



## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 16th November 2021, 7.30pm Village Hall

Parish Councillors Simon Richards (Chairman for the meeting), Brian Baker, Ian Bowman, Stephen Harnett, Diane Kirk (co-opted as Parish Councillor during the meeting).  
Parish Clerk Susan Turner. Guests County Cllr Tim Davies.

**2021**

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### **WELCOME & APOLOGIES**

Apologies Paul Burton (Chairman), Ward Cllr Anne Crampton.

**53**

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR UPDATE**

**.1**

**Local Schools report** Education provision in North East Hart generally up to par. Whitewater exception where special measures will be put in place. Noting a trend of Outstanding schools recently inspected nationally all bar three reclassified as Good. Question raised regarding SEN (Special Educational Needs) provision in Hart.

**.2**

**Police** To stress importance of reporting. Received wisdom from criminology course that only a third of crimes are made known to the police. Police can only allocate resources to known crime rates.

Cllr Davies is aware of the drifting issues at the Wellington roundabout and that police resources have been allocated to this.

Comments Drifting continues but nothing like the scale of problem as last year.

Generally single-car incidents, one video recently sent by residents to the Police.

**ADDENDUM** At the time of the Parish Council meeting, residents called the Police to a drifting incident. PCSO Nick Greenwood responded promptly, only two cars involved.

Cllr Davies to meet in a few days with local PCSO. Does the Parish have any issues with anti-social motorcycling? Answer yes, regularly and every Sunday morning – along the causeway and down the B3349.

**.3**

**Road Traffic and Highways** Cllr Davies has suggested resurfacing the roundabout to prevent cars skidding. HCC has been reluctant to take any measures.

Cllr Davies proposed to organise regular six-monthly meetings with HCC Road Traffic Management and his northern Hart parishes (as happens with southern Hart Parishes). To include Heckfield, Mattingley, Bramshill.

**AGREED** This would be very welcome, citing drifting, signage, potholes, the 'Triangle' junction.

**TO NOTE** All traffic incidents, however minor, should be logged on Hants Constabulary website.  
<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/>

All Highways defects – eg signage, potholes, trees / vegetation obstructing the highway or sight lines, road flooding – should be reported on Hampshire County Council website (Hantsweb)

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems>

**.4**

**Minerals and Waste** Re the Eversley Quarry, the Cemex lorries constantly leave mud on their wheels and so onto the roads which spreads through the local road network. Collards quarry lorries wash their wheels and don't create the same problem. Cemex are applying to extend their licence, will be considered by Minerals and Waste Regulatory Committee (two-year extension to existing permission).

**ACTION** Cllr Davies to request condition that a wheel wash is used.

**NOTED** Comments are posted on Riseley Facebook re the mud on road. Worst when ices over, frozen mud hanging over the edges of the roads.

**.5**

**Budget cuts** Noted Hants' recent budget meetings re 'proposed options for closing a budget gap of at least £80M faced by the County Council by April 2023'.

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**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** Monday 9th August, agreed and signed.

**55**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** in items on the Agenda – none.

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**56 PARISH COUNCILLOR CO-OPTION**

Vacancy notice at **APPENDIX I**. Confirmation received from Hart Electoral Services on 5th November that the Parish Council is free to co-opt.

AGREED unanimously to co-opt Dianne Kirk from Dukes Meadow to the Parish Council. Dianne accepted, Declaration of Office made and signed, counter signed by Clerk.

**57 PLANNING****.1 Hart Solar Farms and Planning Committee**

TO NOTE Bunkers Hull and Chosley Farm Solar approved

Hart Planning Committee of 10th November approved 49.9MW solar farms at

1. Chosley Farm, North Warn, opposite RAF Odiham, 95.47ha (236 acres).
2. Bunkers Hill, Rotherwick, 105.49ha (260 acres).

In both cases, a recorded vote was taken. Only Committee Councillors associated with the Wards concerned abstained or voted against.

**.2 Kiln Fields Solar** The EIA screening application 21/02546/EIA has not yet been officially determined; however a full planning application has been submitted to Hart. 21/02749/FUL (Validated 10 Nov 2021) Land Lying To The North Of Vicarage Lane, Hound Green, Heckfield. Construction of a temporary 17.87 MW Solar Farm, to include the installation of Solar Panels with LV switch/transformer, customer switchgear/T Boot enclosure, a DNO substation enclosure, security fencing, landscaping and other associated infrastructure.

AGREED 'Heckfield Parish Council is generally supportive of solar farms as part of our national commitments towards addressing climate change. However the Parish Council has concerns regarding the suitability of this site – being subject to regular flooding, which includes the surrounding roads. A full site surface water drainage strategy is needed.'

