

TICHBORNE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 6.30pm on
Tuesday 28th March 2017 at Alresford Golf Club.

17/64) Apologies.

Mr R Foot	Councillor
Mrs G Hugh	Councillor
Mr A Stewart	Councillor
Mrs A Thacker	City Councillor

Present.

Mr R Raimes	Chairman
Mr N Kinder	Councillor
Mr J Curtis	Councillor
Mr A McWhirter	Councillor (from 6.43pm)
Mr L Ruffell	City Councillor
Mr R Huxstep	County Councillor (from 6.41pm)

Mr B Gibbs	Clerk
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One member of the public

17/65) Declarations of Interest.

Cllr McWhirter declared a personal interest in an item of correspondence at the time it was received by the Council.

17/66) To approve the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of Tichborne Parish Council held on 10th January 2017.

Cllr Kinder proposed and Cllr Curtis seconded the proposal that the minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting of Tichborne Parish Council held on the 10th January 2017 be approved.

It was **resolved** that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

17/67) Reports by the County and District Councillors.

Cllr Ruffell began his report by saying that a new Leader of the City Council had been elected at the City Council meeting in January. Cllr Caroline Horrill is the member for Wonston & Micheldever and her appointment runs until the Annual City Council Meeting in May.

He continued his report by saying that the City Council has recently undertaken a number of successful prosecutions of fly-tippers. More resources had been allocated to dealing with this problem and as a result of this initiative a number of transgressors had been jailed or fined heavily.

Cllr Ruffell said that the Winchester City Council Local Plan Part 2 had been deemed to be “sound” by the planning inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. It is hoped that this document can be adopted soon. Work continues in indentifying up to fifteen Gypsy & Traveller plots and up to twenty-four Travelling Show People plots in the district as a supplementary exercise.

He concluded his report by saying a planning consultation would now begin in order to identify and consider suitable sites.

Chairman's signature

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Cllr Roger Huxstep read the following report.

HCC Budget 2017/18

At the County Council meeting held on 16th February members approved recommendations to balance the budget for 2017/18 – prioritising funding for vulnerable children and adults, and on track to deliver £98 million of savings, as set out in proposals agreed in 2015. The County Council spends around £1.9 billion per annum on serving Hampshire's 1.3 million residents – a responsibility which it takes very seriously, and one that requires meticulous management of taxpayers' money, and responsible planning for the future. Ever since national austerity measures began in 2008, we have applied a two-year financial planning strategy.

This involves delivering significant savings early and reinvesting them into more modern and efficient ways of working while making careful use of reserves to meet gaps in funding, to protect services as far as possible. Residents have told us they support this approach, and to date, it has served us well - delivering £340million in savings, in total, so far.

We have kept Council Tax the lowest of all County Councils nationally, and delivered value for money for Hampshire taxpayers - sustaining some of the strongest essential services in the country. Up to this municipal year, we had frozen Council Tax at the same level for five years. Over the next two years, the funding picture gets no better, and by April 2019, we will need to find a further £140 million in savings to balance our budget, on top of the £340million we have already saved.

Meanwhile, demand continues to go up in areas such as social care, especially for Hampshire's growing older population - and Government now expects councils to increase Council Tax by a maximum of 6%, over the next three years, to specifically address these social care pressures. HCC has agreed to accept the Government's invitation – but bring forward the 6% increase over a two-year period instead. This would enable us to prudently use the money upfront, on a one-off basis, and help offset the major pressures we know are coming our way, especially in adult social care.

By now you will have received your Council Tax Bill for 2017/18. There is a 3% increase in County Council's Council Tax precept to address the adult social care funding pressures, plus a 1.99% general increase – representing a 4.99% increase overall. However, the money generated will still not be enough to deal with the expected increases in demand for social care over the next few years. As an example, a Band D property attracts a bill of £1,133.10, or around £1 extra per week for some of the best public services in the country whereas for a Band H it is £2266.20.

These figures of course exclude the precepts for WCC, Hants Fire & Rescue Authority and the Police & Crime Commissioner as well as your parish precept. In any case, Council Tax in Hampshire remains well below the rate of inflation taken over the last five years and is the second lowest in the country after Somerset.

The capital budget proposes significant investment in Hampshire's economy, building plans and jobs, totalling £520million over the three years. The funding in Hampshire's infrastructure and long-term assets, up to 2019/20 includes proposed £179 million investment in new and extended school buildings to provide a further 10,915 new primary and secondary school places.

