowman – Monday 9th and Friday 15th September.

Suggested at last meeting that member of Strategic Transport attend. Clerk to request via HCC officers. Principle Highways Engineer seconded to Winchester from beginning September but officers in place to cover his role.

iv **Overgrown sightlines**

ACTION For overgrown sightlines Cllr Simpson advised to log directly to Hantsweb rather than Fix my Street – and to take and upload photos.

(Simon Richards noted Fix-my-Street shows high level use from Heckfield residents.)

For signature

19.33 FOOTPATHS & RIGHTS OF WAY**i Devils's Highway working party 14th & 15th June**

Notice for Working Party – 'The Devils Highway' is part of the old Roman road from Silchester to London and passes through the top Heckfield parish. It is not officially maintained by anyone or any authority and a group of volunteers will meet both days 09.30am. Please can you spare a few hours to mend the potholes in the pathway...'

Working party of Simon Richards, Brian Baker, David Hunt, and local rambling group out in force to help in laying gravel. 'Thank you' notice to go on Website.

ii FP 501 – Land at Odiham Road, Riseley – Cara Homes (see **APPENDIX III)**

1. Email received from resident 5th July that 'Cala homes have relocated the entrance to the Devils Highway on the Basingstoke road, Riseley [opposite tennis club]. The entrance has been moved approx one metre to the left of the original entrance. This now means pedestrians have to duck under the wire cable supporting the electricity pole and manoeuvre past the tree that has had branches lopped to the left. This is a safety hazard for walkers. Also the path is now lower than the new road construction and will flood in rain.'

2. Noted that this apparently to allow for construction access, but no request or permission to move the FP. Hart case officer and enforcement informed.

3. Update from resident on 16th July that 'ground levelled and much improved' but FP remains in its new position.

4. Referred to Hants Northern Countryside Access Team who, as per email of 18th July 'will contact the contractor and undertake to inspect the path and remedy any health and safety issues as soon as they are practically able to do so.'

No further update received.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up.

iii Claiming right of way 'as of right'

Requires a period of at least 20 years' uninterrupted use by the public.

'As of right', ie which means without secrecy, force, or specific permission.

During that time, land owner not taken measures to gate or fence to prevent access for any period, or erect any signage saying not a public right of way.

For proof of use need signed testimonials. Cllr Simpson commented that County likely to take positive view but have problem with resources – likely to take couple of years.

iv Request for creation of new Right of Way

Information received from HCC Countryside Services says that County generally supportive, Parishes should be proactive in initially contacting landowner (see **APPENDIX IV**).

v 'Old road' FP to New Inn **APPENDIX V**

AGREED Unanimously that the Parish Council wishes this route to be registered as an official Right of Way.

Suggested approach: Clerk write to HCC c/o Cllr Simpson, explaining that locals have walked this route for many years, the Parish Council believe belongs to HCC, now pedestrians are forced to walk alongside the busy B3349 bypass road (unrestricted speed limit, formerly A32) and so being put in danger.

Noted that the creation of an official Right of Way could support a request to Highways for four crossing points – with pedestrian 'refuges' and signage which should also contribute to traffic calming.

For signature

19.34 VILLAGE HALL AND COTTAGES**i Listed buildings and Listed Building Consent**

1. Letter from Hart Ian Bowman reported receiving a letter from Hart send to all owners of listed buildings. Likely the Cottages have received same. **APPENDIX VI**

'The Council is concerned by rising numbers of planning appeals and anecdotal reports of dissatisfaction amongst owners of listed building. Please send your candid assessment of your dealings with conservation and planning officer to the Joint CEO preferably email. Feel free to copy emails to your ward councillor who fulfils a valuable independent monitoring role...'

The letter notes that:

'The Council works positively and proactively on development proposals....

'Decisions are made by professional staff... Staff follow best practice along the following lines...

- '• Officers should be open, helpful and proactive throughout the planning process;*
- '• Planning and conservation officers should visit each site and record the date, duration and findings of every visit...'*

2. Regarding the Cottages, Brian Baker noted that, –

- The Conservation Officer has constantly advised over the past three and a half years, that all proposals put forward by the Trustees to make the Cottages habitable would be considered unacceptable.
- In every instance, the Conservation Officer has advised Refusal would be recommended should the proposals be taken to application stage.
- Comments from the Conservation Officer have always been perceived as negative and obstructive. Reiteration that the buildings must be kept the same as they are has never been extended to help or proactive assistance to the Trustees in response to their questions of what can be done to take the project forward.
- This negative response has prevented LBC applications and necessary works from progressing, hence the Cottages remain vacant.
- Brian Baker has considered the 'Property Guardians scheme' – in an effort to have the Cottages occupied but was advised they are not sufficiently habitable, requiring basic services / utilities.

ii Council tax

Brain Baker reported an unexpected Council Tax bill received for Cottages which included fine for non-occupancy. The bill was initially c£10K, some negotiation has reduced to c£7K.