**.3 Parish Planning Applications – Planning Update **APPENDIX II******i. Applications for discussion:**

21/02858/CA (Validated 04 Nov 2021) Yammars, Church Lane. 1 Ghost Eucalyptus - Fell. (Tree to be felled due to danger to my and neighbours' house): 2. Damson - Remove annual growth. *Parish Council response: Agreed No Objection.*

21/02797/CA (Validated 27 Oct 2021) Church Lane House, Church Lane. 1. Willow - Fell and Replace with Betula in same position: 2. Scots Pine - Fell and Replace with similar pine tree in main garden. *Parish Council response: Agreed No Objection.*

21/01788/FUL (Validated 02 September 2021) Oates Cottage, Hound Green. Erection of new dwelling attached to existing dwelling. To Note: Bell Cornwell argument that this attached new dwelling already has permission as per the original approved application. The present application is due to amendment to the original permission. *Parish Council response: Agreed No Objection, the Parish needs smaller houses.*

**ii. Other applications of note**

NOTED 21/01948/FUL (Granted 4th October 2021) Cherry Tree Farm, Chandlers Green. Erection of an agricultural workers' dwelling with associated landscaping and car parking. Note that the Appeal Inspector agreed all issues resolved other than SANG. 21/00266/FUL (Appeal APP/N1730/W/21/3279009 - start date 21st August) Refuse 4th May, Validated 03 Feb 2021) Cold Piece Farm. Erection of 10 floodlights, each 8m tall, around the existing manage - retrospective, to replace the 8 approved floodlights.

**58 POLICE**

**.1 Police liaison meeting of 27th October** (7pm at Yateley Police Station and via MS Teams.) Reports at **APPENDIX III** Attended by Simon Richards and Clerk. Police expressed some satisfaction that crime and ASB stats are down. Local officers are undertaking more combined operations with Thames Valley and Surrey. Hart Rural North is recruiting more staff including three student officers.

But very aware of trends. Less sporadic offending and more specific targeting of high value goods / vehicles / machinery. Offenders doing their homework, also means that are out and about during the day, this is where public reporting of any suspicious incident / person / vehicle is important.

A current particular concern is car theft (keyless cars – relay car theft) much along the A30 corridor and targeting Hook (where easy getaway).

New agreed priority – with onset of dark nights – to be Non-dwelling Burglary.

NEXT LIAISON MEETING – 27th January 2022, 7pm at Yateley Police Station and MS Teams.

Noted Discovery recently seen in Bottle Lane scanning the fields. Found to have false registration plates that showed no tax no mot. Noted on Chandlers Green community app – coming to hare coursing time, plus targetting quad bikes.

**.2 Barn Meet – Police Community Meeting** proposal for interested parties to meet / engage with Rural crime agencies.

AGREED unanimously Heckfield Parish Council will host at Highfield House, details to be confirmed with Highfield. Organised by Country Watch, date given Thursday 13th Jan, 10.45 for 11am. Notice to be drafted **APPENDIX IV**. [Subsequently postponed.]

## **59 TRAFFIC, HIGHWAYS & RIGHTS OF WAY**

### **.1 Road safety**

NOTED i Pedestrian in road signs Installed – with thanks to Hants Traffic Management – on 1st Sept 2021 – facing north (before New Inn) and south bound B3349. **APPENDIX V**

ii Pedestrian crossing points B3349

Email from Hants Traffic Management 22nd October to say design work is complete. Drawings at **APPENDIX VI**. Targeted for completion by the end of this financial year.

'As there is insufficient road width to accommodate refuge islands at either crossing point we are arranging other improvements as best we can within the site constraints.

'The conversion of the grass verges with hard standings and tactile paving will improve the general experience for pedestrians at these locations, and visibility of and at the crossing points will be improved along with the accompanying measures of high visibility bollards, road markings and cutting back foliage.

'We are also reviewing potential amendments to road markings not currently shown on these drawings. Please note in particular at Crossing Point 2, we are intending to install a short section of new footway on the east side to connect with School Lane.'

### **.2 Heckfield Depot**

HCC Enquiry Ref: 21568475. Vegetation screening to Heckfield chipping depot.

TO NOTE – September update (email report from HCC Highways of 23rd Sept 2021)

NEXT STEPS – Quotation from contractor for proposed work and consent from Hart. Will contact the Parish Council when there is a proposed start date.

1 Meeting with County arboricultural officer took place on the 3rd September and received his report this week with a proposed course of action. Final approvals will need to be obtained from Hart District Council in its capacity as the planning authority in respect of the Tree Preservation Order, but at this time I do not consider that HDC are likely to raise an objection.

2 The proposed work will consist of:

Felling c 10 trees. These trees are either already dead or diseased and at risk of falling either onto the highway or within the boundary of the chipping depot.

Chipping on site / log piles / removal of the already felled tree trunks and limbs which were associated with the work undertaken a few years ago.

