

# MINUTES of the WONSTON PARISH ASSEMBLY

Held at the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney

At 8.00pm on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## **PRESENT**

Parish Councillors: Pauline Maunder (Chairman), Kevin Maunder, Rob Parker, David Price, Andrew Porteous, Matthew Bessant-Gore.

Residents: 5 resident attended the meeting.

City Councillors Stephen Godfrey, Caroline Horrill, Andrew Adams.

Apologies: Cllr Judith Polak, Cllr Georgina Tibbits, HCllr Jackie Porter.

Minutes Jocelyn Jenkins (PC Clerk).

**1 CHAIRMAN** Pauline Maunder, as Chairman of the Parish Council, formally opened the meeting by welcoming residents and visitors.

**2 MINUTES** The Minutes of the Parish Assembly of 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 were **agreed** and signed.

**3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** on the activities of the Parish Council in the last year.

Another year dominated by the Winchester Local Plan and the development proposed for the Brightlands site in Sutton Scotney. The Parish Council strongly resisted the development of this site at all stages of the Local Plan process. However, the Plan has now been formally approved and includes the site for the development of 60 properties. The developer wanted to build 120 homes on the site and the Parish Council will now have to work hard to ensure that any planning applications include only 60 properties, whilst also including a proportion of much needed affordable homes. The development of new housing in the Parish will lead to some additional money for infrastructure projects and your ideas of the best way this could be utilised are very welcome.

There have been a number of issues with the new sewage pipeline. The Parish Council have been the first to report these incidents and continue to try to hold Southern Water and Clancy, the contractor, to account.

Village gateway features have been installed, using a balance of highways funding that would have otherwise been lost to the Parish. Data from the Speed Indication Devices (SIDs) has led to Police enforcement taking place.

The Parish Council website has been transformed by Councillor Rob Parker – it now meets the Gold Standard for Parish council websites and contains a volume of useful information for residents – please take a look.

Repairs to the War Memorial are being undertaken by professional masons. For smaller repairs in the Parish, two volunteers from the community have come forward and will be assisting with the minor repairs in the play areas and to the noticeboards. We are very grateful for their help.

I would also like to thank the litter picking team who work hard to keep the Parish clear of litter and to present them with a small token in appreciation of their efforts throughout the year.

The Parish Council make a number of grants to assist groups who are working to benefit the lives of residents. This year grants have been made to:

The Gratton Trust, the Victoria Hall, Holy Trinity and Stoke Charity churches, the Lunch Club and Sunshine Club, Scots Tots, Knit and Natter, the community cafes and Citizens Advice.

Finally, the Parish Council are considering the future of the play area at Pigeon House Yard. The equipment is nearing the end of its life but issues with the soakaway, which is beneath part of the play area, have delayed plans for a number of years. The play area could be refurbished with new equipment, perhaps some fitness equipment could be added or a 'garden' area – please speak to one of the councillors here this evening if you have a view on how we should proceed

## **5 IN CONCLUSION**

The Chairman thanked residents for attending the meeting. A resident proposed a vote of thanks for the Chairman and Councillors.

Refreshments and informal conversation followed and the meeting closed at around 8.45pm.

1. Chairman's signature at WPC meeting ..... Date .....
  
2. Chairman's signature at 2027 Parish Assembly ..... Date .....