

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Monday 13th November 2017, 7.30pm Conference Room, New Inn

Present: Cllr Janice Hughes (Chairman), Cllr Bob Aylmer, Cllr Adam Knight, Cllr David Sexton,
Alan Woolford (Chairman), Clerk Susan Turner:

Guests Mike Coates – RSPB and chairman Hazeley Heath Consultative Group (HHCG))

Phil Maund – Hart Countryside Ranger (Grazing) and secretary (HHCG))

Members of the public 11

17.109 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Apologies County Cllr David Simpson, Ward Cllr Anne Crampton, PCSO Nick Greenwood.

17.110 PUBLIC SESSION

i Presentation

by Mike Coates (RSPB) supported by Phil Maund (Hart) on the joint RSPB / Hart proposals for Hazeley Heath.

Hazeley Heath is registered Common Land. A few Commoners remain but none exercising their rights. The largest land owners are RSPB and Hart. Land is registered as SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and SPA (Special Protection Area) both designations affording statutory protection and responsibilities. The SPA affords the highest level of protection, this status awarded solely for the protection of three bird species: the Dartford Warbler, the Nightjar and Woodlark.

The 2004 HCC Heathland Management Plan was poorly handled and received opposition; the grazing trial was ill designed. This was the situation inherited by RSPB. However the grazing trail did no damage and this was the only time up to that point that Natural England (NE) assessed conditions to be 'favourable'.

RSPB and Hart are legally accountable to NE to provide favourable conditions for the ground nesting birds the SPA is designated for. Last year there were six pairs of Dartford Warbler and eight pair of Nightjar. Other species also benefit, the numbers of Silverstudded Blue butterfly (a priority species) have increased since the RSPB acquired the site in 2012.

In 2016 a new trial began. To start with a clean slate and a new management plan – the Hazeley Heath Consultative Group. There has been a lot of consultations. There was a letter drop to 230 households including all Commoners. Notices have been displayed including around the Heath about a drop-in day at Victoria Hall in Hartley Wintney. All information including HHCG minutes are posted on the Hart Website.

The Heath has to be managed and the majority found the proposals acceptable. The numbers responding to the consultations has been very small but can only work with what we have. We responded to a request from Mattingley PC for an extra gate. Have also moved the fencing line back from the road to allow deer to jump the fence into a safe area rather than jumping out into the road.

The proposals are designed to minimise impact on visual amenity and public access. There will be stock fencing along the road which is amongst trees and shrubs. The rest is buried cable and the cattle wear a transponder collar. At 4m from the cable the collar warns them with an audible buzz, closer they receive a shock akin to a standard electric fence. The cattle are trained with the fencing so they know what to expect. Also necessary to have a coral – animal handling / containing facility.

For signature

The fencing is to keep cattle in not people out. The best protection the site has is local people, counterproductive to keep them out and this is not what this is about. It is about providing favourable conditions as required by NE.

The fencing will be 4-5m in from the boundary, it will be possible to walk along the track outside the boundary fence.

Buried cable fencing is a proven technology and already used extensively. It is as effective as conventional stock fencing, reduces the sense of enclosure and is less susceptible to accidental or deliberate damage. Having the stock fence along the road provides 'belt and braces' should a collar fail.

Heathland have previously been maintained by local people cutting shrub, removing heather and grazing animals. Conservationist need to emulate that.

The key elements of this part of the management plan are grazing and talking.

ii **Questions and discussion**

Q1. Impact on deer?

A. Deer are additional grazing animals and don't want to keep them out. They can cross all the fencing and the stock fence is back from the road.

Q2. The results of the previous grazing trial were marginal or inconclusive.

A. There were fewer 'failures' for favourable habitat within the grazed areas than the control areas. Five years is a short time to look for results which can take 30-50 years.

Q3. So why propose a five-year trial?

A. RSPB didn't. Local people agreed to a proposal for a minimum period of five years. The number of cattle then – about 15 was less than now proposed.

Q4. What breed of cattle?

That depends on the grazier. Likely to be Elizabeth Miller who has mostly Irish Moiled and some Belted Galloway.