1. Discussion and Comments

- The Village Hall and Cottages are held in Trust on behalf of the Parish. The Parish Council is the Custodian Trustee.
- Cottages been tenantless for five years, loss of income as well as bill now facing
- The reason the Cottages have been standing empty for so long, has been difficulty of achieving any positive response from Hart Conservation (as above at 19.34.i).
- All Trustees are volunteers, the Cottages are non-profit making and renovation depend on grant funding. The imposed fine will put further financial pressure on the Charitable Trust and further financial constraints on renovation.
- Re possible legal advice, have access to Hants Legal Services via HALC, also Charity Commission? also via Insurance?

Brian Baker noted that the Trustees have no written record of Conservation Officer's advice, potentially this has been sent to the architect. [However the letter from Hart notes that all Officers should record the date and findings of every visit.]

For signature

1. Suggested course of action

To present a question to Hart's Full Council. Raising a question in Council will make official and place on record. Address to both CEOs and copy to Leader of the Council. Next Hart Council meeting Thursday 26th September, 7pm. Letter addressed to CEO must be emailed by midday five clear days before the day of the meeting. Question no more than 100 words, two minutes for question, two minutes for response. (See **APPENDIX VII.**)

AGREED Unanimously. Letter to be sent.

ACTION Clerk and Brian Baker.

Question - DRAFT:

'Heckfield Parish Council requests Councillors consider the circumstances relating to a Council Tax bill (and associated non-occupancy levy).

'Cottages in question are held in Trust and are Grade II listed. Renovation to make habitable depends on Listed Building Consent.

'For every proposal, over 3.5 years, the Conservation Officer has advised refusal – never positive or proactive feedback. Trustees hope Councillors will share their sense of injustice at receiving this bill from Hart when the Cottages remain uninhabitable due to the position taken by the Hart officer.

'Trustees are asking Councillors to reconsider the charge until Conservation issues can be resolved.'

iii Garden makeover No response from proposed contractor. Suggest use gardener as neighbour, sponsored by 'Deaf Society'.

iv Doors and windows Renovation scheduled for end August.

v Fund raising

Funding held for Cottages renovation is c45K, likely need same again.

Heckfield Place (Highfield Park Management?) have previously expressed interest in contributing to upkeep of former Almshouses gifted by Lady Eversley. Agreed that personal visit would be the best approach

ACTION Paul Burton, Simon Richards.

19.35 WHITEWATER VALLEY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

i Membership

Agreed as 19.36.i below. Membership taken out in name of Simon Richards. WVPS at present doesn't have facility for corporate membership. Agreed contribution £100.00

ii History – Highfield House.

Simon Richards reported Highfield House (Highfield Park Management) are putting in a lot of time and effort investigating history of the building – which was Heckfield House up to 1810. Clerk received email enquiry from Highfield Park asking for any historical records or information on the house.

Whitewater Valley Preservation Society also doubles as local history society. Has copy of book on history of Heckfield, Simon Richards has sent the Highfield (also a copy in Museum of Rural Life?) Another book from 1933 has been identified, still to be found.

David Hunt commented that many old pictures of Heckfield available – and a lot for sale on line. This an opportunity for local research – verbal, personal information also very important. Many Heckfield residents have long family histories in the Parish.

Suggestion to publicise request – posters, FB.

Suggestion that Highfield House may host an Open Day.

ONGOING ACTION: Simon Richards.

For signature

19.36 FINANCE**i Cheques agreed for signature**

283	Whitewater Valley Preservation Society – subscription	£100.00
284	Clerk payment April to August- 5 months	£1,500.00
285	Simon Richards for Village Hall Caretaker – gift / appreciation (60th birthday)	£100.00

ii Accounts to date See **APPENDIX VIII****iii Banking and change of signatories**

NatWest confirmed they have actioned the request to add Clerk as signatory and remove previous councillors David Bell and Susan Naish. Awaiting confirmation / passcode for online access.

