

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Ampfield on Monday, 10th November 2014 commencing at 7pm.

PRESENT: Miss M.I.Rothwell (Chairman) – Presiding
Mr B.W. Nanson, Mr E. Butcher, Mr A.Clark, Mr P. Edwards,
Mr J. Jones, Mr G.C.A.Roads and Mr D. Stevens

2161 Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Mr M.D. Hatley.

2162 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 13th October 2014 having been circulated previously, were confirmed by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

2163 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no Matters Arising.

2164 Declarations of Interest

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

2165 Public Participation

Mrs Godfrey, and Mr & Mrs Ward were in attendance. Miss Rothwell suspended the meeting at 7.04pm and invited Mrs Godfrey and Mr Ward to speak. Mr Ward had no points to raise at that stage. Mrs Godfrey asked about the planning application for a gypsy site at the paddocks opposite the Potters Heron. Mr Clark advised her to look at the documentation on the parish website and talked briefly about material considerations. Mrs Godfrey had experience of defibrillators in her workplace and talked about a number of their features and what needed to be considered. Mr Nanson explained that Council had not yet fully considered or agreed the purchase of a defibrillator; a proposal would be put before Council shortly. The meeting was re-convened at 7.10pm.

2166 Update from Police Community Support Officer

PCSO Cole had been unable to attend.

2167 Ampfield Recreation Ground

2167.1 Maintenance

The inspection regime had moved to its fortnightly winter schedule. The contractor dealing with the rabbit damage had been stood down for the winter; a close watch would be kept on the mole activity which seemed to be on the increase.

2168 Chapel Wood

2168.1 Friends of Chapel Wood and Work in the Woodland

Rain had interrupted the working parties but progress had been made with clearing the pond and weeding the cruciform hedge. Work continued on getting a replacement dipping platform and on acquiring valuations, for insurance purposes, of both the platform and the boardwalks. Council's tree contractor was due to start work shortly on those trees identified in the health & safety audit as needing remedial work or felling within 6 months of the audit. Some fence posts would need to be replaced and Mr Roads would advise Council of the expected cost and seek agreement to purchase.

2168.2 Burial Ground

A meeting had been held with the Rev Gilks to finalise the revision of the management agreement and the code of practice which governed the use of the Burial Ground. As there was likely to be a gap, of possibly up to a year, before a replacement for the Revd Gilks would be appointed, some interim arrangements had been agreed to deal with memorials, maintaining the burial plan and operating the gates.

2169 Financial Matters

2169.1 Accounts for payment

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

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

Get Mapping plc - parish online subscription	33.00
Konica Minolta - copy charges 24/7-23/10	30.64
D Matthews November salary	569.35
HM Revenue & Customs - November payments	149.13
D Matthews - December salary	569.55
HM Revenue & Customs - December payments	148.93

Office Expenses 8/9-9/11/14 - D Matthews	<u>62.62</u>
	1,563.22

Payments made between meetings £ (inc VAT)

Office expenses - Cllr Nanson - A3 paper for newsletter	12.99
Chapel wood - Cllr Roads - wire to repair fences	11.46
Konica Minolta - copier lease	128.99
Itchen Valley Trees - shredding in Burial Ground	<u>375.00</u>
	528.44

2169.2 Receipts and anticipated payments

Council confirmed the payments made between meetings. It was noted that Get Mapping plc had increased its subscription rate but, as the original fee had been very modest in the first place, it was still considered very good value for money at £28 (exc VAT). Receipts had been modest at £66 from Burial Ground fees. The Clerk had pursued with HM Revenue & Customs the VAT refund which had been outstanding since early August. Apparently there was a backlog of about 3 months. The bank accounts stood at £52, 571.21 of which £33,250 was in named reserve funds.

Council reviewed actual expenditure against budgets for the period ending October 2014. Excluding transfer to reserves, approx. 65% of the budget had been spent to date. It was agreed that the budget provision made for a new notice board at the School might be better spent replacing the board at Flexford Close. The board had never been easy to reach being situated in a conifer hedge but, following the replacement of the street sign in front of it, a much bigger stretch was needed. The board itself was also old and not lockable. Mr Edwards would investigate the cost of a new board and would discuss the possible change with the owners of the hedge.

2169.3 Village Hall

Miss Rothwell had written yet again to the Chairman of the Women’s Institute about the purchase of the freehold of the Village Hall and had sent a copy of the Hall’s insurance certificate. Mr Nanson expressed his disappointment at the lack of response from the W.I which had now been over 6 months. As previously agreed the Clerk was preparing a “Community Right to Bid” case in relation to the Village Hall, for submission to TVBC. Under the Localism Act, certain community assets could be placed on a register whereby, if the owner decided to sell them, parish councils, and other similar organisations, would be informed early enough to put together a bid to buy the place if they so wished.