Q5. Will mechanical intervention still be needed?

A. Historically there was ground disturbance on heathland and so mechanically removing the surface is a means of replicating that. Grazing isn't a panacea and some mechanical intervention will still be needed.

Q6. In the next few years, when will the Heath start to look ok again?

A.i. Heathland management can appear raw but we think it looks ok now. A lot of species – invertebrates and plants – need bare and sparsely vegetated ground. Hopefully once the grazing regime is established there will be less need for mechanical scraping. Where grazing is established, scraping can be needed every 5-6 years, where not grazed this will be every 3-4 years.

A.ii. People think it's laziness on our part not to make everything neat and tidy. But our management budget is limited, we can only do a small part of what we want to do. Tidiness is expensive and butterflies don't care whether tidy or not.

A.iii. There is a wider issue relating to 'tidiness'. We are managing for habitat quality. Tidying up dead wood for example isn't good management, it's vandalism. Unless there is a safety issue there is no good reason to do it. Decayed wood and root plates are brilliant for solitary bees and wasps. Management considerations are 1. ecology; 2. safety; 3. public access.

Q7. Managing the Heath as an attractive site makes big difference to the people of Mattingley.

A. We can identify issues where we can work towards improving, for eg filling in wheel ruts. But trucks had to get onto the heath to bring in mowers and turf cutters.

Q8. Having spoken to contractors working on the Heath, they don't know what they are doing. They have no idea of the end game and what you are trying to achieve.

A. That is a real issue and noted that contractors should be better briefed.

Q9. Mechanical intervention is destroying habitat for other species. Many birds have been pushed off the Heath because of tree felling. There are nowhere near as many reptiles as previously; snakes and smooth snakes, as well as insects are all species in decline. Don't you have to monitor existing habitat before digging it up?

A. Heathland is a temporary habitat. If the trees aren't removed, in 50 years the entire site would be woodland. It's a paradox of heathland management that constant intervention is required to maintain it. Is it the mechanical intervention that is causing the decline? Insects and reptiles are declining everywhere. There isn't a clear picture nationally of what is happening. There are surveys being done on the Heath and we are finding adders and young adders, and grass and smooth snakes.

Q9.ii There were definitely more adders before the scraping. Reptiles do over-winter in shallow earth. So if a big machine scrapes away all of the topsoils of course it's going to destroy whatever is there. A very depressing picture. If this is being done on Heathlands across the country perhaps that a reason for their decline.

A. Must consider that we haven't lost any of the species for which the site has its designation. Adder decline might not be due to mechanical intervention, they may have declined more if not for the intervention. Don't have sufficient data on this.

Q10. For people, if the Common is enclosed, it loses its first line of protection.

A. Status as Common Land won't be taken away.

Q11. Funding for the project?

A. The RSPB will be going to various trusts to help fund this project costed at £40k. There will be three connected grazing areas north of the B3301. The smaller areas to the south of the road and to the NE by Plough Lane won't be grazed. Initially only one company supplied this cable fencing. Since then competition has forced improvements particularly watertight joints. We met the fencing supplier. The machine that lays the cable is only the size of a lawnmower.

Q12. Could the wire break the surface and be a problem for horses?

A. This system is used extensively without problems and the wire is protected within a heavily armoured cable.

Q13. Responsibility?

A. The fencing will be checked regularly. The owner is responsible for animal welfare. We hope the public will also be 'eyes and ears' and bring any issues to our attention.

Q14. Timescales?

A. Assuming the application receives the approval of the Secretary of State, the fencing will be installed next year and the cows in by summer 2019. Planning approval is only required for the stock fence and associated gates etc, not for the cable fencing, so can modify / fine tune these plans as necessary.

Q15. Parish Council comments:

It is evident that there are issues over trust and management style, that there is limited funding, and that you care about what you are doing.

The Parish Council has to consider this from the perspective of the local community and the impact on a place they care about.

We ask that you also have some thought to the aesthetics of what you are planning to do. If people complain please listen. Please consider doing less if doing more means you don't have the money to undertake work in a sensitive manner. Some of the works contractors have left areas devastated and they didn't need to be left like that.

