

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Ampfield on Monday, 14th July 2014 commencing at 7pm.

PRESENT: Mr B. Nanson (Chairman) – Presiding
Mr E. Butcher, Mr P. Edwards, Mr M.D. Hatley (from item 2132)
Mr J. Jones, Mr G.C.A.Roads and Mr D. Stevens

2126 Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Mr A.Clark and Miss M.I. Rothwell.

2127 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12th May 2014, and of the special meeting held on 27th February 2014, having been circulated previously, were confirmed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

2128 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Mr Roads confirmed that the mower, which had been lent to Ampfield Crusaders Cricket Club (ACCC) and was stored in the secure container, was no longer working; it was agreed he would get an estimate for repair. The condition of the hedge trimmer, which would be collected from a resident and stored elsewhere, would be checked.

2129 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary, or code of conduct, interest.

2130 Public Participation

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

2131 Ampfield Recreation Ground

2131.1 Maintenance

Arrangements had been made to cut back the hedge along the A3090 and flail the weeds along the eastern and southern sides of the Recreation Ground. Repairs to the ground due to rabbit damage continued. The Pre-school had its sports day on 10th July. ACCC would be holding a BBQ on 26th July; a risk assessment had been requested.

2131.2 Installation of new container

The damaged portakabin had been removed from the Recreation Ground and had been replaced by a modified container with a kitchen area. Services had been laid on quickly and the container was ready for use within a few days. Council was very grateful to Cllr. Hatley and to residents and local businesses for their support and help in getting everything up and running. It was agreed that shelving would be purchased, up to a maximum of £200, to improve the storage capacity in the container cupboard. Mr Clark would take it forward. ACCC's request to put up cupboards in the container was also agreed.

2131.3 Playground closure during matches

The closure of the playground on match days for safety reasons had been operating without incident so far.

2132 Chapel Wood

2132.1 Friends of Chapel Wood and Work in the Woodland

Following a competitive tender process, C Hoare Tree Services had been retained as Council's tree contractor. The initial work identified from the health & safety audit had been completed. The Friends of Chapel Wood would hold their annual meeting in August. The piles of arisings in the Woodland, created by the clearance of Rhododendron ponticum, had been shredded by Itchen Valley Trees; the mulch would be used on the paths. A large mound of arisings had been contaminated with wood, soil and other debris in the Burial Ground. This had had to be sorted and removed by hand which had been very time-consuming. Once the remaining soil had been cleared away, grass seed would be sown.

2132.2 Burial Ground

Mr Roads would explore with the Church Wardens how best to ensure that spoils from digging graves be placed in designated spaces. A digger was needed to clear the newly exposed area at the western end of the Burial Ground of roots and other vegetation. Mr Roads would pursue this. The box hedge would need to be weeded and mulched in the next few months.

2133 Financial Matters

2133.1 Accounts for payment

It was proposed by Mr Jones, and seconded by Mr Roads, that the following accounts be paid:

Cheques to be signed at the meeting: £ (inc VAT)

EPR Limited - ecology work	3243.18
Cllr Nanson - padlocks & chains for playground	40.41
July salary-D Matthews	569.35
HMRC July payments	149.13
August salary-D Matthews	569.55
HMRC August payments	148.93
Office Expenses-D Matthews - 11/5/14- 13/7/14	<u>58.46</u>
	4779.01

Payments made between meetings £ (inc VAT)

Ace Liftaway- soil for Recreation Ground	43.26
TVBC - management of SLR sign	815.00
EPR limited- ecology work	1393.56
Container Cabins limited	3780.00
C Hoare Tree services	1008.00
County Locksmiths- new container keys	124.44
G Phelps-work on Rec Ground	418.00
CBA Trees- tender process	810.00
D Matthews June salary	569.35
HMRC- June payments	<u>149.13</u>
	9,110.74

2133.2 Receipts and anticipated payments

Council confirmed the payments made between meetings. It was noted that significant amounts had been spent on ecology work to inform various planning situations. Payment for the canteen container, which replaced the damaged portakabin, was largely covered by the insurance claim. Council was pleased to note that Keats had renewed its sponsorship of the Parish website and that Darren Wilson had become a new sponsor. The bank accounts stood at £53,275 of which £33,250 was in named reserve funds.

The notice board just off the Straight Mile had been damaged and thrown into the nearby trees. It had been reported to the Police and Council's insurers had been notified in case of a claim. The notice board would be removed to a safe place where the extent of the damage would be assessed. Supporting the wooden posts with concrete ones would be considered. Romsey Extra, who co-owned the notice board, had been advised of the incident.

It was agreed that retention of various legal documents in storage in the Village Hall should be reviewed. It was thought that, at least, copies could be made. Mr Nanson and the Clerk would consider the options.

