

Minutes of the Amport Parish Council meeting held on Monday 20th February 2023, 7.30pm at East Cholderton Scout Hall.

Present: Cllr C Harris – Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman, Cllr A Montagu, Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass, Cllr O Vincent, Cllr S Baker & Cllr P Harvey.

Also present

Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk
TVBC Mrs M Flood
2 Members of the Public

1 Apologies:

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr P Waller, Cllr Mrs D Stephenson & HCC Chris Donnelly.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest. All Councillors confirmed there were no amendments required to register of interest forms.

3 Public Participation

A member of the public highlighted hedges in the village that need cutting back, one at the bottom of Keepers Hill that causes an obstruction to road traffic and one by the bus stop at the Hawk which causes traffic to veer out and traffic on the other side of the road is damaging the verge. Cllr Harris said requests had been sent to the hedge owners in the past but no action taken. He will seek advice as to what the Parish Council could do

A concern was also raised about incorrect signage left by layby at the pumping station near East Cholderton and on Wiremead Lane. This is likely to be from the recent pumping work carried out by contractors for Southern Water. Cllr Harris agreed to establish the owners and ask for them to be removed.

Finally, concerns were raised about traffic which incorrectly accesses Furzedown Lane then has to turn round often in private driveways. It was agreed a no through sign would help alleviate this problem and Cllr Harris agreed to contact HCC to establish if one could be fitted.

4 Minutes of previous meetings & matters arising

Resolved: The minutes of the meetings held on 16th January were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposer Cllr Coke seconded Cllr Harvey. All in favour.

5 Specific reports

Principle & Process-Cllr Coke had nothing to report.

The Fen & Green- Cllr Harris reported the Lengthsman postponed a planned visit to clear the ditch along the road side of the Village Green, due to inclement weather. A new date is awaited. New turf has been laid around the goal areas on the football pitch and the mole attack on the green has been dealt with.

A proposal has been made that the Parish Council should organise and fund a plaque by the tree opposite the Hawk which was planted in 2012 for the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee, which will match the plaque on the green by the tree planted last year for the Platinum Jubilee. All agreed, the Clerk was asked to order the sign.

Play Area -Cllr Harvey confirmed he has recently checked all the play equipment and there were no issues. He has not received the check list paperwork from the previous Councillor but will try and obtain this. The Clerk can produce new documents if necessary. The possibility of new equipment was discussed and Cllr Harris said if householders completed surveys for the Neighbourhood Plan it would become clear what parishioners wanted and did not want in the parish.

Footpaths- Cllr Hawkings-Byass reported a problem with a broken footpath sign which had been highlighted to the landowner Cllr Baker confirmed a church clearing day will take place soon and the debris near the footpath opposite the church will be burnt.

Communications & School Liaison – Cllr Baker reported she is in regular contact with the school and will attend school open days in the near future. She confirmed the school are trying to obtain a grant to purchase and install a defibrillator.

Projects-see paragraph 8 below

Neighbourhood Plan- Cllr Harris confirmed a lot of work has been carried out by the steering group and consultant. Three groups will drive the project, one covering the centre of village, one to cover East Cholderton and the pan handle area and finally the area north of A303. Views of those in the parish will be sought by survey which should be delivered to all households soon.

Highways – Cllr Vincent and Cllr Hawkings Byass have been working on a report regarding possible sites for speed awareness cameras which will be finalised and sent to HCC in due course.

The recent report from HCC Donnelly highlighting the possibilities of some 30mph zones being reduced to 20mph was encouraging. Further details of criteria and cost are expected in the summer and the details will be reviewed once available.

Young Persons Matters- Cllr Vincent had nothing to report.

Resilience Plan-Cllr Baker reported the draft plan has been updated and circulated on websites and an article posted to the Village newsletter asking parishioners for feedback.

6 Southern Water over pumping & water quality

Cllr Harris confirmed monitoring devices are providing data and that groundwater levels are falling slowly. Southern Water plan to provide a “dashboard”, where all relevant data can be seen together, a go live date is awaited. The tubogel lining work in the north of the catchment remains on hold at the present time. Simon Parker, the senior Southern Water director plans to speak on the overall Southern Water approach to water supply at 2pm on **16 March**, in Thrupton Village Hall to which all Parish Councillors are invited. Since the last Parish Council meeting, Southern Water had to close Wiremead Lane due to a spill in the field by Waterloo Bridge, which required tankers to be placed outside Amport Fisheries. After nearly two weeks of inconvenience, SW reported that the spill had stopped, the tankers were removed, and the road reopened. Due to the current speed limit of 60 mph in Wiremead Lane, and the width of the lane outside the Fisheries, Southern Water Health & Safety operating regulations meant that there was insufficient room for local traffic to pass tankers safely at this location. The Pan Parish Forum is working with our local HCC Councillor, Chris Donnelly, HCC Traffic Management and Southern Water to try and prevent or minimise any future road closures.