The Parish Council has a role on the HHCG to support local people and concerns.
 Resident's comment – 'What was a lovely glad of birches is now a mud bath... it may be temporary but it will be temporary for a long time.'

A. Understand this is a valid point – we are listening to the general point and thanks to the Parish Council for their comments.

Q15. It is a trust thing. Have sat and listened to things you say have been done wrongly. This has been for the last 35 years. This is why adders are disappearing. Will you be saying in a few years' time 'sorry we got it wrong again'?

A. Recognise that trust is a big issue. But the RSPB has an ecological focus, these are recognised heathland management methods, we do employ ecologists and scientists.

Q16. Why were proper surveys not done first? Where is the control data prior to this? What is the effect on other species including other birds?

A. The focus of investigation and management is on the species the SPA is designated for, which we are judged on and for which the funding is allocated. However we are putting in more monitoring for reptiles and butterflies and starting to do work on moths on the site. Trust has to be earned. Work is going on this winter and we will try to keep people's concerns in mind.

iii Planning application

The fencing is a separate issue, our objectives and proposals for the grazing are clear. This is a legal process; the Inspectors' consultation ends this week on 17th November.

Reference CL 49 and CL 100: Application for consent under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 to carry out restricted works on Hazeley Heath Common.

iv Conclusion, thanks and return invitation

It is clear that there needs to be a better means of communication between ourselves and the local community. The minutes of the HHCG meetings are always published on the Hazeley Heath page of the Hart website. We are very happy to come out to discuss as often as you feel is needed.

The Chairman thanked Mike Coates, Phil Maund and all residents for attending, and requested return presentations, at least once every six months. All guests left the meeting.

AGREED To continue with full parish council meeting and time extension if necessary.

17.111 MINUTES OF MEETING of 16th October 2017 agreed and signed.

17.112 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None

17.113 MEMORIAL SERVICE

Bob Aylmer reported the service went well with Keith Alderman, David Sexton and himself in attendance, plus c 20 others.

Thanks to – PGGM team for maintenance etc Friday 10th; to Police for attending and laying wreath; to Stephan Alexander for purchasing the Mattingley wreath, Bob Aylmer for delivering cheque and collecting wreath; Keith Alderman for speech and laying Mattingley wreath.

DEFERRED to next meeting – Discussion with residents regarding removing the Memorial.

17.114 TRAFFIC & HIGHWAYS

i. Repairs to Vicarage and Bottle Lanes

SE Water Project Manager has advised that the highways authority will be responsible for repairs. Hampshire Highways Streetworks Manager will liaise with SEW to discuss the damage, but 'any defects caused that requires maintenance will be actioned'.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up.

For signature

ii. Speed Indicator Devise and Speed Limit Reminder Sign

1. Locations – Bob Aylmer circulated draft Location Plan – two devises to be moved between 10 suggested sites – **SEE APPENDIX I**. In some cases existing posts can be used / modified, in others new posts will be required. The SID / SLR may be turned around to face in either direction from one post. There is no requirement to be on the side of the road facing the traffic but visibility should be 40m.

AGREED To remove the sign suggested for Bottle Lane (location 8) to the northbound lane of the B3349 near the Leather Bottle.

2. Costs – Bob Aylmer circulated a budget proposal for installation of 1No SLR and 1No SID – total cost £6,725 **APPENDIX II**.

Highways (Traffic Management) confirmed cost of supplying and erecting new posts is likely to vary between £50 and £100 depending upon their length and diameter.

ACTION Clerk to prepare Grant application to Cllr Simpson’s devolved budget. Also to follow up with Hart re request to use S106 funding.

3. B3011 Highways have confirmed that their policy doesn not allow for either SLRs or SIDs to be used on roads with a 50mph speed limit.

ii. Lengthsman

Waiting for Highways to rectify the damage done on Vicarage or Bottle Lane before LM projects can go ahead to improve drainage – clear grips, ditches or culverts.

