

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY 2022

Wednesday 18th May 2022, 7.30pm, Mapledurwell & Up Nately Village Hall

Present – Parish Councillors Hugo Cubitt (Chairman), Kevin Rafferty, Colin Robertson, Alison Stent; Clerk Susan Turner; Guests PCSO Andy Jones; Ward Councillors Onnalee Cubitt and Kate Tuck; 9 members of the public.

Apologies John Maclean, Martin Carfrae, Tim Lewis, Liz and Sam Preece, County Cllr Elaine Still. Written report received from Cllr Still, **APPENDIX I**

1 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PCSO Andy Jones would first give his report. The Chairman thanked Andy for attending and the work he does on our behalf.

2 LOCAL POLICING UPDATE

PCSO Andy Reid is a Rural South Officer, he recognises the policing issues of our parish align with Rural South and will cover when he can. But Mapledurwell & Up Nately is part of the Basing Area and so should be policed by Basingstoke Town. Andy has discussed with the Basingstoke Sergeant. Our assigned officers should be:

PC Ren PARMAR renu.parmar@hampshire.police.uk

PCSO Lucy OLLERENSHAW lucy.ollerenshaw@hampshire.police.uk

Andy said it is always good to catch up with everyone who attends these meetings. He presented his report, noting in general:

High value plant machinery being targeted – can be moved out of the country very quickly. In the last month three machines have been stolen from Weston Patrick and one from Upton Grey. Police have reported links to a Mitsubishi Shogun and Honda CRV, have plate and partial plate numbers but may be cloned.

Licensed premises are being targeted for cooking oil. Incidences of this crime are very high at the moment nationwide, the cooking oil once filtered can be used as diesel equivalent.

County Watch is warning dog walkers to please keep their dogs under control, there have been several attacks on sheep, stress can be a factor in sheep deaths as much as injury.

Rural officers are increasing their use of drones.

Reporting, please report 99 for any incident happening in real time, units will deploy when they can. For non urgent still use 101; alternatively report online – search Hampshire Constabulary reporting. This you can do in your own time and upload photos & documents.

*PCSO Andy Jones left the meeting with the thanks of the Assembly, full report at **APPENDIX II***

3 WARD COUNCILLORS

The Chairman introduced Ward Cllrs Onnalee Cubitt and Kate Tuck, with congratulations to Kate on her recent election.

This being the second year of the new ward boundaries, they are Councillors for Basing & Upton Grey Ward (along with Cllr Sven Godesen).

Onnalee noted that PCSO Andy Jones has an impossible task given the area he has to cover and in trying to help police our Parishes as well. Of course Andy Reid always be a difficult act to follow. If you have any problems with local Policing write to PCC Donna Jones.

The big issue in the borough at the moment is the Update of the Local Plan. Continuing on the same trajectory for house building will mean an additional 17,800 houses by 2030.

Of the Strategic Sites in the current Plan supposed to have been built, many have not been, including Manydown. Basingstoke & Deane has a build rate of 1,400dpa (dwellings per annum) – apparently the second highest in the country – but these builds are not included within our housing figures as not part of recognised sites.

And because strategic sites – the ‘official’ sites – are not being built out, Basingstoke’s housing figures can’t show a five-year land supply. This cycle clearly is self-perpetuating. And means that every time a planning application is considered, it is not assessed according to the full weight of Local Plan housing policies.

Re the Local Plan Update impending site selection, we believe sites in the Ward are under threat. We are very lucky to have Kate Tuck as Borough Councillor. As long-standing Chairman of SOLVE she is very knowledgeable on planning and environmental matters, particularly with regard to the river and so can hit the ground running. There is detailed work ongoing behind the scenes, and with HCC. Kate is working on Local Nature Recovery networks, building a compelling argument to protect the river basin.

As we are three councillors for the Ward we do meet weekly. The LPU will be a massive piece of work, but we want to hear from residents on all issues and concerns, from all parts of the Ward, we are here to work for you. Ward Councillors will again have a grant fund of 2K each to which any organisation may apply to a maximum of £1K.