AGREED Further signatories not required.

iv NALC Model Financial Regulations

Noted that NALC have revised their Model Financial Regulations July 2019.

19.37 FURTHER REPORTS**i Next Parishes / Highways meeting**

Provisionally suggested for w/c 9th September. Cllr Simpson available all dates that week, Ian Bowman potentially available 9th and 13th.

ii Himalayan Balsam

David Hunt noted its abundance alongside roads and in Ancient Woodland (SINC – site of importance for nature conservation) at Coldpiece Farm. Does the Parish / District have a strategy for managing / removal?

Note – management requires uprooting before flowers in June. See **APPENDIX IX**

ACTION: Suggest management plan for next year. Suggest also liaise with WVPS.

iii Heckfield FP 8

Also noted Coldpiece Farm FP 8 [is this right?] requires maintenance. Simon Richards to contact.

iv Blackbushe airfield

Cllr Simpson reported that the decision to unregister the airfield as Common Land has gone to Judicial Review. Note the development was allowed on the Common Land during the war, but then not removed afterwards. With Common Land status revoked the land would be considered an industrial site if the airfield closed.

v Police

PCSO Nick Greenwood seeking 'engagement opportunities' October to December 2019.

19.38 NEXT MEETING TBA

Meeting closed 9.35pm with thanks to all present

For signature Date

APPENDIX I PLANNING – HECKFIELD 2019

18/00002/CON - Approval of conditions application - For info - (Validated: Fri 02 Aug 2019) Park Corner Farm, Welsh Lane, Heckfield RG27 0LT. Approval of conditions 3- large scale plans- 4- details of materials- 5- construction method statement- 6- travel plan- 7- ecological enhancement plan- 8- written scheme of investigation- and 9- lighting- pursuant to Demolition of existing building and extension to the existing farm shop and cafe and car park.

Applications considered since last meeting

19/01594/HOU (Validated: Mon 22 Jul 2019) Danmoor House, Reading Road, Heckfield RG27 0JY. Erection of a single storey extension to the existing annexe following part demolition of the existing annexe. Converting existing kitchen to bedroom, additional bedroom and en-suite, relocation kitchen and dining and adding windows to north east elevation. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

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19/01081/HOU (Validated 13 June 2019) Beeches, Bramshill Road, Heckfield RG27 0LA. Demolition of existing detached single storey annex and erection of a detached one and a half storey annex. *No objection providing remains ancillary to host dwelling.*

Applications decided since last meeting

19/01129/LBC (Granted 17th July, Validated: 22 May 2019) Cold Piece Farm Hound Green. Insulation between floor joists, insulation above slab, new floor to formal dining room and raising of floor level in living room.

19/01014/HOU (**Refused** 2nd July - validated 13 May) Dukes Field Cottage, Norton Road, Riseley. Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory. Internal alterations.

19/00670/FUL (**Granted** 21st June, Validated 23 Apr 2019) Park Farm Bramshill Road Heckfield. Retrospective application for the erection of composting bays, creation of gravel parking area, erection of a tool store, erection of training and prep block and erection of a welfare / admin block. (*Comment - No objection. Heckfield Parish Council supports this application.*)

19/00930/FUL (**Granted** 18th June, Validated 23 Apr 2019) Whitewater House Bramshill Road Heckfield. Change of Use of land to residential garden (retrospective)

19/00874/HOU (Granted 12th June, Validated 17 Apr) Sunfold, Bramshill Road, Heckfield. Erection of a single storey side extension to form annex, raise part of roof to create first floor and alterations to fenestration.

19/00831/HOU and 19/00832/LBC (**Granted** 5th June, Validated: Wed 10 Apr 2019) Cold Piece Farm Hound Green Mattingley. Installation of a window into the existing niche on the east elevation of the property.

19/00833/LBC (**Granted** 5th June, Validated: Wed 10 Apr 2019) Cold Piece Farm Hound Green Mattingley. Digging of 10 temporary trial pits for investigation into the foundations of the listed barn.

19/00823/LBC (**Refused** 4th June, Validated: Tue 09 Apr 2019) Cold Piece Farm Hound Green Mattingley Hook. Removal of timber staircase, installation of a waterproof membrane to basement and permanent closing of hatch.

19/00825/LBC (**Refused** 30 May, Validated: Tue 09 Apr 2019) Cold Piece Farm Hound Green. Installation of secondary glazing (internally) behind 5 windows on the front and side elevations.