17.115 MAINTENANCE

i. Grass cutting

AGREED Final cut of whole Green to be done asap as conditions allow.

ii. Rolling

FUTURE ACTION – for next year as soon as conditions / circumstances allow.

iii Parish noticeboards Awaiting maintenance, in hand.

iv Lanterns track

Resurfacing work done on 9th November. Tyre ruts over Green as unloaded scalplings driving into track rather than reversing down the track then unloading forwards.

Order was amended from 10 to 20 tonnes scalplings. Very wet weather immediately after laying has loosened the surface, may need some remedial action.

ACTION Keith Alderman to take photos, discuss with neighbours for their comments.

KA

iv Vehicle access to the Green

Concern has been raised among residents on Mattingley Matters about suspected joy riders at night on the Green. Adam Knight reported the drag hunt had taken a quad bike across as the road junction was closed.

v Dragons teeth

AGREED Supplier has been held up 18 months awaiting the track laying; Parish Council is content to fit in with his work schedule for installing the dragons teeth.

17/116 PLANNING

iii Bramshill appeal

Began Tues 31st October. Adam Knight attended, scheduled for four-plus weeks. Mattingley PC is included in the list of local Parishes supporting the objection presented by Nigel Stoate on behalf of Bramshill PC.

ii New applications (since last meeting)

17/02588/HOU (27th October) Westleigh, Hazeley Heath RG27 8NA. Erection of new double garage following demolition of existing single garage [plus new porch]. Consultation to 24th. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

For signature

iii Current applications relating to the Parish**SEE APPENDIX III.****iv Hazeley Heath Section 38 Planning Application***See Public Session*

Reference CL 49 and CL 100: Application for consent under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 to carry out restricted works on Hazeley Heath Common.

AGREED The majority of views expressed during the Public Session were not in opposition to the fencing application. No argument has been put forward to change the Parish Council's position that it believes the measures to be in support of good management practice. The Parish Council will not object to the application.

ACTION Clerk to submit 'no objection' response to PINS.

SEE APPENDIX IV.

AGREED Important to achieve a balance of conservation objectives while enabling local people to enjoy the Heath. Evident the latter is not a recognised priority for RSPB / Hart. Their remit is to fulfil their legal requirement to create a favourable habit for the ground nesting birds. But they are entrenched in their mindset and they are not listening. As such they fail to gain the trust and confidence of local people. There is a role for the Parish Council in facilitating communication and supporting the views of residents so they are taken into account.

ACTION Request Mike Coates attends Parish Council meetings on a regular basis. Request he supplies articles to the *WW Benefice Magazine*. Parish Council to publish / circulate up-to-date information – minutes / articles etc. Request all HHCG meetings have Residents' Questions and Concerns as an Agenda item, so all concerns raised plus any response, action, or non-action is minuted.

17/115 FINANCE**i Monthly standing orders** 28th October

PGGM Maintenance Contract	£274.00
Heckfield Millennium Hall Hire	£33.00
Clerk salary	£288.62

ii Additional payments authorised

BDO for external audit	£235 plus £47 VAT	£282
Clerk for Chal-Tech GmbH (loud hailer)	£39.00 plus £8 VAT	£47.99

iii Accounts to date and bank reconciliation **SEE APPENDIX V.****iv Draft budget** prepared for discussion.

ACTION Clerk to prepare amended draft prior to December meeting.

17.116 FURTHER REPORTS**i Policing Priorities Quarterly Meeting**

Next meeting to be held, 7pm, 24th January 2018, Yately Police Station. Advised Nick Greenwood that Mattingley PC will be represented.

17.117 NEXT MEETINGS AND CLOSE

Next Parish Council Meeting Monday 18th December

2018 Dates - 3rd Monday in month - 15th Jan, 19th Feb, 19th Mar, 16th Apr, 21st May, 18th June, 16th July, 20th Aug, 17th Sept, 15th Oct, 19th Nov, 17th Dec.

Meeting closed 10pm with thanks to all present.

