



West Meon Parish Council

c/o Mrs D Heppell, Email: clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE WEST MEON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th JANUARY 2022 AT 7.30PM IN WEST MEON VILLAGE HALL

THOSE PRESENT: Cllrs A Trenchard (Chair), J Nicholson (Vice Chair), M Edwards & C Waller.

BY INVITATION: City and County Cllr H Lumby (from 7.45pm until 9.00pm).

APOLOGIES: Cllrs C Adams, R Gedye, G Silk and City Cllr L Ruffell.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Messrs Walker & Sturgess (until 7.55pm), Mrs Collins (until 7.45pm).

Wmpc 2037 **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 2038 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 7th December 2021 were **approved**.

Wmpc 2039 **MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC**

The Chair brought this item forward and the meeting was opened to the public. One member of the public brought to the attention of the Parish Council a proposal for a replacement bench by the cross to mark the Queens platinum jubilee at a cost of £3,000. The Parish Council agreed that further quotes would be required

Progress with the boules court was reported by Mr Walker. Cllr Edwards advised that he had calculated pro rata the annual ground rent for the boules area, in line with charges for existing users, and it would be in the region of £40.87. The Chair proposed that there be no limit on cost of reinstating the boules court land to its original condition, which was seconded by Cllr Waller.

Wmpc 2040 **CITY & COUNTY COUNCILLOR LUMBY**

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

Cllr Waller advised Cllr Lumby that the Sports Club had undertaken improvements to their building and that he was welcome to inspect them.

Cllr Lumby advised that he had forwarded Mr Bray's inquiry about the cherry tree to WCC's tree officer.

WMPC advised that white lines are required urgently by the butchers' shop in the High Street as

there have been dangerous issues with buses.

Wmpc 2041 **CLERK'S REPORT**

The clerk circulated an email from HALC on the protocol for Parish Council meetings to be held online. The advice includes guidance on meetings and risk assessments.

The internal auditor's risk assessment on 14th January 2022 will be held online, and a follow up meeting with councillors to discuss the financial regulations will be held with the auditor at the village hall on 28th January 2022.

The play area inspections by WCC are due in January 2022 for the recreation ground and Meonwara.

TO RECEIVE WORKING GROUPS

Wmpc 2042 **PLANNING**

SDNP/21/04676/HOUS North Lodge Alton Meon Petersfield Hampshire GU321LQ Proposal: Single-storey Extension to Existing Detached Dwelling. It was **agreed** that no objections be raised.

Wmpc 2043 **HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

Cllr Edwards advised that he would check the beech tree at Station Road.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would write to HCC requesting that Footpath 28 by the cross/Thatch Cottage has the posts reinstated.

It was **agreed** that the Clerk would write to the Footpath Officer at HCC about reinstating the two steps by the disused railway Footpath No 1.

Simon Telford will be asked to fulfil the role of Footpath Officer for WMPC.

Wmpc 2044 **COMMUNITY, HOUSING AND RECREATION**

Items for the Parish News to include that the Lengthsman is due in March 2022, parking issues outside the butchers' shop, and that any complaints about obstructions to parking of wheelie bins and boxes should be reported to HCC.

Wmpc 2045 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

The Chair proposed that there be no limit on the cost of reinstating the boules court land to its original condition, which was seconded by Cllr Waller. It was unanimously **agreed** by the Parish Council that West Meon Sports Club would apply for planning permission for a boules court, provided that consultation was undertaken with interested parties.

WMPC precept forms have been submitted to WCC as agreed at the 7th December 2021 meeting, with an increase of 3% from £34,234.00 to £35,261.00.

Following HALC guidance on holding Parish Meetings during the Covid pandemic, it was **agreed** that WMPC's previous guidance should be reinstated in order to hold online Parish meetings if necessary.

Cllr Edwards reported on progress with meetings about the three lease agreements with the rifle club, village hall and sports club. It was **agreed** that the three parties should take independent advice about their lease from their own solicitors.

It was unanimously **agreed** to approve the previous quote from Arborventure for work on the ash trees on the recreation area.

Schedule of payments

Payments 11th January 2022

HCC Lighting	£466.30
Will Hillier	£120.00
Will Hillier	£310.00
WM Village Hall INVOICE No 820	£56.00
WM Village Hall INVOICE No800	£42.00
WM Village Hall INVOICE No848	£14.00
Renewal OSC Cyber Insurance	£319.20
WCC Dog Bins	£130.00
BACS D Heppell salary	
Expenses D Heppell	£52.68
BACS HMRC	£31.60

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

Wmpc 2046 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING**

Ditches, lease agreement, Platinum Jubilee bench and tree on the recreation ground, war memorial cleaning, VDS, grants.

Wmpc 2047 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 1st Feb, 1st March, 5th April, 10th May, 14th June, 5th July, all at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting finished at 9.10

pm

Chair

Appendix A Winchester City Councillor Report

January 2022

1. Roads update

For those concerned about motorbike noise and speeding, especially near the A32 and the A272, there is to be a parish update on Teams at 1pm on Friday 14th January. Attendees will include the PCC Donna Jones, local MPs Flick Drummond and Damian Hinds as well as HCC Councillor Russell Oppenheimer, who is responsible for roads at HCC. Details have been circulated to parishes, do let us know if you don't have them and we will send these over. Statistics have been published by Hampshire Highways for Winchester District for last November. In that month 49 emergencies were attended, 4,440 gullies and other drainage were cleared and 766 potholes were fixed. In addition, they also coped with Storms Arwen and Barra, keeping the roads clear of fallen trees and other vegetation, debris and excess water. General road problems should be reported online at <http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems>.