2169.4 Website sponsorship

Council agreed Mr Nanson's policy paper on how adverts would be placed on the website and how new applications would be dealt with. It was also agreed that the proposed advert from the Perbury Group about the Morleys development would be accepted if there was enough space.

2170 Planning update

Mr Clark reported that the Morleys development was proceeding according to schedule; the show-houses nearest to Keats restaurant would be the first to go up. The public hearing about the appeal against the refusal to allow a gypsy site on the paddocks opposite the Potters Heron would be held on 16/17 December 2014. Discussions would be led by the planning inspector and would involve mainly the applicant and Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) as the planning authority. Council would register as an interested party and submit a response, including an ecology report, to the inspector in addition to the original letter of objection and associated information.

(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).

2171 Newsletter

The Chairman thanked Mr Edwards, Mr Nanson and the Clerk for their hard work in producing an Autumn newsletter. Some very favourable comments had been received from residents. Council agreed that Mr Edwards should conduct a review of the impact, style and production of the newsletter and identify any issues and lesson learnt that could be applied to the annual booklet published in April.

2172 Emergency Planning

Mr Roads had circulated a report about his attendance at a Community Emergency Resilience Conference in October. Although Ampfield had been very fortunate the previous winter in that it had not suffered any serious flooding episodes, Hampshire County Council (HCC) was encouraging parishes to keep their community emergency plans up to date, to try to organise communications and points of contact, and to designate co-ordination centres within the community. Mr Nanson would attend one of several similar events in the next month. Council agreed that some key information, such as a list of the most vulnerable in the community, should be compiled; an indication of what emergency events were likely to happen in Ampfield should also be identified. It would be important that residents were made aware of, and could contribute to, any emergency plan.

2173 Defibrillators

There was much discussion about the value of a defibrillator to the community and where it might best be placed in the Parish. The device, which could help people suffering from a heart attack, needed to be readily accessible and situated where people were likely to congregate. It was reported to be relatively easy for a lay person to use; the statistics on surviving heart attacks following the use of defibrillators were very encouraging. The Chairman suspended the meeting at 7.58pm to allow Mrs Godfrey to contribute to the discussion and explain how the machine worked. The meeting was reconvened at 8.04pm. It was agreed that Mr Nanson would do further research and report back to Council before any decision to purchase was taken. Should Council go ahead with the purchase, Mr Roads would link the defibrillator to the Emergency Plan.

2174 Standing Orders

Mr Nanson thanked members for their comments on the proposed revisions to Standing Orders. Work would continue on the new version and a draft set would be prepared for consideration by Council in the New Year.

2175 Correspondence and Communications

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

2176 Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

2176.1 Ampfield Primary School

Pupil numbers stood at 52 and were expected to reach nearly 60 in the New Year. The Head of School at Ampfield was due to leave and the process to recruit a replacement had started.

2176.2 Ampfield Village Hall

Discussions with the Perbury Group about renovations to the Village Hall continued. Ways had been found to deal with the particular requirements of the Pre-school in designing the revised lay-out.

2176.3 Allotments

A timetable had been drawn up about the various stages involved in setting up the allotments at Morleys. Messrs. Clark, Jones & Stevens had arranged to meet with Mr O'Brien, Development Director of the Perbury Group to explore aspects of the

allotment development. Mr Jones would contact other allotment organizations in neighbouring parishes in December to increase knowledge and understanding.

2176.4 Transport & Highways

Mr Edwards advised that the HCC review of bus subsidies had been published; Ampfield residents were not thought to be much affected by the outcome. Start time for concessionary travel would now be from 9.30am, rather than 9.00am, in line with other authorities. Service 46 from Winchester would terminate at North Baddesley and would no longer continue to Southampton hospital. Route C3/C4 was currently under review and some changes were expected. There had been no local consultation over the changes to bus route 66 - Romsey to Winchester – introduced at the end of October. Some services now went along Jermyns Lane and omitted the Straight Mile/Crampmoor section. Mr Clark had written to Cllr. Alan Dowden expressing Council’s disappointment at the lack of consultation and its concern about the loss of service in some sections of the Parish. Mr Edwards had attended a recent transport forum. He had been made aware that Stagecoach buses could now be tracked on route and information displayed in bus shelters should it be thought worthwhile to do so.

2177 Test Valley Borough Council

Mr Hatley was not present.

2178 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Ampfield Parish Council would be held on Monday, 12th January 2015 at 7pm in the Village Hall, Ampfield.

2179 Closure

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

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