4 **CHAIRMAN’S REVIEW**

4.1 The minutes of the 5th May 2021 (Zoom) Assembly were reviewed, agreed and signed as a true record. This evening is the first ‘face to face’ Assembly since 2019.

4.2 Thanks due to Councillors, Tree Warden John Maclean, Footpaths Warden Martin Carfrae. Thanks also to the Friends of St Mary’s for their support. Parish Councillors will give their individual reports. Parish Councillor Tom Horsey, who is unfortunately away on business, on behalf of the Parish Council minds all things Up Nately.

4.3 Brief report on the past year...

Allotments are all taken and we have an Allotment Apiary signed up. Colin Robertson’s report will give more detail and provide an update on the Watercress Beds.

The tennis courts have been professionally cleaned and have new net posts. All Parish residents are encouraged to play.

Parish Councillors have walked the roads of the Parish, mapping all grips. These can be monitored and assigned a maintenance schedule which HCC will hopefully contribute to.

The bonfire and fireworks event was again a great success this year, with thanks to the Friends and to all who contributed and attended.

We have a Platinum Jubilee tree – chosen by Tree Warden John Maclean – and planted between the football pitch and the tennis courts. It is to have its own metal guard and an official plaque to be unveiled at the Village Hall Jubilee event.

The Parish Council has signed up to a 10-year contract with the Chineham Tigers, which will enable them to apply for grants from the football association for pitch improvement.

The new Up Nately Village Greenspace is probably the most notable change for the village since the church was built and, on the other hand, the pub was closed. It will be managed by the Parish Council for the community, with thanks to the group of local owners who have donated its use for 25 years on a peppercorn rent. There will be open access to most of the area with a semi-wild space being fenced off above the canal.

Meetings and discussions are ongoing with the Basingstoke Canal Society who are striving to achieve access for a footpath along the route of the canal’s last five miles into Basingstoke. They have problems with the access from Andwell Drove to Little Tunnel Bridge, which is a listed building in need of maintenance (according to 2009 survey) and on privately owned land. The Canal Society are persevering in their struggle for solutions.

5 **COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Parish Councillor Alison Stent said she has lived in Mapledurwell for 15 years, and joined the Parish Council three years ago. For the Parish Council she leads in caring for the grounds of the Village Hall, liaising with the Village Hall Committee, and dealing with maintenance issues in Mapledurwell where the Parish Council has a role... We try to use local people where we can to do the work; Harvey Simpson has recently repaired / replaced the pond fence and the sleeper bridge from the pond land into Down Lane. The

biggest outstanding job at the moment is replacing the tree protection barriers at Five Lanes End, made bigger by the present timber prices.

Parish Councillor Kevin Rafferty has lived here for 27 years, has been a Parish Councillor since 'retiring' three years ago. For the Parish Council he monitors the finances, and undertakes monthly playground inspections having taken a course and basic level RoSPA certification. Insurance requires an official RoSPA annual inspection. Last year that was in November, this year it was May, and going forward it will be in May of each year. A big thing last year was the safety surfaces, clearing moss and adding to the depth of bark. Again this year there have been a number of minor issues and again we are using local people to do the work. Kevin also helps to 'deputise' for the Footpaths Warden, just because of doing a lot of walking – small things we fix ourselves, larger problems we report to council.