19/00990/CON (**Condition discharged** 29th May), Approval of condition 6- signage- pursuant to 16/03398/FUL Change of use of land to Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) with associated landscaping scheme (including informal open space, semi-natural greenspace, circular walk, tree planting, hedge planting and shrub planting, benches and fencing), vehicular access works, cycle and car parking and interpretation boards. | Land At Mill Lane Riseley Reading Berkshire

19/00653/LBC (**Granted** 17th May Validated 22 Mar) 27 Church Lane Heckfield Hook. Insert conservation rooflight into south side roof slope.

APPENDIX II JUNE HIGHWAYS MEETING 1 OF 3**BRAMSHILL – HECKFIELD – MATTINGLEY – PARISH COUNCILS****DRAFT MINUTES OF 'HIGHWAYS' MEETING**

Wednesday 12th June 2019, 2pm Heckfield Memorial Hall

PRESENT County Cllr David Simpson (Chairman for meeting)

James Holt, Principle Engineer, Hampshire Highways,

Andy Smith, Team Leader, Traffic Management East (Winchester, Fareham, Gosport, East Hants, Havant, Hart, Rushmoor), Hampshire County Council

Steve Woodward, Team Leader, Safety Engineering Team, Hampshire County Council

Brian Baker and Simon Richards, Heckfield Parish Council

Susan Turner: Heckfield Parish Council, Mattingley Parish Council (clerk)

APOLOGIES

Philip Sheppard, Infrastructure Team Manager, Technical & Environmental Services, Hart District Council

Janice Hughes and Frazer Hamilton, Mattingley Parish Council
Bramshill Parish Council.

1 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**2 CAUSEWAY / A33 JUNCTION** Considering first this specific issue

Highways Safety and Traffic Management (TM) said the junction has a history of injury accidents. Previous safety measures have included a red anti-skid surface, which worked well for a time but the surface wears. Representations from Ranil Jayawardena MP for further measures.

The 'no right turn' solution (installed Dec 2018) seeks only to address this specific safety issue as economically as possible (c£150K). It does not consider wider issues, as such is an 'experiment' and subject to 18 months' consultation and review. That is six months' public consultation, six months' monitoring, six months' decision making. Unusually the Police objected outright as believe the feature insufficient to physically prevent a no-right-turn. Twenty-five written responses to the consultation comprised eight in favour and 17 objections – the latter relating to increased 'rat running' via the rural lanes, or drivers flouting the no-right turn instruction.

The junction is being monitored – using a private company – and no injury accidents have been recorded since the measures put in place. Highways Engineer commented that there isn't so far evidence of excessive damage to Malthouse Lane. (Suggest taking photos.) Acknowledged has been a dry winter and spring. No increase in 'safety defects'.

Noted that the main reason drivers wish to turn right from this junction is to avoid congestion at the Wellington Roundabouts to the A33. Without the right-turn option here, the congestion at the roundabouts (as well as the rat running) has increased.

3 WELLINGTON ROUNDABOUT

Simon Richards said the main issue is at the Wellington Roundabouts. The rush hour queue at the roundabouts to reach A33, prior to the no-right-turn, took 12-13 minutes, now double that. As well as using Malthouse Lane, traffic finds alternative routes around via Bar Lane and Stratfield Saye.

Reiterated that the no-right-turn is a local solution to a local accident problem, not a strategic traffic management solution. The impact is currently being monitored. Monitoring takes place on likely rat-running routes, plus congestion points. Google maps the length of queue at roundabout and retains the data – data can be download for free and Hants Highways make use of. Decisions regarding measures for A33 and A33 roundabouts will be Strategic Transport issues.

APPENDIX II JUNE HIGHWAYS MEETING 2 OF 3**4 STRATEGIC TRANSPORT ISSUES**

Cllr Simpson noted that new housing developments will continue to exacerbate the problems. Traffic statistics showing increases as incremental, not actual, mask rather than illustrate the problems. Traffic signals and roundabouts require large amounts of money which all schemes have to compete for. Much will depend on Strategic Transport plans for the A33 and a possible new M3 - M4 link road. .

Hants noted that should traffic lights be installed at the Wellington A33 roundabout (Wellington Farm Shop) they would be set in favour of A33 traffic so the benefit to the 'side roads' – B3349 – may potentially not be very much. Also noted that traffic lights don't necessarily improve safety. Issue for Mattingley and Heckfield is that B3349 may be a 'side road' but is the main traffic route between Hook / M3 and Reading / M4.