2133.3 S106 Developer Fund Update

Just over £4000 had been released by Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) from developer funds in relation to expenditure on recreational activities. Mr Nanson reminded everyone that this was not a windfall but had been anticipated and included in budgeted receipts. There were 2 outstanding amounts due from local developments; Mr Nanson would continue to pursue these along with other small amounts due. Any appropriate allocations for items in Chapel Wood would also be pursued.

2133.4 Annual Return

Completion of the Annual Return had been notified to parishioners via notices put up from 2nd June to 15th June 2014. The accounts had been available for examination by parishioners from 16th June to 11 July 2014.

2134 Planning update

Council considered application 14/01496/TREES for a schedule of tree works to be carried out in Chapel Wood. The application, which covered the tree works recommended following the health & safety audit conducted earlier in the year, had been submitted by Council's retained tree contractor. The application was supported.

It was noted that a container compound would be erected on the Morleys site in the week beginning 21 July 2014.

2135 Village Design Statement

It had been agreed in May that the Village Design Statement (VDS) should be reviewed. Mr Clark had identified and consulted with some members of the original team who had been willing to assist with the revision. Following on from that a paper had been circulated prior to the meeting which put forward proposals for strengthening the original VDS. Members agreed to pass any comments about the review to Mr Clark who would draw up the final proposal which would then be submitted to TVBC.

(All planning applications considered by Ampfield Planning Committee, and decisions relating to them, are published in planning committee minutes which can be found on the website at: www.ampfield.co.uk).

2136 Newsletter

There were a number of things happening in the Parish about which Council wanted to keep Parishioners informed. Consideration was being given, therefore,

to the publication of an autumn newsletter. This would be in addition to the annual newsletter published in April. A number of topics and layouts were discussed. It was agreed that Mr Edwards would draw up a list of topics for consideration so that a decision about whether to go ahead could be made at the September meeting.

2137 Correspondence and Communications

A list of items received on paper and electronically is at Annex A.

Council had been informed about funds that could be made available to those areas wishing to set up Community Speedwatch Programmes. Such schemes would be run and administered by local councils. Mr Stevens reminded Council that this had been aired before but there had been insufficient interest or enthusiasm from the local community to take it forward. Mr Edwards informed Council that he had received a flyer about a consultation being run by Hampshire County Council (HCC) about recycling and the future of existing tips. As the Bunny Lane tip was important to the local community it was agreed that Mr Roads would write to HCC putting forward this view and would respond to the questionnaire on the subject on behalf of Council.

2138 Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

2138.1 Ampfield Countryside Heritage Area

Mr Roads and Mr Hatley would contact those residents who had expressed an interest in helping with countryside matters. Mrs Jerrome, the Footpath Warden and Mr Roads had attended a "Paths to Partnership" event run by HCC. A report had been circulated to Council; there were a couple of items which Mr Roads would follow up. It wasn't clear who owned the land opposite the War Memorial on which the large tree had fallen during the winter storms. Mr Hatley would make enquiries.

2138.2 Ampfield Primary School

Mr Butcher reported that the federation of Ampfield and John Keble Schools was working well. The Ampfield register currently showed 47 children and this was expected to rise to 56 in September. Mr Butcher was due to meet with the new Headteacher, Marcus Rowe in early September.

2138.3 Ampfield Village Hall

There had been no progress over the purchase of the freehold of the Village Hall with the Women's Institute. Miss Rothwell had written to them again to help speed up the valuation process.

2138.4 Transport & Highways

Concerns about vehicles speeding down Green Lane had been raised by Mrs Goulden. It was recognised that data about vehicle numbers and their speed would need to be obtained before any conclusions could be reached. Mr Edwards would liaise with Highways and with Romsey Extra Parish, in whose parish part of the Lane was situated, to see how best to take it forward and then discuss matters with Mrs Goulden. Rob Cox, the new Lengthsman would be working in the Parish at the end of the month. A revised work programme was being drawn up and Councillors were asked to put forward any new work that might need to be done. Discussions with Ray Alborough, Highways engineer, were continuing over possible changes to the A3090 following the Morleys development.

2139 Test Valley Borough Council

Mr Hatley advised that the Revised Local Plan would go before Cabinet the following week and then be submitted to the Secretary of State. The plan had been subject to 3 consultations and its contents were well known. There had been no changes to the number of houses intended for Whitenap, which had been the subject of many objections, as there had been no other suitable area in Southern Test Valley that could reasonably take the number of houses required to be built.

The Romsey Future Project was gaining ground and making progress. The new “park & stride” at the Rapids was proving to be very successful. Coaches, which hadn’t previously been able to park in Romsey, could now park at the Rapids. It was intended to increase the number of coaches that could park there from 2 to 6. There would be a new kiosk in the Memorial Park.

2140 Dates of meetings in 2014/2015

In addition to the regular bi-monthly meetings it was agreed that Ampfield Parish Council would also meet on Monday, 13th October 2014 and Monday 9th February 2014.

2141 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Ampfield Parish Council would be held on Monday, 8th September at 7pm in the Village Hall, Ampfield.

2142 Closure

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Chairman.....
Date.....