General overview of Finance **APPENDIX III**

Parish Councillor Colin Robertson has lived in the village 19 years and joined the Parish Council last year. It is encouraging that the Allotments are fully let – but please if you or anyone you know, now or in future, would be interested in talking on an allotment – do let us know so we can maintain a waiting list if need be and better understand potential future interest and demand. Twelve months ago we did a considerable amount of work at the allotments – including tree coppicing which has created more light and allowed trees to regenerate. Last summer a Butterfly Conservation group undertook a moth survey with light traps set up at the watercress beds and in the allotments – though looking particularly for the Butterbur moth which they didn't find. One of the highlights of the evening was a Hedgehog coming out of the undergrowth to join the party. The Allotment apiary is now ready to go, we undertook a lot of local consultation on this and thanks to everyone who helped and advised. Now being installed, the base is down, and the wire fencing will not be too obtrusive. The beekeeper is a member of the Basingstoke & District Beekeepers' Association with an Association mentor. John Maclean put up bird boxes last year and there is still an owl box to put up. At the allotment north gate we've tried to prevent flooding on the road by protecting the verge and culvert and also building up the roadside above the stream bank. It did look a bit over-engineered for a while but will settle and naturalise. The Parish Council has, finally, signed a 20-year lease with Corpus Christi College for the former Watercress Beds / Chalk stream, so formalising the Parish Council management of this section of land and river – under the auspices of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and other environmental advisory bodies. With thanks for a donation from County Councillor Elaine Still towards native planting. The invasive non-native species – mostly the monkey flower – we need to keep pulling out. There is ongoing improvement – and this year a couple of birds species not seen before...

6 JUBILEE PLANS

Thanks to the Village Hall Committee for planning and hosting the Platinum Jubilee beacon lighting event. There has been a flyer delivered with the Villager. Food tickets are now sold out but everyone is invited to come along.

7 GREENING CAMPAIGN

The Greening Campaign offers a strategy for communities to help tackle climate change by achieving many small changes which can add up to a significant whole. It is about everyone coming together, about what each person, friends and family, can do together within the community.

Community-led action adds up. About 180 parishes around the country have joined the Greening Campaign, the majority in Hampshire where it was started.

Please have a look at the website <http://www.greening-campaign.org/>

The first Phase is about engagement. Everyone receives a Green Card with eight challenges for changing little things of everyday life. If you're prepared to sign up to five of these challenges, put the card in your window to show your commitment.

These challenges are 'standard' to enable a simple calculation of how much overall the community has reduced carbon emissions.

BDBC will support by paying for the joining fee, HCC support by funding expertise, including from the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to support further individual and community projects.

The Assembly agreed that the Greening Campaign is a great idea and something the Community needs to do. It was also noted that while it is the Parish Council who signs up to the scheme it need members of the Community to lead. An information pack will be circulated.

8 OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION Q&A

8.1 Planning objections

Question about planning and concern the Parish Council is not objecting to all planning applications for new housing.

The Chairman thanked the Assembly for their comments. He said the Parish Council had seen good reason to oppose proposals for larger housing developments in the Parish and had detailed its reasons for doing so.

The Parish Council seeks to consider the merits or otherwise of all planning applications and seeks the views of neighbours who may be directly affected.

The Parish Council seeks to ensure that its comments on applications are relevant in planning terms. It is a consultee not the decision maker. It is evident from recently approved applications that the Parish Council's position carries no particular weight above the strength of its planning argument. And that applies to all respondents.

Its also evident that decision makers can differ in their approach to deciding an application and the weight they give to different aspects of the argument. Hence it can be that the Development Control Committee may disagree with the decision of a Case Officer, and an Inspector may or may not agree with either.

Discussion

- Planning Policies are critical. Going forward with the Local Plan Update, we need every one of the eighty eight thousand or so electorate in the Ward to engage. It can be a numbers game where politics are concerned.
- To echo the concern raised that the Parish Council is not objecting to all new housing. There is a general feeling that the Parish Council is not supporting the Village.
- Support was also expressed for a more balanced view.
- A small group of residents isn't necessarily a voice for the majority.
- Planning Policy limits the scope and reasons for objecting.
- A reputation for objecting regardless is not always helpful.

8.2 Planning 'precedence'

Discussion

- Setting a president is a major concern.
- All planning applications in theory must be decided on their own merit. One individual application cannot not set a 'precent' for another unrelated application in the Village in different circumstances.
- Planning decisions are supposed to be consistent - where circumstances are the same.
- A valid planning argument may be where an application, if approved, would change the nature of the area to an extent that other applications now given a different context would be more likely to succeed.
- An example was given of a row of similar houses. A change to one may then affect the local street scene to the extent that allowing a change to another is more likely .
- Planning policy, including the land supply position, does change over time.