Suggested inviting a member of Strategic Transport to the next meeting to understand their view on A33 and smaller routes like B3349 and B3011. It was also noted that speed limit changes in the past may relate to the A&B Roads Speed Limit Review [c2011]. Parish Councillors commented that from residents' perspective there is no logic to Hants' decision-making regarding speed limits and road safety.

5 FUNDING

Up to four years ago local traffic speed and safety concerns would be investigated and where appropriate addressed with local schemes via the Minor Works Programme. Restricted budgets now means funding has to be prioritised to areas with high rates of injury accidents. So 'minor works' to address local issues and concerns which would have been considered routine a few years ago, cannot be funded. The Minor Works Programme is now effectively part of the Road Safety team.

Traffic Management (TM) does have some discretion – there are some small pots of funding available (though much smaller than used to be). TM will if possible investigate areas where there is real public concern.

TM has generic information on the Hants Highways' position and procedure to publish on Parish Websites. (Susan Turner will request.)

6 B3011 & B3349 MATTINGLEY

Highways Safety & TM noted that the B3011 used to be high priority due injury accident rates, but this rate is recently much reduced. The B3349 came out 69th of 94 for priority in the A&B Roads Speed Limit Review.

Regarding the Mattingley Speed Indicator Devises, Hants will consider the data from the associated data recorders. If there is a view to work being done they will conduct their own monitoring. Having considered the data submitted from the first few weeks of recording, this shows mean speeds on B3349 as sufficiently low to not warrant further measures (beyond the improved lining and signage implemented).

The B3349 is a throughput road, chicanes or traffic islands would not be appropriate. The Highways Environment here is very different to that in Hook.

Cllr Simpson commented that he has been repeatedly contacted by residents regarding the number of road accidents at the Plough Lane junction (Shoulder of Mutton) on B3011.

Hants has access to all Police accident statistics including from Thames Valley. Need to consider the cause of the accidents and this may not be speed-related.

7 B3349 – new inn to Heckfield roundabout

Simon Richards and Brian Baker noted that Heckfield has a bus stop on the B3349 (used by the school bus) too dangerous to walk to, plus a public footpath crossing the road. There is no safe pedestrian access to the Village pub (the New Inn).

APPENDIX II JUNE HIGHWAYS MEETING 3 OF 3

It was noted that there is presently no indication to drivers that they are traveling through the centre of a Village. The straight section of road and crash barrier invites the road to be treated as a 'speedway'.

Issues for Heckfield is that traffic is either queuing or travelling too fast. In both cases, means to moderate the traffic speed and flow would help. Hants TM said funding sources may be available to support passenger transport issues; and also to consider the Community-funded Initiative.

8 COMMUNITY FUNDING

If there are specific, very local issues – such as the school bus access on both B3011 Hazeley and B3349 Heckfield – it may be possible to find other small pots of funding (eg community budgets) so this can be an area to focus on for improvement.

Also, the Community-funded Initiative allows Parishes to pay for their own schemes – eg Village Gateways, Signage – subject to Hants' approval. Parishes can design and purchase their own, providing constructed to Hants' specification and installed by a Licenced operator (requirement for insurance and to liaise with Utilities, scan for buried cables). There are various examples of Parishes raising the Precept to address particular issues of concern.

9 MAINTENANCE ISSUES

Bottle and Vicarage Lanes in Mattingley still have scheduled repairs to verges etc outstanding from SE Water's closure of the B3349.

Highways Engineer reported remedial work was done last autumn – other than one section outstanding in Vicarage Lane at the right angle bend near Keepers Cottage (this order was to dig out a section and take spoil away).

10 ACTIONS AND NEXT MEETING

- Cllr Simpson will request details of the Causeway Junction monitoring.
- Highways Safety & Traffic Management will review data for B3349 Mattingley & Heckfield and B3011 Mattingley, Heckfield and Bramshill.
- Parishes to consider measures they wish to be considered – potentially via the Community Funded Initiative.
- Next meeting to be scheduled for September, agreed to be held at the Hook Depot. Suggested w/c Monday 9th September. Susan Turner to co-ordinate / and arrange date.

Meeting closed 3.45pm with thanks to all present.