APPENDIX II. BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR INSTALLATION OF 1NO SLR AND 1NO SID**Mattingley Parish Council****Budget proposal for installation of 1No SLR and 1No SID****Notes**

- All prices net of VAT
- Based on a SID with slow down warning — minisid is £175 cheaper, lighter but no warning sign
- HCC to arrange to increase height of 3No short posts (hopefully)
- Based on 10 No ideal locations — number could be reduced (to reduce new post costs)
- 2No existing posts can be used
- All locations need formal approval from HCC

1No Portable SID with “slow down” signal	£2800
1No Portable SLR with “slow down” signal	£2625
2No Data collection units	£500
2No additional bracket sets	£100
5No additional posts	£500
Padlocks, miscellaneous	£200
Total	£6725

APPENDIX III. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**New applications (since last meeting)**

17/02588/HOU (27th October) Westleigh, Hazeley Heath. Erection of new double garage following demolition of existing single garage. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

Applications pending

17/02376/LBC (10th Oct 2017) Bartletts Farm, Reading Road, Mattingley RG27 8JU. Internal works, new folding doors and rooflight. *Replaces withdrawn applications 17/01138/HOU and 17/01208/LBC. Parish Council response No objection.*

17/01683/FUL and 17/01737/LBC (20th Sept 2017) The Leather Bottle Ph Reading Road Mattingley RG27 8JU. Proposed extensions, outbuilding and ancillary alterations to the existing public house. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

17/00910/LBC (18th April) Priors Farm, Reading Road, Mattingley. Rebuilding of collapsed Barn. *Parish Council response: No objection.*

Applications granted

17/02456/LBC (Granted 5th Dec, reg 12 Oct 2017) Mattingley House, Reading Road, Mattingley. Rebuilding of collapsed garden wall to match existing.

17/02213/HOU (Granted 1st Nov, reg 14th Sept) Mulberry House, Hazeley Bottom RG27 8LU. Rear and side extension, new entrance lobby.

17/02319/CA (Granted 9th Nov, reg 28th Sep 2017) Mattingley Green Cottage, Mattingley Green RG27 8LA. T1 - Lift one Oak to 5.5m above ground level and shorten in flyaway branches by approx 2m.

APPENDIX IV. PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PINS S 38 CONSULTATION



The Commons Team
Planning Inspectorate
3F Temple Quay House
2 The Square, Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6PN
Tel: 0303 444 5408
email: commonlandcasework@pins.gsi.gov.uk

16th November 2017

Reference CL 49 and CL 100

Application for consent under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 to carry out restricted works on Hazeley Heath Common, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire

Applicant Adrian Green, Hart District Council

Description Hazeley Common Fencing and Works

- (1) Construction of 3,449 metres of fencing along the western and part of the southern boundary of the common to the east of the B3011
- (2) Excavation of four wildlife ponds
- (3) Excavation of a 50m length of ditch
- (4) Construction of a viewing platform
- (5) Installation of a cattle handling facility
- (6) Installation of 220 short wooden posts (dragon's teeth) along Mansion Drive (also known as Police College Road)
- (7) Installation of two meter cabinets and associated temporary trenches and safety fencing for the installation of electricity cables, and
- (8) Installation of 10 mounting blocks each side of bridleway entrances.

MATTINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

Dear Commons Team

The Parish Council has no objection to the above application.

Yours sincerely

Susan Turner
Clerk to Mattingley Parish Council

Clerk: Susan Turner
2 Ash Cottages, Newnham Road, Newnham, Hook, Hants RG27 9AF
Tel 07515 777060 email clerk.mattingley@parish.hants.gov.uk

APPENDIX V.I. ACCOUNTS TO DATE

MATTINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL - INCOME 2017/18 - at 11th November									
Balance brought forward 1st April 2017						£30,333.66			
Date	Item	Paid via	Precept	Grants	S106	VAT	Interest	Receipts	Total
05/04/2016	Parish Precept		£8,100.00					£8,100.00	£8,100.00
2017/18	Bank interest 2017/18						£2.26	£2.26	£2.26
2017/18	TOTALS		£8,100.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2.26	£8,102.26	£8,102.26