8.3 Previously developed land

- A question was raised regarding 'greenfield' sites and garden land.
- It was noted that case law from some years ago ruled that gardens in rural areas could be considered brownfield. ('Precedence' becomes a material consideration in Planning when its made Case Law.)

The 'Dartford' case

<https://clplanning.co.uk/residential-gardens-outside-built-up-areas-to-be-regarded-as-brownfield-land/>

Residential gardens outside built-up areas to be regarded as brownfield land...

A landmark judgement has been made in the High Court in the case of *Dartford Borough Council v Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government (CO/4129/2015)*, which has clarified the definition of previously developed land as set out in the NPPF... The ruling states that only residential gardens within the 'built-up area' are to be exempt from the definition, whereas residential gardens outside of 'built up areas' may be regarded as 'brownfield'. The judgement is significant in altering the widely held belief that all residential gardens were greenfield.'

Housing design

Suggestion was put forward that there are houses in the Village, and applications proposed, that do not always represent good architecture or complement their setting. Could the Parish Council not discuss issue of design with applicants?

Answer – Good design for the Village has to be a matter of consensus. A way forward with this could be via Design Guides which can be part of a Neighbourhood Plan.

8.4 Potholes

Comments

- HCC contractors have filled in some potholes on Tunworth Road – though not a good quality repair – but then left others.
- It may be contractors are making a temporary fix of the worst ones. They have a scheduled programme of 'surface dressing'.
- Problem potholes should be logged on the HCC website - search Hampshire County Council report a pothole.

9 THANKS AND CLOSE

There being no other questions the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm with thanks to all present.

For signature (p5 of 5) Date



APPENDIX I COUNTY COUNCILLOR ELAINE STILL REPORT TO THE PARISH ASSEMBLY 2022**LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY NETWORKS**

Having discussed at length with your Borough and Parish Councillors, I have requested The Loddon Valley catchment area becomes part of the local Nature Recovery Network.

The Environment Act introduced a requirement for Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRs) for England to be prepared and published by Responsible Authorities. The Strategies will provide the foundation of a national Nature Recovery Network, identify the opportunities and priorities for enhancing biodiversity, and support wider objectives such as mitigating or adapting to climate change in an area. The strategies will have a key role in the land use planning system and be an important source of evidence for local planning authorities to use in the preparation of their Local Plans. They are also intended to support the delivery of wider environmental objectives and each Strategy will map specific opportunities for taking priority action for nature recovery and the use of 'nature-based solutions'.

The County Council is a member of the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Local Nature Partnership (LNP) whose aims include creating bigger, better and more joined up places for nature in line with the vision and recommendations of Sir John Lawton's Making Space for Nature, and meet regularly with ecologists from the local planning authorities. Officers from the County Council and the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) recently met with members of the BDBC Natural Environment Team to explore areas of common interest including climate change, biodiversity and the Environment Act. The officers will be meeting again to continue these discussions and it's expected that the preparation of the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, and building on existing successful initiatives, will be an important part of future conversations. One of those successes, and a significant advantage in developing the Strategy, will be the detailed Ecological Network Map for Hampshire prepared by HBIC on behalf of the LNP.

Protecting and enhancing the natural environment is a fundamental part of our work to tackle climate change in Hampshire.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Hampshire's population is 1,389,200 (2020) the third most populous county in England (85% is rural and 15% urban). HCC maintains 5,400 miles of roads, 4,300 miles of pavements, 150,000 streetlights, 474 maintained schools for 138,000 pupils, 52 academy schools for 38,000 pupils, 10 residential homes for children and young people, 18 Older Persons Care Homes, 24 Household Waste Centres and five Country Parks. 4.8 million books, e-books and magazines are loaned each year. The proportion of household waste sent to landfill has decreased since 2011/12 (from 8% to 4%). 96% of all Hampshire waste is either recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery. The waste sent to energy recovery produces sufficient energy to power 50,000 homes.