APPENDIX III FP 51 – LAND AT ODIHAM ROAD, RISELEY – CARA HOMES

Email from resident 5th June 2019

'Footpath 501 – Cala homes have relocated the entrance to the Devils Highway on the Basingstoke road, Riseley. The entrance has been move approx. 1 metre to the left of the original entrance. This now means pedestrians have to duck under the wire cable supporting the electricity pole and manoeuvre past the tree that has had branches lopped to the left. This is a safety hazard for walkers. Also the path is now lower than the new road construction and will flood in rain.'



Notes –

1. This appears to related to the 'Temporary Construction Access'.
2. Nothing in the Construction Method Statement about moving the Footpath, no request and no permission.
3. Referred to Hart Case Officer who noted
 'There have been communications received by Council regarding the most recent construction entrance which enforcement is investigating (eg the alleged displacement). I have copied my colleague who is looking at the entrance issues from an enforcement perspective.
4. Feedback from resident 16th July. 'Hi some work has been carried out to level the ground, much improved, however the path is still under the pylon cable to the left of the old entrance. A fellow walker actually walked into it, do you have any updates on this.'
5. Also referred to Hants Countryside Planning who commented
 18th July – 'Thank you for your email alerting us to the location of the construction access and the impact on Heckfield Footpath 501. I have passed your report on to our Northern Countryside Access Team who will contact the contractor and undertake to inspect the path and remedy any health and safety issues as soon as they are practically able to do so.'

APPENDIX IV.I HCCCC – GUIDANCE FOR PARISHES - CREATING NEW FOOTPATHS**Path Creations**

It is important that our Rights of Way network meets the needs of the people who may wish to use it, and the Countryside Access Plans for the County form the basis for our work towards this goal – including creating new Rights of Way where needed. For example, a new path may be needed to link up existing paths and avoid the use of roads, making for a safer and more enjoyable network. Bridleway users can especially benefit from such creations. Or it may be that a footpath should be upgraded by 'creating' bridleway rights over it. Sometimes greater width may be needed, perhaps to facilitate easier shared use or disabled access; again the width increase takes the form of a 'creation'.

Creation Agreements

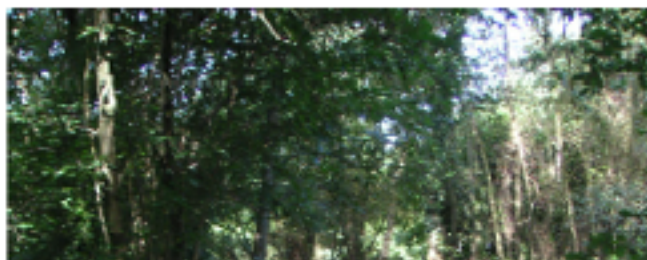
Wherever possible we will try to secure creations by Creation Agreements and will pay the landowner's reasonable legal costs in connection with any negotiated voluntary dedications.

Occasionally we may also receive offers from landowners of dedications and will accept new Rights of Way that are of benefit to the public. However they arise once the dedication of a path.

Has been accepted by the County Council we will become responsible for signing and maintaining the path to an agreed standard.

Creation Orders

Where it is not possible to obtain the voluntary dedication of a Right of Way for which there is a proven need, the County Council has the power to create a new Right of Way, even if it is against the wishes of a landowner. However the County Council very rarely uses this power as it is our policy to work in cooperation with landowners. Compensation may be payable to those owning the land over which the Right of Way is created. District Councils and National Park Authorities have the power to make creation orders.



APPENDIX IV.II HCCCC – GUIDANCE FOR PARISHES - CREATING NEW FOOTPATHS**The Parish Council's Role**

The County is grateful to Parish Councils for their active input into the Countryside Access Plans and we want to encourage them to take as active a role as possible in their implementation, including helping with the creation of new routes or rights. Local knowledge is, once more, invaluable both for identifying where new paths or higher rights are needed, and for identifying the land owners who can grant those rights.

An approach from the local council can often be more sympathetically received than a similar approach from the more remote County Council and the Parish Council does have its own power (Section 30, Highways Act 1900) to enter into a creation agreement with the land owner. However, there are practical reasons why it may generally be preferable for the Parish Council to act as agent for the County Council - helping negotiate an agreement that is then made between the land owner and the County. It is important that paths are created through agreement with the Highways Authority because:

- The County Council can pay compensation but there is no right for the Parish Council to do so.
- Paths created by agreement with the Highway Authority (County Council) are automatically maintainable at public expense but this is not the case for paths agreed with the Parish Council.
- Paths created by agreement with the Parish Council cannot be subject to conditions or limitations.
- There are safeguards for the public built in to agreements made by the Highway Authority we have a duty to see that the new path is physically created to a suitable standard and also to ensure that the new path is publicised.

