



WINCHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE WINCHFIELD ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 16, 2016 AT 7.30 PM IN WINCHFIELD VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT Cllr A Renshaw (in the Chair),
Cllr H Dicks, Cllr P Jackaman and Cllr M Williams
Cllr J Glen (HCC)
Mr D Turver (WeHeartHart)
23 members of the public
Mr K Gregson of Carter Jonas and colleagues
Mrs C Johnson (Clerk)

1 APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

Apologies were received on behalf of Cllr Gavin-Brown who was in hospital; and from Cllr Crampton and Cllr Southern (HDC), PC Franks and colleagues.

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on May 18, 2015, were accepted and signed as a correct record.

3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on the following matters in his review of the previous 12 months:

Hart Local Plan: Despite no in-depth testing of a new settlement at Winchfield, towards the end of 2015 Hart District Council had embarked on a consultation over Refined Housing Options which included a new settlement at Winchfield. This consultation had been withdrawn the day before it was due to close due to errors and a new one launched a few weeks later. The Parish Council had employed professional planning consultants to produce a robust response. He thanked his fellow Parish Councillors, Winchfield Action Group and WeHeartHart for all their support. In March a large brownfield site at Pyestock with permission for a distribution centre, now known as Hartland Park, had become available for housing and he was hopeful that it would make development in Winchfield in this planning period less likely. Winchfield Parish Council was, however, well funded for fighting its case should it be necessary, as the precept had been maintained at the high level agreed for the previous year.

Neighbourhood Plan: Under Clare Worley's leadership a great many people had contributed to a fantastic piece of work which would be of vital importance to Winchfield if the threat of major development was averted. Particular thanks were due to Malcolm Billyard for the design of the document. Pre-Submission consultation on the Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan had been completed at the end of April. The next stage would be the approval of resulting amendments and submission of the Plan to Hart for independent examination.

Solar farms: Winchfield now had two solar farms. The first, at Oakfield Farm in Taplins Farm Lane, was now in operation and the Council had just received the first annual Community Benefit payment of just over £3,200. Construction had recently started at the second at Hungerford Farm in Pale Lane. Planning permission for a third, at Beggars Corner, Potbridge, on land formerly under threat of use as a motorcross track, had been refused by Hart District Council – an extraordinary decision which had been upheld by the Planning Inspectorate.

Litter picks: The parish had benefitted from two litter picks organised by resident Kerry Wedlock, to whom thanks were due.

Clerk: The Clerk was due to retire at the end of the following month after twenty-four years' service for which she was thanked. The Council had been fortunate to recruit Mrs Una Tilt, currently Deputy Clerk at Odiham Parish Council, to replace her.

4 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN PALE LANE: ELVETHAM CHASE

Kieron Gregson and colleagues gave a presentation on behalf of developers Wates regarding a proposal to develop land at Pale Lane Farm in the neighbouring parishes of Elvetham Heath and Hartley Wintney. The development of this site could provide 700 dwellings, a two-form entry primary school and 16ha of open space. Following traffic surveys in the area in April, a 'movement strategy' had been developed which would include the partial closure of Pale Lane.

A question and answer session followed in which the following issues were raised (*answers in italics*):

Height of dwellings and density: *Mainly 2 or 2½ storey, some 3 storey; 30 per hectare*

Secondary school provision: *still being discussed with HCC*

Impact of increased traffic generated on local roads and established traffic flows (e.g. from Fleet to Winchfield Station via Pale Lane); access from development to A323 and to Winchfield Station: *it was recognised that more work needed to be done and separate consultation meetings would be arranged*

Imminent SHMA figures could call into question the need for development

Progress with Brickyard site on other side of A323: *concerns regarding air quality near M3*

5 HART LOCAL PLAN

The Chairman said it was hoped that Hart's preferred options for future development would be known shortly and the draft Local Plan should be ready for consultation at the end of the year with a view to its submission in Spring 2017. It was noted with approval that the District Council had invited David Turver of the WeHeartHart campaign to participate in a study of brownfield opportunities.

6 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Thanks were repeated to Clare Worley and her team.

7 FUTURE OF HARTLEY WINTNEY WASTE RECYCLING CENTRE

Hampshire County Council was currently consulting residents about the future of all its Waste Recycling Centres and there were fears that the Hartley Wintney site was vulnerable to closure as it was one of the less cost-effective to run. Concern was expressed that the closure of the only such facility in Hart would encourage fly tipping, especially in rural areas like Winchfield. The Chairman urged those present to respond to the consultation.

8 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

The Chairman presented the Parish Council's accounts for the year ended March 31, 2016, copies of which had been circulated. **In summary:**

Balance brought forward from previous year	£14,699.35
Total receipts	£32,383.00
Total payments	(£25,880.31)
End of year balance	£21,202.04

The year's payments of **£25,880.31** had consisted of the following:

Administration (inc Clerk's salary)	£3,483.67
Grants <i>upkeep of graveyard, Basingstoke Canal,</i>	£850.00
Election (uncontested) expenses May 2015	£46.55
Local Plan response	£11,259.75
Litter Pick equipment	£101.84
Neighbourhood Plan	£6,663.00
Parish Lengthsman	£238.20
Section 137 payments	£484.92
VAT on payments (to be reclaimed)	£2,752.38

Reserves: after taking account of the £2,752.38 VAT to be refunded, the Council had earmarked reserves of £23,440.86.

9 OPEN FORUM

Celebrating HM Queen's 90th Birthday: the Chairman reminded those present about the party which would be taking place in the field behind the Barley Mow Public House on Sunday, June 12.

Farewell from Cllr Glen: with changes to the County Council divisions imminent, whereby Winchfield would move from the Odiham division and join the Hartley Wintney division, this would be the last Parish Assembly he would attend. He said it had always been a pleasure to represent Winchfield and he would continue to keep in touch. In turn, the Chairman thanked Cllr Glen for his support over the many years he had represented the parish at County level.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.