7 Village Fete

The fete is set to take place on Saturday 1 July. The main organiser this year will be Tamsin Godfrey-Davies of East Cholderton. It was agreed the Parish Council will run a stall again with a focus on the Neighbourhood Plan and resilience plans. Cllrs Hawkings-Byass and Harvey will organise this.

8 Feed back on projects

Cllr Hawkings-Byass reported she had made contact with BT to establish how repairs to the BT box can be implemented. She has taken and sent photographs and awaits a response.

9 Amport House, revised planning application

Cllr Harris reported Another Place expects its planning application to TVBC will come before the Northern Area Planning Committee at the meeting on **30 March**. All planning documents are on the planning portal. Various points, for and against the proposal, have been made by Parishioners previously.

10 Defibrillators in the parish

Cllr Baker confirmed a defibrillator was to be fitted at Rosebourne Garden Centre hopefully in the next few days and this will be available to the general public.

The parts for the defibrillator at the Hawk have been delivered. The Clerk agreed to contact the Hawk to offer any help required to ensure the machine is in working order.

11 Monxton & Amport Village Hall

Cllr Harris reported that progress to demolish the old hall and rebuild was being made. All equipment from the hall has been removed and put into storage. Asbestos will be removed shortly and then full demolition will follow.

The Village Hall trustees are seeking local people to join the build project team or the village hall committee. Interested parties should contact the clerk by email at clerk@amportparishcouncil.org.uk or by telephone on 01264 773976.

12 Lains Solar Farm

Cllr Montague reported that the planning application for the Solar Farm is still under consideration following objections by Western Air at Thrupton regarding glint and glare. The solar site adjoining the proposal did not cause any similar concerns, neither did the approved site for a large solar farm close by at Kimpton. Reports have been drawn up by experts which are conflicting and the developers are keen to engage with those objecting. The situation will continue to be monitored but is unlikely to be resolved soon.

13 Clerks report

The Clerk reported as follows-

Parish Council elections will take place in May 2023. Individuals will be responsible for completing nomination papers which have to be hand delivered, although delivery can be by a third party. Full details and application forms have now been circulated. The Clerk agreed to deliver papers on behalf of any current Councillors who wish to stand for election and confirmed she had made an appointment to do this on 29th March.

Anyone wishing to vote in person from May 2023 will have to provide photographic ID. TVBC have produced a list of acceptable forms of ID but recognise there will be some who need a document specifically for this purpose. Details of how this can be obtained have been posted to noticeboards.

TVBC are offering grants of up to £500 to organisations to organise a celebration for the Kings Coronation in May 2023. Cllr Baker is planning an event and the Clerk will apply for a grant once full details are known.

Work to register the Village Hall with land registry is now complete and full title documents have been received.

14 Finance

The bank balance as 13/02/2023 was as follows:

Lloyds treasurers £12969.85

Lloyds deposit £15975.91

Payments

Resolved: that the following payments be approved,

H Bourner salary	£387.04
HMRC	£96.80
H Bourner exp.	£20.95
Kinex	£8.25
Chris Harris	£88.00
Bluestone Planning	£4191.12
Greenflints	£444.53

Retrospective

Wel Medical	£351.48
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15 Borough & County Councillor Reports.

HCC Chris was absent but had sent a report which had been circulated to all councillors

TVBC Maureen Flood confirmed there was still money available for a cost-of-living grant and she agreed to forward details to the Clerk.

16 Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

22/03064/TPON-tree works Red Kite House, The Limes- consent

22/03143/LBWN-replacement window, Kingsley Cottage-consent

22/03118/LBWN- repairs to walls Ampot Primary School-withdrawn

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:
23/00131/TREEN-Tree works Red Gables, Monxton Road-no objection

17 Correspondence

Nothing not already discussed

18 New Items for next agenda

None at present

19 Community News

None

20 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th March 2023, 7.30pm at 2nd Andover Sea Scout Hall, East Cholderton.