Emergency issues on the highway can be reported outside of office hours by calling 101. In any emergency where there is a danger to life, call 999.

Highway operations are continuing as normal during the Plan B restrictions. Parishes are advised to check their blue grit bins are all full in case of freezing temperatures and to contact Hampshire County Council if any need replenishing. This can be done either online at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance> or by emailing roads@hants.gov.uk.

Going forward, Hampshire County Council has agreed to put extra "recurring" funding into highway maintenance, equating to about £7 million per year, from April this year.

2. Trains update

South Western Railways have confirmed that the onset of the Omicron variant is causing a shortage of staff across its business, leading to short term cancellations.

As a result they will be introducing a new, consolidated timetable from Monday 17 January 2022. They say that their "focus is on producing a timetable that is deliverable so that we improve reliability for our customers, and caters for key workers, school pupils and those who cannot work from home. We will be publishing further details on our new timetable online as soon as we can in the new year"

Given the risk of short notice cancellations or alterations, passengers are advised to check to see if your planned train is running as close to your time of travel as possible.

3. Central Winchester projects

We previously reported that Winchester City Council was looking to lease the site of the former River Park Leisure Centre to the University of Southampton. Due to procedural irregularities, the decision to do this will have to be rescinded and the proposal advertised. This is likely to occur at the end of January.

Separately, the council's cabinet has approved plans to commence a process to find a development partner for the Central Winchester Regeneration site (formerly known as Silver Hill). This is subject to formal approval by Council on 12th January.

4. Grants for businesses

The government has provided additional support for businesses in the hospitality and leisure sector by way of the new Omicron Hospitality and Leisure Grant. This is being distributed on its behalf by Winchester City Council. Eligible businesses can apply at

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/business/business-rates/important-information-on-business-rates>.

Winchester City Council will also shortly be launching a grant to allocate the remainder of the discretionary grant support money it received from the government to help businesses impacted by the pandemic. This will be open to new applicants as well as those who have received grants before. Eligibility criteria will need to be met. It is likely that the application window will be relatively short so businesses are advised to respond promptly.

5. Garden waste collection

Collection of garden waste was suspended by Winchester City Council over the Christmas period to enable crews to be redeployed to assist the core refuse service. It will recommence in the weeks commencing 10th and 17th January (generally the second of those weeks for our area).

Christmas tree collection will also take place on that recommencement date, on the same day as the scheduled garden waste collection, the trees should be left out with the refuse bins. Large trees over five feet tall will need to be cut into smaller pieces to enable them to fit into the collection vehicle.

Residents using the garden waste collection service will need to renew for a further year from March. Residents can now sign up until the end of February 2023 at <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/waste-recycling/garden-waste-collection-sign-up>.

Laurence Ruffell Hugh Lumby

Appendix B Hampshire County Councillor report January 2022

1. Roads update

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<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance> or by emailing

roads@hants.gov.uk. Going forward, Hampshire County Council has agreed to put extra "recurring" funding into highway maintenance, equating to about £7 million per year, from April this year.

2. Support for Swanmore College

Capital funding has been made available by Hampshire County Council for the Science Laboratory refurbishment project at Swanmore College. The council is working with the college on the detail of the project with an ambition that it is delivered as soon as possible.

3. Community grants

I have supported various projects locally with my county councillor grant for the Meon Valley Division. These include the Shedfield Pavilion project, the Hambledon playground, the West Meon community shop, tree works in Warnford and works to the village hall in Waltham Chase.

If you have a community project in need of support then please contact me.

4. Support for vulnerable households

Hampshire County Council has received £7.124m from the Government's Household Support Fund to support households in need with food, energy and

water bills, as well as wider essential costs and housing costs. The county proposes to deploy this funding (which must be spent by 31 March 2022) through its “connect4communities” programme.

The programme includes support for free school meals in holidays and half terms, support with utility bills, community pantries giving access to discounted food and community grants, which could be used for example to assist unpaid carers.

Details can be found at www.connect4communities.org where it is possible to apply for community grants, and at HCC’s online directory [connect4communities | Family Information and Services Hub \(hants.gov.uk\)](http://connect4communities | Family Information and Services Hub (hants.gov.uk)) which will also be a useful resource for families and individuals in need of food and fuel support.

Residents can also apply for half term support for food and activities at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities/holidayactivities/holiday-activities-hants>

5. New Year resolutions

A new 12-week weight management programme has been funded by Hampshire County Council for residents who want to achieve a healthier weight. Offering free professional support either in-person, through regular online meetings or via a mobile app,

Shapeup4life Hampshire is available to anyone with a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or above and combines exercise and food choices to make positive lifestyle changes rather than a prescriptive diet. To find out more, check your BMI and to self-refer, go to www.shapeup4lifehampshire.co.uk.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division
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