£8,102.26

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY			
Bal brought forward 1st April 2017		£30,333.66	april
Plus income		£8,102.26	May
minus 9p interest missing Dec16-Aug17		£0.09	June
Minus expenditure		£6,267.31	July
Balance		£32,168.52	Aug
BANK RECONCILIATION			
Treasurers Account 1 Aug		£7,128.93	Sept
Bus 30-day notice		£25,103.39	Oct
minus cheques not cleared		£63.80	Nov
income outstanding		£0.00	
Balance		£32,168.52	

APPENDIX V.II. ACCOUNTS TO DATE

MATTINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL - EXPENDURE 2017/18

Date	Chq No/leare	Supplier	Description	Salary	Finance Admin	Expenses	Community	Maintn HG	Capital	VAT	TOTALS
24/04/2017	348	c PGGM	Maint Contract April 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£562.00
15/05/2017	349	c HALC	HG dragging & digger hire		£246.00			£240.00		£48.00	£246.00
15/05/2017	350	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire April 2017		£33.00						£33.00
	351	CANCELLED									
15/05/2017	352	c Susan Turner	Salary April/May 2017	£577.24							£577.24
19/06/2017	353	c PGGM	Maint Contract May 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£274.00
19/06/2016	354	c Game & Company	Insurance 2017/18		£652.03						£652.03
19/06/2016	355	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire May 2017		£33.00						£33.00
19/06/2016	356	DS for WC Baker & Son -	Noticeboard Keys x 2						£6.95		£6.95
28/06/2017	SO	c PGGM	Maint Contract June 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£274.00
28/06/2017	SO	c Susan Turner	Salary June 2017	£288.62							£288.62
28/06/2017	SO	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire June 2017		£33.00						£33.00
28/07/2017	SO	c PGGM	Maint Contract July 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£274.00
28/07/2017	SO	c Susan Turner	Salary July 2017	£288.62							£288.62
28/07/2017	SO	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire July 2017		£33.00						£33.00
01/08/2017	357	HMR PCC	WhiteWater Mag		£45.00						£45.00
01/08/2017	358	Robert Mandry	Moles x 2 Hound Green					£20.00			£20.00
01/08/2017	359	Loos for Dos	HG Picnic - mobile toilet hire				£135.00			£27.00	£162.00
01/08/2017	360	PGGM	HG dragging & digger hire					£288.00			£288.00
28/08/2017	SO	c PGGM	Maint Contract August 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£274.00
28/08/2017	SO	c Susan Turner	Salary August 2017	£288.62							£288.62
28/08/2017	SO	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire August 2017		£33.00						£33.00
28/09/2017	SO	c PGGM	Maint Contract Sept 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£274.00
28/09/2017	SO	c Susan Turner	Salary Sept 2017	£288.62							£288.62
28/09/2017	SO	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire Sept 2017		£33.00						£33.00
29/09/2017	DD	c ICO	Data Protection register		£35.00						£35.00
16/10/2017	361	c Poppy Appeal	Wreath				£25.00				£25.00
30/10/2017	SO	c PGGM	Maint Contract Oct 2017					£228.33		£45.67	£274.00
30/10/2017	SO	c Susan Turner	Salary Oct 2017	£288.62							£288.62
30/10/2017	SO	c Heckfield MH	Hall hire Oct 2017		£33.00						£33.00
11/11/2017	Bacs	BDO LLP								£47.00	£282.00
11/11/2017	Bacs	Clerk for Chal-Tech GmbH	Loud Hailer						£39.99	£8.00	£47.99
TOTALS				£2,020.34	£1,444.03		£160.00	£2,146.31	£46.94	£449.69	£6,267.31

£6,267.31

APPENDIX V.III – BANK OVERVIEW 11TH NOVEMBER 2017

TSB - Account Overview https://secure-business.tsb.co.uk/business/a/account_overview_business/JX5V7EG71ZF33KH2O...



Miss S. Turner

Your accounts Last login: 16 October 17 (05:47 PM)

[Make a quick transfer](#)

Mattingley Paris..

Treasurers Account	£7,128.93
30-96-29, 00778969	

Bus Instant Access	£25,103.39
30-96-29, 07266599	

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