So, while we urge you to take the initiative with looking for local path improvements and negotiating with land owners in your parish, we would also ask that you work with us to achieve an agreement made between the land owner(s) and the County Council

If a creation agreement cannot be obtained voluntarily with the land owner, a creation order will be needed. These can only be made by the County and District Councils, and by the National Park Authority. While there is no legal requirement to consult Parish Councils when making a creation order, we consider that it is best practice to do so, especially as your evidence may be vital to establishing that there is sufficient public need to justify making the order.



APPENDIX V.II HECKFIELD OLD ROAD – PARISH ON-LINE - LAND REGISTRY



APPENDIX VI ASKING QUESTIONS AT FULL COUNCIL

FROM HART GUIDANCE – 'PUBLIC SPEAKING AT COUNCIL'

General

Members of the public can ask specific questions of the Leader, Members of the Cabinet or any Chairman of a Committee at ordinary meetings of the Full Council.

Questions can be asked by anyone who lives, works or studies in Hart District.

Questions should be clear and concise (no more than 100 words) and should be framed to elicit information rather than make a statement.

What should Questions be about?

The purpose of Public Questions is for members of the public to seek information. Questions should be about something within the Council's responsibilities, or something the Council is able to influence. They should not be defamatory or offensive, or require the Council to disclose confidential information. Questions that take the form of a statement and not a genuine enquiry are unlikely to be accepted as being suitable for the purposes of Public Questions.

Time Limits

The time allowed for each question is two minutes and the time allowed to answer the question is also two minutes.

Notice of questions

A question may only be asked if notice has first been given in writing to the Chief Executive (email to committeeservices@hart.gov.uk) no later than midday five clear days before the day of the meeting. Each question must give the name and address of the questioner.

Asking the question at the meeting

The Chairman will invite the questioner to put his question. If a questioner who has submitted a written question is unable to be present, he may ask the Chairman to put the question on his behalf.

Supplementary question

A questioner who has attended the Council meeting to pose their question may also then put one supplementary question to the Councillor who has replied to his original question. The supplementary question must arise directly out of the original question or the reply. It must not be a statement. It should also not repeat the original question. The time allowed for each supplementary question and its answer is two minute each.

Written answers

Any question that cannot be dealt with during Public Question time, either because of lack of time or because of the non-attendance of the Member to whom it was to be put, will be dealt with by a written answer within 10 working days but there will no opportunity to ask a supplementary question. All answers will be circulated to members of the Council.

The Chairman of Council, in consultation with the Chief Executive may refer a question to Officers for a direct written response if they consider the question can be most appropriately handled in that way.

How to contact Committee Services

Email: committeeservices@hart.gov.uk

Tel: 01252 774141

Write: Committee Services, Hart District Council, Harlington Way, Fleet, GU51 4AE

APPENDIX VII LETTER FROM HART

The Council works positively and proactively on development proposals



OWNER OF A LISTED BUILDING

The Council is concerned by rising numbers of planning appeals and anecdotal reports of dissatisfaction amongst owners of listed buildings. Please send your candid assessment of your dealings with conservation and planning officers to the **Joint Chief Executive**, preferably by email chiefexecutive@hart.gov.uk. Feel free to copy emails to your ward councillor, who fulfils a valuable independent monitoring role. Correspondence should be addressed **IN CONFIDENCE** and should not be discussed with council employees to reassure you that honest feedback will not be held against you.

Decisions are made by professional staff and councillors have no involvement. Staff should follow best practice along the following lines:

