

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WORLDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

8.00 pm Wednesday 14th January 2015

EAST WORLDHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllrs Terry Blake (Chairman), Becky Bagnell, Thomas Brock, Tessa Gaffney, Tara Goodwyn, Mary Trigwell-Jones, Mr R Twining (Clerk), 0 Members of the public.

76/14 To receive and accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from District Cllr. David Ashcroft

77/14 Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes of the Worldham Parish Council held on 10th December were agreed and signed. Proposed by Cllr Gaffney and seconded by Cllr Goodwyn AIF

78/14 To receive and note any declarations of interest relevant to the agenda

None received.

79/14 The floor will be opened to the public to raise any matters of concern or interest

No questions or comments were raised.

80/14 Review of actions from last meeting

Councillors reviewed the actions points from the last meeting and noted the status of each Action Point set out in the Agenda Papers.

81/14 Matters Arising - Important items not covered by this agenda.

i) Cllr Trigwell-Jones reported that there are village gateway signs on the B3004, but the one on the western end needs some restoration work.

ii) Cllr Trigwell-Jones reported that the Parish Plan Review meeting will be held on 24th February.

iii) Cllr Gaffney reported that part of the Parish Plan included promoting of getting villagers together. In East Worldham over the last 2 years there have been at least 50 new residents. Cllr Gaffney proposed that to engender a community spirit that a series of little parties should be held inviting the new residents to introduce them to the village. Councillors supported this idea.

82/14 Finance

a) Finance - Cheques approved, bank balances

Councillors noted the cheques issued since the last Parish Council meeting and that the total of the bank balances stand at £16,611.31.

b) Cllr Blake thanked the Clerk for the time and effort in producing the detailed figures and various scenarios for the 2015-16 budget and precept.

The Clerk referred to the memo that he had circulated regarding the setting of the budget and precept for 2015-16 and the spreadsheets outlining the 15 different budget scenarios.

Councillors noted the assumptions that the Clerk had made:

- There will be no rise in village hall income compared to previous years
- No grants will be obtained
- No specific fund raising activities will occur to raise funds for covering expenditure on the hall
- Grants (churchyards, CAB and Alton Counselling Service) will go back to previous levels to £890. There will be no additional one off payments to the churches.
- £1000 has been allocated for infrastructure spending – primarily on the village hall

- A contingency fund of £400 has been allocated to meet one off small items of expenditure.

The Clerk explained that there are 4 variables which need to be discussed and factored in when setting the budget and precept:

- The cost of the election £200 for uncontested election; £2000 for a contested election.
- Whether Councillors increase the precept or leave it at the existing amount
- The Clerk's salary
- Whether the grass cutting of the playground can be undertaken by the Clerk or a volunteer, with a consequent saving of approximately £725

Councillors agreed:

- If there was a contested election then the costs associated with the election could justify an increase in the precept in 2016-17
- That the Clerks salary and hours should not be reduced and to remain at 10 hours per week.
- That neither the Clerk nor volunteers should be asked to cut the playground grass and that the work should be carried out by a contractor, currently P J Grace. Councillors agreed that PJ Grace do an excellent work and that there would be no benefit in putting the work out to tender.

Councillors noted the cost of the precept for a Band D house is estimated as:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Precept remains the same at £8497 | Band D £42.49 per year |
| Precept increased by 5% to £8921 | Band D £44.68 per year |
| Precept increased by 10% to £9348 | Band D £46.89 per year |

Councillors noted that the actual amount payable might be less due to the increase in the housing stock since setting the precept last year.

Councillors agreed on increasing the 2015-16 precept by 8% and on a budget with an income of £9,686 and expenditure of £11,837.

Cllr Trigwell-Jones proposed and seconded by Cllr Bagnell that the precept for 2015-16 be increased by 8% and to accept the budget outlined by the Clerk. All were in favour and it was duly resolved.

83/14 Planning

a) Applications received, decisions and actions made since last meeting

The Clerk reported on applications received, decisions and actions made since the last meeting:

- Barleywood Farm, Barleywood Farm Lane, West Worldham - Indoor riding school building. Decision: Approved.
- Land to The Rear of Hop House Shelleys Lane East Worldham - Detached dwelling with garaging (Planning Appeal to Planning Inspectorate). Decision: Appeal dismissed
- Land Barns North West of Tree Close, Blanket Street, East Worldham - Prior approval - Change of use from agricultural buildings to two dwellings (Planning Appeal to Planning Inspectorate). Decision: Pending.
- Oaklands Farm Green Street East Worldham - Single storey side and rear extensions - Comments submitted – no objection. Decision: Certificate of Law full use. Approved.

