

Present: Cllr Ian Tilbury (Chairman), Mr Peter Baker, Mr Gary Beecham, Mr Colin Fowles (arrived during Public Time), Mr Graham Gould, Mrs Marion Jones, Cllr Colin Phillimore, Dr Valda Stevens, Dr Adam Trickett, Mrs Laura Harley (Clerk), 9 members of the public, Mr Brian Elkins (Project Manager Neighbourhood Plan),

1. Public Time

1.1 Mr Roberts spoke about his concern regarding the Manydown development and the possible transport and highways issues and how these might impact on the parishes to the west including Overton. He felt that it was important that Overton, Laverstoke and Whitchurch should liaise together and should become involved to ensure that any issues were raised at the beginning of the development period.

1.2 Mr Langer expanded on the Manydown situation. He had attended all four days of the Manydown consultation and felt that the consultants had been open to all comments. He stated that if there was to be a town the size of Alton between Oakley and Basingstoke it would extend the amount of time taken to get into the town by road and which would be a problem for all the parishes to the west. It was noted that there was to be another event to be held at the Haymarket on 9th December starting at 6.30pm.

Write a letter from OPC to state concerns.

1.3 Mrs Whitehead was concerned about the plans for Overton library which had been labelled a tier 3 library. This meant that it could become a tier 4 or open access library. A tier 4 library would be run by volunteers who would not have full access to the library system and would not be able to provide the full service. There would also be no access to a printer or computer. An open access library would mean that there would be no staff and therefore the library would be self-service. This would affect the vulnerable, elderly, children and disabled as well as volunteer book clubs. Mrs Whitehead urged the parish council and councillors to complete a form either in writing or online. She also disputed that only 9% of the community used the library as many shared cards or were registered in Basingstoke. It was noted that Hampshire County Council (HCC) had stated that the Community Centre, which housed the library, was in a poor state despite the fact that a large sum of money had recently been spent to refurbish it and that HCC was trying to pass ownership to the community.

1.4 Mr Langer thought that there should be a resume/photo of each councillor on the noticeboard or website. Alternatively, a group photograph could be taken.

1.2 Public Transport

Mr Langer circulated a revised timetable for South West Trains.

He reported that Stagecoach was very pleased with the number of people who had attended the 'meet the manager' event on 30th November.

It was noted that the franchise consultation document for the rail network was now available on the South West Trains website and if the parish council wanted to make comment then it should do so. The deadline was the end of January 2016 and he suggested that the parish council should discuss this at its next meeting.

Agenda item 13.01.16.

It was noted that the shuttle bus would run a service on Boxing Day.

2.1 Absent councillors

Apologies were received from Margaret Oram, Kirsten Robinson and Lucy Sloane Williams.

2.2 Chairman's announcements

Mrs Wyeth of Overton Primary School had asked if parish councillors would like to be involved with the Priority Schools Building Project and both Dr Stevens and Cllr Tilbury expressed an interest in attending any meetings if they were available.

2.3 Future meetings

The next parish council meeting would be on 13th January 2016 and the next planning meeting on 26th January 2016. Mr Baker gave apologies for both meetings.

2.4 Declarations of interest

Cllr Tilbury declared an interest in 15/04131/HSE; Mr Fowles declared an interest in 15/04078/HSE.

3) Brian Elkins to give a digest of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 consultation
Mr Elkins gave a brief digest of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The plan had been built on evidence and not opinion and the drafts had been written in plain English and the independent examiner felt that the group had succeeded in doing this. 150 houses were to be allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan together with 120 dwellings on Overton Hill. The NP team was advised that they should not stray into areas that were not the responsibility of the Local Authority. However many items were inevitably investigated as part of the plan which had given rise to a number of 'projects' that could be undertaken.

Sustainability is not well defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and a number of criteria were used including impact on landscape, the setting of heritage assets and so on.

Site allocation was defined using an agreed list of criteria based on those used by BDBC and Planning Aid. Landowners were contacted through News & Views and were invited to a meeting of a small team who worked to a standard script of questions.

A full consultation statement was produced and the independent reviewer felt that the letter and spirit of the law had been observed. There were 44 respondents to the Regulation 16 consultation which resulted in 74 system responses including 21 from statutory consultees. The main areas of objection were the Quidhampton Business units, Court Drove and Sapley Lane. There were also further objections made by both borough councillors.

The independent examiner had decided that a public hearing was not required and he could now take one of three courses of action: recommend that the plan was put to referendum, approve the plan with modifications (which would be done by BDBC) or reject the plan altogether. The examiner could also ask any party for more information in writing before he made up his mind.

4) Sign and approve:

4.1 The Parish Council Meeting minutes of 11th November 2015

The minutes were signed and approved.

4.2 The Planning Meeting minutes of 24th November 2015

The minutes were signed and approved.

4.3 Review Action list

It was noted that there was to be a fourth round to apply for the Small Grants Scheme in 2015/16 for the footpath at Polhampton and that the Clerk was to meet the HCC officer to discuss the matter so that a grant could be submitted.

Action Clerk.