Clearing brambles and bindweed between the edge of the carriageway on both the B3011 Reading Road and B3349 Odiham Road and the area currently occupied by the felled tree trunks to facilitate new planting.

The Sweet Chestnut trees which have begun to establish themselves in this area will be left and the removal of the bramble and bind weed should enable them to flourish

Planting five new trees (types to be confirmed and will depend upon availability at the nursery) to rear of the highway ditch along the B3349 Odiham Road.

Fencing – under consideration – the type of fence most suitable for the site.

### **.3 C6 Odiham Road TRO**

NOTED Work to install new 30mph zone progressing, one side just been resurfaced.

ALSO NOTED This new areas of 30mph (and then 40 to the roundabout) is developer-funded (S 278 agreement – works to existing highways).

NB: Section 278 of the Highways Act 1980 allows developers to enter into a legal agreement with the Local Highway Authority to make permanent alterations or improvements to a public highway, as part of a planning approval.

Question raised as to how much it will cost?

**.4 Fly-tipping update.** Two incidents this last summer in Malthouse Lane, one being metres of plastic coating taken from copper cabling – as from the railway; another a load of 20 and 10litre cooking fat drums – as from a fast food van. Favoured locations on Bar Lane coming from Turnpike, plus in gateway by wood by solar farm proposal.

**.5 Trail camera** – to be moved to Malthouse Lane.

### **.6 Footpaths and rights of way**

Heckfield Footpath 501 (Dukes Meadow) previously much narrowed by Cala fence and kerbing to widened entrance road. This was contruction entrance, now seems it will be kept for access. Footpath now partially reinstated, still fenced off, once the road opened out it will be accessible.

Coldpiece Wood path, the Coldpiece Farm land agent / project manager (ParishCouncil contact) has now left (renovation projects largely finished).

### **.7 Parish Connectivity and Village Green**

AGREED to devise schedule of works for Lengthsman to improve / maintain paths / footways. Noted that the Estate fence should mark the boundary of the Village Green.

**.8 Lengthsman funding** The recommendation from the September 2021 Transport / Infrastructure Budget Decision Day was to stop funding as from end this financial year. Seems have stepped back from this a little due to opposition from County Councillors. But still determined to end the funding in the near term. A briefing note later issued to County Councillors (8th November) included the following. Whether this means one more year of funding?

- '1. Parishes have two years to develop other funding streams, including from their precept. Parishes have more financial headroom than County.
- '2. In order to protect school crossing patrols and HWRCs, these difficult decisions have been unavoidable. The only alternative would be to close care homes and evict elderly and disabled people which we are not prepared to do.
- '3. HCC will continue to support.'

## **60 VILLAGE HALL AND COTTAGES**

Nothing new to report re Cottages. Hall bookings are good; the car park lights have stop working, endeavouring to get the electrician back in.

## **61 FINANCE**

**.1 Payments** since last meeting:

10	Wesson Fencing – Chuch fencing half payment	£2,161.20
11	Clerk Salary – September	£120.00
12	HMRC PAYE tax – July-Sept	£180.00
13	British Legion Poppy Appeal Wreath	£25.00
14	Clerk Salary – October	£300.00

**.2 Accounts to date APPENDIX VII****.3 Tax base and Precept**Background – for this year 2021/22

Based on houses occupied in Dukes Meadow, tax base estimated (Jan 21) at 217.7

Precept request of £12,851 = intended to maintain band D payment c £59.03

Actual tax base remained 181.63 (due to turnaround time at valuation office) so £70.75

Budget and Precept 2022-23

Hart provisional tax base figures (Nov 21) for 2022/23 = 246.17

£60 per Band D household (60 x 246.17) would achieve Precept of £14,770.

£50 per Band D household (50 x 246.17) would achieve Precept of £12,309.

Draft budget **APPENDIX VIII** based on Precept of 14,770.

NOTED Builders' revised estimate for Cottage renovation likely to increase.

AGREED To confirm Precept request in January

NOTED Precept request to be submitted to Hart for 14th January 2022.

**62 FURTHER REPORTS**

**.1 Local history** Simon Richards posted files on Parish Council website.

**.2 Jubilee 2022 dates** Extended bank holiday Thurs 2nd to Sun 5th June. Beacons lit Thursday 2nd June 9.45pm. The official 'Big Jubilee Lunch' date is Sunday 5th June.

NOTED Stratfield Saye is hosting event but not open to public. Suggested Heckfield supports Mattingley's planned beacon lighting on the Thursday.

**.3 Cherry Tree Farm** Noted that the farm has been sold. New use to be equestrian.

**63 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** Tues 11th January 2022, 7.30pm.

*Meeting closed 9.15pm with thanks to all present*

For signature (p5 of 5) ..... Date .....