

Minutes

Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council: Monday 12 February 2024

Held at Ampfield Village Hall, 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Present

Members of Ampfield Parish Council:

Chairman Bryan Nanson
Vice Chairman Chris Ling
Cllr Martin Hatley
Cllr Jason Reeves
Cllr Graham Roads
Cllr Julie Trotter

Others

Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC)'s Councillor Sally Yalden (until 7:30pm)
Kate Orange, Clerk/RFO

Apologies

4264. Apologies were received from Cllr Julian Jones and Cllr Kate McCallum.

Previous Meeting

4265. The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 08 January 2024 were agreed, and a copy was signed by the Chairman.

Minutes of the Planning Committee

4266. The Council noted receipt of Minutes of the Planning Committee for 04 September 2023, 18 October 2023, 06 November 2023, 11 December 2023 and 15 January 2024.
RESOLVED

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

4267. It was noted that there had been no applications for co-option to fill the casual vacancy on the Council.

Declarations of Interest in Business on the Agenda for the Meeting

4268. Cllr Martin Hatley declared a personal interest in item 11 of the agenda, because one of the applicants for a reserved space in the burial ground was a relative.
4269. No other Councillor had any interest to declare in any of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

Borough Councillor's report

4270. Borough Councillor Sally Yalden reported:

- Two Planning Inspectorate appeal decisions had been reported recently (within the wider borough).
- The consultation period for the draft Local Plan was now underway.
- The housing implementation strategy had been published, as part of the draft Local Plan.
- Hampshire Constabulary had appointed Sergeant Boughay to the team covering the parish.
- A meeting of the Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy team had taken place the previous week.
- The deadline for applications for the Borough Councillor grants was end of March. Funding was available for community groups.
- Grants were available for renewable energy schemes, and Cllr Yaldon had the details.
- The waste disposal site at Bunny Lane (Casbrook) was a 'tier 3 site' and at risk of closure. The consultation was part of the Hampshire County Council 'Future Services' consultation, still open.

Solar Panels

4271. Chairman Bryan Nanson and Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported that the pavilion had been identified by the parish council as an ideal location for solar panels due to the size and aspect of the roof. The excess electricity generated by the panels could be stored in batteries. A source of grant funding was being sought.

4272. It was proposed to research the feasibility of installing solar panels and battery storage at the pavilion, to be funded by a grant.

RESOLVED

Financial Matters

4273. *The Council received the bank reconciliation to the end of January 2024.*

RESOLVED

4274. *The Council received the calculation of working capital to the end of January 2024.*

RESOLVED

4275. *It was agreed that the following payments should be made:*

<i><u>Details</u></i>	<i><u>Amount, £</u></i>
<i>Village Hall - meetings</i>	<i>240.00</i>
<i>Village Hall - cleaning services</i>	<i>870.00</i>
<i>Internal audit to end Q3</i>	<i>510.00</i>
<i>Window cleaning, pavilion</i>	<i>30.00</i>
<i>VAS management</i>	<i>293.58</i>
<i>Renewal of domain registration</i>	<i>32.40</i>
<i>J N Landscapes - clearance of debris, burial ground (subject to receipt of invoice)</i>	<i>6170.40</i>
<i>Clerk, refund of expenses</i>	<i>29.60</i>
<i>Staff costs</i>	<i>962.61</i>
<i>Total (including VAT)</i>	<i>£9,138.59</i>

RESOLVED

4276. It was noted that the following payments had been made between Meetings:

	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
<i>Direct debits and direct transfers to 31 January</i>		
	<i>J N Landscapes - erection of sign, burial ground</i>	<i>470.40</i>
	<i>Electricity, pavilion</i>	<i>122.65</i>
	<i>Website (1 month)</i>	<i>11.99</i>
	<i>Staff costs</i>	<i>68.04</i>
	<i>TVBC grounds maintenance</i>	<i>344.66</i>
	Total	£1,017.74

RESOLVED

4277. It was noted that the Council had received the following income:

	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
	<i>Interest</i>	<i>103.61</i>
	<i>Allotment rent</i>	<i>60.00</i>
	<i>Refund of VAT</i>	<i>5029.01</i>
	Total (including VAT)	£5,192.62

RESOLVED

4278. The Council received the report of expenditure against budget to the end of January 2024.

RESOLVED

4279. The Clerk reported that the internal audit to the end of the third quarter for the financial year 2023-24 had been completed. A small error in the cashbook had been found and corrected. The processes for using a debit card and online payments were working satisfactorily. The remainder of the internal audit would be completed at the end of April 2024, and an appointment had been booked.

Recreation Ground and Pavilion

4280. Vice Chairman Chris Ling noted that a mobile-wifi router had been purchased. As well as providing wifi, this would enable an ethernet connection for the CCTV and any future equipment.