The Clerk reported that Mr Gray (who was leading the project) was having difficulty obtaining three companies to quote for the feasibility study for the riverside walk. In addition BDBC officers had some concerns with the wording in the tender documents and consequently Mr Gray had arranged a meeting to discuss this in early January 2016.
Future agenda item.

Following consultation with residents it had been suggested that an oak tree should not be planted in Edward Kersley Playing Field. Instead the cost of new wooden seating to be placed by the silver birches, overlooking the play equipment, should be investigated.

Action Clerk.

It was noted that the small item of playground equipment in Edward Kersley Playing Field had been vandalised and it was agreed that this should be repaired at a cost of £180.00. It was noted that the metal was protruding through the area of wetpour to the north of the path and it was agreed to seek a quote for removal.

Action Clerk.

5. Planning Matters

5.1 Planning applications

15/04078/HS – erection of single storey rear and side extensions following demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey front replacement canopy at 6 Alexander Road (Mr Fowles took no part in the discussion) – no objection

15/04131/HSE – two storey extension at 1 Lion Close (Cllr Tilbury left the room during the discussions) – no objection

15/04211/LBC – erection of canopy/covered walkway to rear of property following demolition of existing at the Greyhound, 46 Winchester Street – no objection

15/04109/HSE – erection of two storey side extension, part above existing garage following demolition of existing conservatory at 57 Lordsfield Gardens – no objection

5.2 Manydown Development

Following the public time discussion, it was agreed that the parish council should ask to be included as a consultee with regard to planning discussions for the Manydown site by writing to BDBC (Richard Bayley and Cllr Izett). It was also agreed that the Clerk should contact the parishes to the west of Overton.

Action Clerk.

6) Other matters

6.1 Hampshire Boundary Review – the parish council agreed that the name of the ward did not fairly reflect the geographical area that was covered. Cllr Tilbury proposed that the ward should be renamed Overton, Oakley and the Candovers and this was seconded by Dr Trickett

and agreed by all present.
Clerk to respond to consultation.

6.2 BDBC Medium Term Financial Strategy 2020 – the parish council was concerned that percentage of new homes bonus being used for the Local Infrastructure Fund was to be reduced from 40% to 5%. Mr Beecham proposed that the parish council write to BDBC on this matter and this was seconded by Cllr Tilbury and agreed by all present.
Action Clerk.

6.3 Library Service Transformation – the parish council agreed that the library was an important facility for the village and that the service provided (Tier 3) should be continued. It was agreed to write an article for N&V urging people to join the library and respond to the consultation by 16th January 2016. It was also agreed that councillors should respond as individuals.
Clerk to respond to consultation.

7) Highways and Rights of Way

7.1 Highways

It was agreed that the parish council should push to have Station Approach adopted now that a sum of money had been set aside within the S106 agreement for Overton Hill.
Ongoing action with HCC.

7.2 Rights of way

It was agreed to submit an application to the Small Grants Scheme for the work to be carried out on the footpath at Polhampton.
Action Clerk.

7.3 Parking in the village

A comprehensive parking scheme for the centre of the village including Winchester Street, High Street, Sprent's Lane, the London Road carpark and the Overton Hill carpark was presented to the parish council and it was agreed to support the Option D proposal put forward by BDBC. There was concern about cars parking along Greyhound Lane and it was agreed to request that the double yellow lines should be extended westwards from the Winchester Street junction.
Clerk to liaise with BDBC.

8. Finance and Policy

8.1 Payments

The payments were signed by Dr Trickett and Mr Baker and approved by all present.

BT Office phone £112.02

Clerk N&V tokens/expenses £432.50

HCC Pension Pension £258.95

Southern Water Sapley Lane PF £41.79

K Birch Clean bus shelters £15.00

Clerk Salary £951.79

Litter Picker Salary £435.50

N&V Editor News and Views £180.00

Balances

Current a/c 30.11.15 £1,128.12

Treasury a/c 30.11.15 £54,091.30

8.2 Discuss/approve:

8.2.1

Cost of fencing the cemetery – it was agreed to give the contract to Colin Tipper subject to the receipt of an itemised quotation.

Action Clerk.

8.2.2 Skateboard park – it was agreed to ask for a more detailed quotation for the repainting works.

Action Clerk.

8.2.3 Sheepfair – the Sheepfair Committee had asked for a grant of £1,500.00 which was £500.00 more than the budget set aside by the parish council. The larger grant was required to fund the increased health and safety costs associated with the event including road closures, insurance etc. Mrs Jones proposed that the increased grant of £1,500.00 was given to the Sheepfair committee and this was seconded by Mr Fowles and agreed by all present. Grant to be paid in January 2016.

9. Representation on outside bodies

Mrs Jones reported that the St Luke's Hall Committee has recently met. The hall was now fully booked throughout the week. There was a slight mould issue in the store room which was being dealt with. A fridge and cooker had been purchased and the floor refinished. The committee was now investigating the idea of installing solar panels but was waiting to see what was to be agreed regarding Feed in Tariffs before making a decision.

10. Correspondence

No items.

The meeting finished at 9.35pm