- 2 Manor Farm Cottages Worldham Hill East Worldham - Single storey extension to rear - Decision: Pending.
- 1 - 6 Drove Cottages Blanket Street East Worldham - Installation of new septic tank - Decision: Pending.
- Worldham Park Golf Club, Cakers Lane, East Worldham - New mixed use B1c and B8 building - Decision: Pending.

The Clerk told the Councillors that he might be submitting a planning application and Councillors will need to decide on the procedure for handling this application.

Lighthouse Renewable Energy Ltd

The Clerk circulated a memo detailing a telephone conversation that the Clerk had with Patrick McKeown, of Lighthouse Renewable Energy Ltd. Patrick McKeown had phoned the Clerk to say that Lighthouse Renewable Energy Ltd have submitted a planning application for a solar farm at Cakers Lane. Patrick McKeown said that he was going to send the Clerk a letter which he wanted to be forwarded to the Councillors outlining the benefits that will accrue to the community.

The following benefit would accrue to the community.

1. If the solar farm was connected to the grid prior to 31st March 2016 Lighthouse Renewable Energy Ltd, would pay to the community £1,500 per annum per megawatt for 20 years.
2. If the solar farm was connected to the grid after 31st March 2016 Lighthouse Renewable Energy Ltd, would pay to the community £1,000 per annum per megawatt for 20 years.

The solar farm planning application is for 11 megawatts. The minimum payment would be for 5 megawatts.

The Clerk asked him to whom would the money be payable to. He replied to the Parish Council. He also implied that this payment would be paid irrespective of any response the Parish Council made to any planning application and that there would be a legal deed put in place.

Councillors noted the contents of the memo.

84/14 A31/B3004 slip road update

Cllr Blake referred to the email that had been received by County Cllr Mark Kemp-Gee about the publication of the draft transport study, regarding Alton, on behalf of HCC and EHDC.

The Transport Study Report has been delayed and an interim comment has been made. This Transport Study is designed to help deal with increased traffic generated in Alton by new development in Alton.

Just like the Bordon Traffic Strategy there is little regard for developing traffic pressures outside Bordon for other reasons. Accordingly, it is clear that a slip road for the B3004/A31 hardly appears on the spectrum as it doesn't affect traffic internally generated in Alton or only very marginally.

This point is reinforced by funding considerations as there is no HCC money for a slip road, apparently no LEP money and thus no central government funding.

Like the B3004 slip road, the Western by-pass (rated far higher than the slip road from the Alton perspective) and a northern relief road between the Old and New Odiham Roads will similarly bite the dust as there is no funding that would cover it in the foreseeable future.

Councillors discussed the report in the King's World on the Kingsley Parish Assembly Meeting which discussed a proactive approach is required on monitoring transport schemes. The Clerk confirmed that he is monitoring and being kept informed of the modelling strategies regarding transport in Bordon/Whithill.

85/14 Miscellaneous and Any Other Business

i) Cllr Gaffney reported that the width of the pavement between the village hall and the Three Horseshoes has halved due to encroachment of vegetation. The Clerk was asked to report this to the appropriate authorities.

[New Action Point January 01-15 Clerk to report encroachment of vegetation on the pavement between the village hall and the Three Horseshoes to Hampshire Highways]

ii) Cllr Blake updated Councillors on the Village Design Statement. A response from SDNPA had been received making a large number of recommendations on what needs to be added, modified or deleted. SDNPA thought some of the material would be more relevant to the Parish Plan. EHDC had stated that they would take the lead from SDNPA on their response.

The VDS will be put forward for adoption by EHDC at their Community Forum meeting on 27th January.

86/14 Date of next Meetings: 11th February, 11th March; 8th April, all starting at 8.00pm
The Annual Parish Assembly to be held on 22nd April starting at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.28 pm

Annex A

New Action Points

| Action ID | Action detail | Owner |
|---------------|--|-------|
| January 01-15 | Clerk to report encroachment of vegetation on the pavement between the village hall and the Three Horseshoes to Hampshire Highways | Clerk |

Actions points from previous Worldham Parish Council Meetings:

| Action ID | Action detail | Owner | Status |
|----------------|---|-------|--------------------------------|
| July 02-10 | Clerk to contact Mr Baigent regarding confirming the transfer of land to the Parish Council | Clerk | Letter written – waiting reply |
| December 01-13 | Investigate who owns the piece of land at the far end of Piccadilly Circus where Mr Norgate parks his car | Clerk | On-going |
| December 02-14 | Clerk to investigate Gateway signs | Clerk | On-going |