4281. Provision of an electrical connection to the northernmost container was considered by the Chairman and Clerk to be a continuation of the car-park project. Accordingly, quotations had been obtained. Some vegetation at the entrance to the car-park had been cleared by Cllrs Nanson and Ling.

4282. It was proposed to install an electrical connection from the pavilion to a storage container as follows:

Trenching, Laying cable and re-instating £2,460

Electrical works £725

Total (ex VAT): £3,185

RESOLVED

4283. It was proposed to allow Ampfield and North Baddesley Cricket Club to carry out the following works at the pavilion and recreation ground, provided any holes, damage etc. were made good on subsequent removal:

- Fit honours boards to one wall in the assembly room;
- install an electronic scoreboard;
- construct a net fence at the boundary with the golf club;
- construct a stile over the fence into Smiths Meadow;
- fit diplomas in A4 frames in the entrance hall;
- display recognition plaques for donors, as required.

RESOLVED

Chapel Wood

4284. Cllr Graham Roads reported on Chapel Wood.
- More rhododendrons had been removed by a working party of Friends of Chapel Wood during the previous weekend, and arisings would be disposed of in a bonfire at the next working party.
4285. The safety work to trees, in accordance with survey report, was complete. Two further trees which were rubbing together, needed to be partially felled. The work could be done by the contractor for the main project.

Burial Ground

4286. Cllr Graham Roads reported on the Burial Ground and showed photographs of the clearance of vegetation which had been completed by J N Landscapes. Following this clearance work, access was now available for clearance of builders' rubbish at the rear of the site, for which we would obtain quotations. Also, quotations for laying grass seed could now be obtained.
4287. *It was proposed to purchase pot-grown yew saplings for the re-planting of the cruciform hedging in the burial ground, at the cost of approximately £1,640 excluding VAT. The saplings would be planted by volunteers.*

RESOLVED

4288. *Requests for reserved plots in the burial ground were approved, to be adjacent to the graves of their spouses: Mr Vining; Mrs Herbich.*

RESOLVED

Morleys Green

4289. Chairman Bryan Nanson and Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported that the Clerk had been contacted by Mr Michalik. Their solicitor would be in touch regarding the ownership of the residential freehold, as their claim against the prior owner's solicitor had, so far, been unsuccessful.

Telephone Kiosk

4290. Chairman Bryan Nanson reported that the application for a Borough Councillor grant had been made, towards the cost of parts for repair of the telephone kiosk by Romsey Men's Shed. Work was on hold until the parts were obtained.

Highways

4291. Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported that Pound Lane had been closed recently by Hampshire County Council, for clearance of the surface water drains, which would hopefully alleviate the periodic heavy flooding.

4292. Cllr Martin Hatley reported that the cross-road at Baddesley/Hursley Road would soon be closed for one day while works took place. At the same junction, Cllr Hatley had reported that the dislodged road sign was vulnerable to being stolen (for its scrap value).

4293. Cllr Hatley had also reported a number of other road defects to Hampshire County Council. Of particular concern was the lack of white lines on the t-junction of Jermyns Lane, which had deteriorated into pot holes.

Test Valley Borough Council Draft Local Plan 2040 consultation

4294. It was noted that the Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) Draft Local Plan 2040 consultation was open, and a number of exhibitions would be held. The comment for submission to TVBC would be decided at the Meeting in March 2024, and Councillors would read and consider the information in the meantime. Full details of the consultation were on TVBC's website.

Parish Assembly 2024

4295. *The Parish Assembly would be held on Monday 20 May 2024.*
RESOLVED

Spring Newsletter: Arrangements

4296. The Spring Newsletter would be distributed during the week prior to the Parish Assembly. Cllr Jason Reeves would lead the compilation of the newsletter, with contributions from Councillors and the Clerk.

Correspondence and Communications

4297. The 'Ampfield C of E Primary Discontinuance Notice' had been published by Hampshire County Council, following endorsement by the cabinet member. We had notified Robin Faber (descendant of David Faber, the original donor of the land), as the ownership of the land reverts to the family in the event of the closure of the school.

4298. All residents were invited to comment on the Hampshire County Council Future Services Consultation. Details were on the website of Hampshire County Council and in the news on the website of Ampfield parish Council.

4299. Cllr Hatley was in touch with James Parkhurst of Inspired Villages regarding the public access defibrillator which they planned to provide. They were considering whether they wished to donate it the parish council, or whether they would manage it themselves.

4300. The Clerk would contact Richard Clifton to invite him to meet Cllr Graham Roads regarding the bench that the family wished to place in Chapel Wood.

4301. Councillors were reminded that there would be a second Communities Workshop with TVBC's Louisa Rice on Monday 26 February at 5:45pm in Ampfield Village Hall.

Date of Next Meeting

4302. The next ordinary meeting would be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 11 March 2024.

Chairman

Date