This investment will ensure a school place for every child in Hampshire, while boosting jobs and the local economy, and maintaining Hampshire's high position in parental choice. £122 million is also set aside for major repairs, maintenance and improvements to schools and other public spaces. £109 million has been earmarked for structural maintenance of roads and bridges, with £100million scheduled for integrated transport schemes to improve access to key employment areas, and smaller local projects to improve safety and traffic flow on the roads. This includes seven major infrastructure schemes totalling £85million.

Schools Funding

The new funding formula for national schools consultation runs until the end of March. To help inform our response, County Councils' Network (CCN) has circulated a survey to member councils for cabinet members for education and children's services to complete by the end of this week.

Chairman's signature

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Emerging CCN analysis suggests that while the majority of county authorities see uplift in funding, because any increase and decrease is capped at 3%, the total 'gain' is not enough, as historical discrepancies have not been addressed. The new formula is also based on a regressive methodology, rather than need or cost drivers. Moreover, sector analysis suggests that over 1,000 rural schools will have their budgets cut as they do not benefit from the 'sparsity' factor. CCN will work with DfE to highlight these dependencies, while we have high-profile media with BBC News and Countryfile Magazine planned to press this messaging.

Scam Warning

Hampshire County Council's Trading Standards service is reminding residents to be alert to cold callers. The latest scam involves a cold caller purporting to be from the Office of Fair Trading investigating a company that had done work at the target resident's address and saying that the householder may be due compensation, but demanding a contribution toward court costs. Residents are advised not to rely on identity cards as proof the caller is genuine as it is always best to make independent enquiries using a telephone number sourced independently. Information provided by cold callers, such as telephone numbers, should not be relied upon when making checks.

Consumers have statutory rights when buying at the door, including a 14-day right to cancel contracts for goods and services worth over £42, the right to a refund, replacement or repair if goods are faulty, falsely described or not fit for purpose. However, these rights can only be exercised if the seller is a trader who gives correct contact information. Trading Standards recommends residents do not buy goods at the door. Members of the county council's 'Buy with Confidence' scheme are audited to ensure their trading practices are legal, honest and fair. Details can be obtained by calling 01962 833620 or via www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk.

Anyone with information about cold callers or who requires advice on doorstep crime should call 01962 833666 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm). Outside those hours, call the police on 101 or 999, if intimidated.

Cllr Roger Huxstep. Member for Meon Valley Division 28th March 2017

Cllr McWhirter asked Cllr Huxstep some supplementary questions regarding highways works in Tichborne. These works are at Ladycroft, along Riverside Farm Lane towards the Village centre and along the road towards Sevington. He was keen to learn the process involved in identifying the need to provide passing places between Sevington and the Village centre.

Cllr Huxstep was asked to investigate the process and report back.

17/68) Public Session.

Andy Joyce reported that the Tichborne Park Cricket Club has now completed their lease discussions with the trustees of the Tichborne Estate and the lease was now ready for signing. Now that the lease was ready for signing the Club could now concentrate on the design and construction materials of the new pavilion. Construction will not now commence until Autumn 2018.

Funding for the project continues to be raised with new grant funding streams being identified.

The Clerk reminded Mr Joyce that when the lease was signed that it should then be registered with the Land Registry.

17/69) Finance and Orders for Payment.

a) The Clerk proposed the following orders for payment as follows:

V495 Alresford Golf Club room hire 28th March 2017. £20.00p
V496 B.V.Gibbs Expenses July 2016 - March 2017. £78.59p
V497 B.V.Gibbs Salary Nov-Dec 2016. £148.00p
V498 B.V.Gibbs Salary Jan-Feb 2017. £148.00p

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve these orders for payment.

Chairman's signature

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b) Payroll Services.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the payroll provider used to process the Clerk's wages had recent written to him asking for a minute to be recorded by the Parish Council for her services to be re-appointed.

Cllr Kinder proposed and Cllr Curtis seconded the proposal and it was **resolved** that Mrs Diane Malley MAAT be re-appointed as the Parish Council's payroll provider.

c) Grant applications 2017-18.

At the meeting in January 2017 Cllr Raimes said that an application should be expected from the Alresford & District Agricultural Committee for a grant to support the promotion of the Alresford Show. He had proposed that the sum of £250 should be earmarked within the budget for consideration when an application was received.

As the Alresford & District Agricultural Committee had now submitted a grant application Cllr Raimes proposed approving the allocation of money for this grant application in full.

Cllr Curtis seconded this proposal and it was unanimously **resolved** to approve the grant of £250 to support the educational aspirations of the Alresford Show.

d) Insurance Policy Review.