- ❖ Officers should be open, helpful and proactive throughout the planning process;
- ❖ The identity, wealth, character, background or ethnicity of the applicant must never be a factor;
- ❖ Private applicants should be accorded at least the same degree of consideration and meetings as corporate applicants, builders and developers;
- ❖ Planning and conservation officers should visit each site and record the date, time, duration and findings of every visit;
- ❖ Any verbal or written comments and influence from third parties should be recorded and placed in the public arena;
- ❖ *Hart* consultees should submit their comments by the date initially published and should only concern themselves with matters within their area e.g. conservation, trees, ecology, landscape, housing, drainage, streetcare...;
- ❖ Each case should be assessed on its merit and historic and past comments should not be pasted or applied;
- ❖ Conservation officers will have carefully read all relevant heritage documents, including those submitted by applicants, and should explain each instance where they disagree with heritage statements and similar documents;
- ❖ Case officers should produce contemporaneous evidence such as photographs to demonstrate harm to the setting of a listed building or conservation area;
- ❖ The case officer should convene a meeting with applicants or their agents to explain issues whenever it seems likely that an application will be refused;
- ❖ A written statement should be given to an applicant explaining advice to withdraw an application;
- ❖ Less than substantial harm should be calibrated according to significance and the reasons explained;
- ❖ Case officers should systematically weigh public benefit of every application including appearance, security, maintenance, energy saving, parking, continued viability and habitability, public access and views, and biodiversity.

APPENDIX VIII.I ACCOUNTS TO DATE

HECKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - EXPENDITURE 2019/2020 - 31st May 2019								
Date	Supplier	Description	Cheque	Salary	Finance / Admin	Publish	VAT	Total
09/05/19	HALC +NALC	Subscription	279		£182.00			£182.00
09/05/19	Zurich	Insurance	280		£218.96			£218.96
09/05/19	WW Magazine	One page June issue	281			£45.00		£45.00
09/05/19	ST for GeoXphere	Online Mapping	282		£30.00		£6.00	£36.00
	Totals:				£430.96	£45.00	£6.00	£481.96
								£481.96
	HECKFIELD PARISH COUNCILL RECEIPTS 2019/2020 - 31st May 2019							
	Balance brought forward 1st April 2019							£11,111.86
	Date	Item	Paid by	Precept	VAT		Interest	Total
	15/04/19	Parish Precept	BACS	£9,600.00				£9,600.00
	2019/20	Net Interest total	BACS				£6.25	£6.25
	2019/20	GRANTS						
	2019/20	VAT reclaim						
		Total		£9,600.00			£6.25	£9,606.25
								£9,606.25
				Bank interest	April 2018	£2.73	Oct 2018	
					May 2018	£3.52	Nov 2018	
					June 2018		Dec 2018	
					July 2018		Jan 2019	
					Aug 2018		Feb 2019	
					Sept 2018		Mar 2019	
		RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY						
		Bal brought forward 1st April 2019		£11,111.86				
		Plus income		£9,606.25				
		Minus expenditure		£481.96				
		Balance		£20,236.15			TOTAL	£6.25
		BANK RECONCILIATION						
		current a/c 44968469 at 31st May 2019		£22.44				
		reserve a/c 36453196		£20,695.67				
		less cheques not cashed		£481.96				
		Balance to take over		£20,236.15				

APPENDIX VIII.II BANK ACCOUNT

01584072
01046 0001/0001

Business Reserve Account

Date	Details	Withdrawn	Paid in	Balance
5 Jul 2018	BROUGHT FORWARD			11,095.67
15 Apr 2019	Automated Credit HART D C PYT AC		9,600.00	20,695.67

Account Number 36453196

HECKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

89 Branch sort code 60-10-13

National Westminster Bank Plc

01112334
01981 0001/0001

Current Account

Date	Details	Withdrawn	Paid in	Balance
5 Mar 2019	BROUGHT FORWARD			14.43
29 Mar	Interest 29MAR-GRS 36453196		1.76	16.19
30 Apr	Interest 30APR-GRS 36453196		2.73	18.92
31 May	Interest 31MAY-GRS 36453196		3.52	22.44


APPENDIX IX HIMALAYAN BALSAM

Today - 09/08/2019 - BBC X Himalayan balsam | Canal & X New Tab

https://canalrivertr Search

Himalayan balsam

Despite its soothing name, this densely growing pink and red-stemmed weed stifles any native grasses and plants in its path.



Himalayan Balsam, copyright GBNNS

Its seed pods explode open when ripe and can shoot seeds up to seven metres away – with each plant able to produce around 800 seeds, it's no wonder this plant dominates certain areas.

It doesn't need much light itself and will grow in a wide range of habitats. However, this weed tends to shade out other plants and when it dies back in autumn its destructive legacy lives on; as it leaves waterway banks vulnerable to erosion.

It is actually quite easy to control, using a method called balsam bashing. This basically means pulling the shallow rooted plant up before it flowers in June. This can eradicate the plant from an area within a few years.

However, the plant is so widely spread it is a daunting task in many locations. It can also easily spread from adjacent land and down waterways through its prolific seed production.