Budget HCC approves £2.4 billion spending on local services in 2022/2023

Plans for the next financial year focus on the county's ongoing work following the pandemic, support for vulnerable children and adults, investment in Hampshire's roads and infrastructure to support economic recovery, as well as climate change mitigation.

The annual council tax charge for a Band D property will be £1,390.86 – an increase of £0.78 per week, equating to 2.99%, of which 1% is for adults' social care. The budget includes £556.2 million of capital expenditure over the next three years to boost jobs, the quality of the environment and to tackle climate change.

The proposed capital programme includes: · £109 million in new and extended school buildings to ensure there is a school place for every child in Hampshire · £136 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges in Hampshire over the next three years · £109 million for integrated transport schemes including over £50 million specifically focused on walking and cycling improvements · £95 million for major improvement of school and other County Council buildings and land holdings over the next three years following the £33 million for decarbonisation schemes covering solar PV, single to double glazing window replacements, transition from oil to gas and the implementation of heating controls that took place in 2021-2022

Climate Change Hampshire County Council has been taking active steps to ensure Hampshire is resilient to the impacts of a 2% rise in average temperature and in mitigating further changes through carbon reduction measures. HCC's own emissions have reduced by more than 43%, with more than a 50% reduction by 2025 and carbon neutrality by 2050.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/climatechange>

Councillor Grants This year I have supported a wide range of local causes across the Division with grants amounting to £8,000.

APPENDIX II PCSO ANDY JONES REPORT TO THE PARISH ASSEMBLY**PARISH**

Up Nately & Mapledurwell is part of the Basingstoke and as a result comes under the Basingstoke Town. Whilst I appreciate PC REID was the point of contact for the area. There was an expectation that his replacement would be just that. I appreciate the rural setting in which Up Nately & Mapledurwell is situated, same as other neighbouring parishes and as such happy to remain as a point of contact for rural matters as that is where my knowledge is key.

The allocated Officers for this area are

PC Ren PARMAR renu.parmar@hampshire.police.uk

PCSO Lucy OLLERENSHAW lucy.ollerenshaw@hampshire.police.uk

Parish Report - crime and suspicious incidents

Theft from vehicle x 2

Front number plate forcibly removed from vehicle in the Hollies in Mapledurwell.

Similar was reported in Greywell Road also. On that occasion both plates were removed.

Suspicious incidents x 8

Sus person x1

Sus vehicle x 4

Sus other x 3

Arson x 1 – Fire service had reported a burnt out caravan on a byway off of Greywell road.

Appeared to have been dumped and set fire to.

Action Fraud x 1 – A business premises on the Hollies Industrial estate had reported that someone had accessed their PBX system / telephone system and had managed to dial remotely premium rate no.s. Before this came to the attention of business owners a bill had racked up £3,542.43 in calls.

Criminal Damage – A resident of Mapledurwell had reported that damage had been caused to his car, this appeared to be a bad attempt at removing fuel from it.

Year on year stats

10 reports received both crime & non 2021 – 2022 & 13 reports 2020 – 2021 Up Nately.

10 reports received both crime & non 2021 – 2022 & 20 reports 2020 – 2021 Mapledurwell.

GENERAL

Cooking oil stolen from a local licensed premises. This particular crime is very high at the moment nationwide. The cooking oil is used as diesel equivalent once filtrated. Police have been given some good CCTV and have descriptions of vehicles as well as indexes and we know where the vehicles are registered which is very much out of county.

Offenders attend relevant business addresses either early in the morning or during the business day itself, wearing a high visibility tabard making themselves look official with the name of the company they allegedly represent. Unfortunately for them this is where the intelligence ends as the spelling of the company is in fact miss spelt.

Plant machinery is being targeted and in the last month 3 have been stolen from Weston Patrick and 1 from Upton Grey.