Cllr McWhirter had recently reviewed the Parish Council's insurance policy. He had inspected the document as part of the Parish Council's annual Financial Risk Assessment. He concluded that the policy was fit for purpose and provided sufficient cover for the Parish Council's current insurance needs.

He commented that the two risks that apply to the Parish Council were those of corporate manslaughter and any environmental liabilities that may arise from the Parish Council's maintenance of the village green.

The Clerk confirmed that he would update the Parish Council's Financial Risk Assessment document to reflect the fact that the review had been completed.

e) Boomtown Community Fund.

In 2016 the BoomTown Fair organisers decided to start up a Community Support Fund, dedicated to the Parishes bordering the festival site for them to put towards charities, good causes, community groups or other charitable fund raising projects that will bring benefit to their communities.

This year the BoomTown Fair has match funded the guest list donations to pass the sum £10,000 to the Community Support Fund 2016. This equates to £2,000 donated to each parish to distribute to local causes.

The Parish Council has now received approval for the sum of £2000 to be paid to it and has been asked to invoice the Boomtown Company for this amount.

It was proposed that this topic becomes one of the themes discussed during the forthcoming Annual Parish Assembly.

f) Bank Statements.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's bank account contained the sum of £14,931.54 as at 16th September 2016 and £14,257.64 as at 30th September 2016.

g) VAT refund.

The Clerk informed the meeting that HMRC had recently repaid the sum of £95.28 in to the Parish Council's bank account arising from a VAT refund claim.

Chairman's signature

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17/70) The Parish Council received the following correspondence.

The Democratic Services team at Winchester City Council has recently written to all Parish Councils in Winchester asking that they note two amendments 2012 Members Code of Conduct regarding corrections to the cross referencing within the code itself.

The amendments were **noted** as follows

Part 9 (Effect of Prejudicial Interests on Participation) 1.1 now refers to paragraph 1.2 rather than 2.2.

Part 9 (Effect of Prejudicial Interests on Participation) 1.3 also now refers to paragraph 1.2 rather than 2.2.

Other correspondence received included a request from parishioners regarding noise from the A31 Alresford by-pass and the Gypsy & Traveller site allocation consultation.

Cllr McWhirter declared a personal interest in the following item of correspondence.

A letter had been received from the Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service. This organisation is a local charity based in Winchester providing counselling services to local people aged 18 and over. The purpose of the letter was to seek grant funding from parish councils in the Winchester district. Cllr Raimes asked for this correspondence to be received as a grant application at the next meeting in May.

17/71) Planning & Licensing.

a) Planning applications and decisions received from the South Downs National Park Authority.

SDNP/16/03892/HOUS Address Goose Cottage Riverside Farm Lane Tichborne SO24 0NA

Proposal: Replacement of existing dilapidated shed with new enlarged shed

The Parish Council of Tichborne has NO OBJECTION to this proposal

SDNP/16/05788/HOUS Goose Cottage Riverside Farm Lane Tichborne SO24 0NA

Proposal: Extensions including internal and external alterations.

The Parish Council of Tichborne has NO OBJECTION to the proposal

SDNP/17/01225/HOUS Tichborne House Riverside Farm Lane Tichborne SO24 0NA

Proposal: Repositioning of external staircase & interior alterations

The Parish Council of Tichborne has NO OBJECTION to this proposal.

SDNP/17/01226/LIS Tichborne House Riverside Farm Lane Tichborne SO24 0NA

Proposal: Repositioning of External Staircase & Interior Alterations

The Parish Council of Tichborne has NO OBJECTION to this proposal

b) Planning applications and decisions received from Winchester City Council.

17/00083/HOU 2 Alma Cottages Ladycroft Alresford Hampshire SO24 0QR

Proposal: To create a driveway for one vehicle at the front of the property.

The Parish Council of Tichborne has NO OBJECTION to this proposal

Chairman's signature

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17/72) Environment, Highways & Transport.

a) Cllr Curtis told everyone that the Lengthsman had visited in February and that the village green crocuses and snowdrops had remained un-cut as requested. The team were next due to visit in the spring of 2017.

b) After consulting the residents of Bakeland Gardens it was **noted** that the residents did not wish to see a community notice board erected on their public open spaces.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.41pm.

Members of the Tichborne Parish Council are summoned to the Annual Council Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Tuesday 23rd May 2017 at the Alresford Golf Club beginning at 6.30pm.

Brendan Gibbs

Clerk to the Parish Council of Tichborne.

Chairman's signature

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