A Silver Mitsubishi Shogun, partial reg Y724 *** is involved in one of the thefts which Police are progressing. A Honda CRV possibly in Silver partial reg OV55 *** is responsible for another, enquiries remain ongoing.

Warning to dog owners – Police officers from Hampshire Constabulary's Country Watch team are issuing a warning to dog walkers to keep their pets on leads in rural areas or potentially face prosecution. This follows a number of incidents in Basingstoke and Deane, where owners have been walking with dogs off their lead or not under close control. Their pets have then chased, and in some cases, attacked livestock.

Under the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953, it is a criminal offence for a dog to actively worry livestock.

Our officers want to make sure that owners are aware that in such instances, the owner or person in control of the dog can be prosecuted, and the dog can be shot by the farmer to end an attack.

Members of the Country Watch team will be increasing their proactive patrols of hot-spot areas as the weather begins to improve.

Reporting to the Police

999 A crime is happening now, offenders are on scenes / just left in a vehicle heading in this direction / make & colour of car is Units will be deployed on blues & twos.

101 I've noticed overnight my garage has been broken into. Offenders are not on site.

Online <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/> Or use a search engine and type report a crime – ASB – suspicious incident to Hampshire Police. This way means that you do not have to wait on the phone awaiting a response, documents can also be uploaded.

APPENDIX III

FINANCE REVIEW FOR PARISH ASSEMBLY MAY 2022

INCOME

1. **PARISH PRECEPT:** Mainstay of Parish Council funding, received via BDBC as portion of Parish residents' council tax.
This year's Precept (2022/23) = £10,335 (an increase of 3% or £301 on 2021/22).
(The 2022/23 tax base confirmed £294.5)
 $£10,325 / 294.5 = £35.06$ per annum per Band D household, an increase of £0.75.
To note this will be double for band H and half for band A.
2. **BDBC GRASS CUTTING GRANT** of £1,195.
3. **OTHER GRANT FUNDING / donations** - Thanks to County Cllr Elaine Still for grants from her devolved budget towards Parish projects. Last year, £500 towards the chalk stream planting, this year will apply for the Up Nately Green. There will also be an application this year to the Ward Councillors' budget.
4. **'OTHER' INCOME** - includes rent from Chineham Tigers and Allotment holders.
5. **COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVEY (CIL)** funding has made a big recent contribution - CIL payment of c£7K allocated 2020/21 from the development of two houses at Five Oaks and Heather Bungalow - and just short of £8K anticipated from the two new houses at the Gamekeepers.
THE CIL ALLOCATION has enabled maintenance work at the allotments - additional maintenance work in the Village Hall Grounds - and this year will contribute to the Frog Lane watercress beds licence agreement, plus clearing and fencing the Up Nately Green.

TURNOVER AND RESERVES

TURNOVER 2021/22 = c£18K; this year budgeted for c£25K, the increases due to CIL income and expenditure. (These figures include VAT which is reclaimed.)

RESERVES - It is deemed good practice to hold contingency / 'general reserve' to the level of the Precept. At the end of March this year the Parish Council had funds of just under £12K with some allocated CIL funding being held over to this year.

BUDGET for 2022/23 shows year-end reserves of c£10K

EXPENDITURE

1. **'ROUTINE EXPENDITURE'** is c£10K per year. This includes insurance, grounds & general maintenance, playground inspection, clerk salary, the Villager, affiliations such as Hants Association Local Councils.
2. **ADDITIONAL / 'PROJECT'** expenditure last year included
£1,300 on cleaning the tennis courts, plus new net posts
£1K on drainage and verge work at Frog Lane and the allotments
£750 on replacement fencing and sleeper bridge at Mapledurwell ponds
£500 on watercress beds planting
Plus £150 on a Jubilee tree
To be joined this year with a metal surround, a plaque and a Jubilee beacon, total a further £850 expenditure.
3. **THIS COMING YEAR** main expenditure of note will be for the Up Nately Green, the 20-year Watercress beds licence agreement with Corpus Christi plus maintenance and repairs to the Playground and the Pavillion.