

MINUTES of the MEETING of WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)
Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13th March 2024 in the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney

Present: Cllr Pauline Maunder (Chairman), Cllr Rob Parker, Cllr Judith Polak, Cllr David Price, Cllr Kevin Maunder, Cllr Georgina Tibbetts, Cllr Andrew Porteous (following co-option (at 7.35pm).
 In attendance: HCCllr Jackie Porter, WCCllr Stephen Godfrey.
 Public 4
 Clerk Jocelyn Jenkins

2239	1.1	Apologies for Absence WCCllr Caroline Horrill.	Closed	
2240	1.2	Any Declarations of Interest to be declared/dispensations agreed. Cllr Parker declared an interest in respect of the land at Brightlands which has been included in the updated SHELAA. Cllrs Pauline and Kevin Maunder declared an interest at 2246.7 below.	Closed	
2241	1.3	Minutes of the meeting of 14 th February 2024 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	Closed	
2242	1.4	Co-option It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Andrew Porteous to the Parish Council.		
	2	<u>Reports – the meeting adjourned during reports.</u>		
	2.1	The Public: <u>Richard Solomons, Gratton Trust</u> Richard drew attention to four matters relating to the Gratton Trust: 1. <u>Perimeter path</u> The path is now in a very poor condition. Three quotes have been obtained for the restoration of the path using self-binding gravel. These range from £15.9 thousand to £25.5 thousand pounds and grants are being sought towards the cost. The possibility of carrying out the work in stages will be explored. 2. <u>Solar panels</u> £15,000 in grants has been obtained against an anticipated cost of £21,000. Cllr Polak suggested that the surgery may contribute towards the cost as they share the digester which is potentially the main user of electricity. 3. <u>Exit from the car park</u> A large pothole has developed. WCCllr Godfrey has been advised by Highways that it would be a major project to repair. HCCllr Porter noted that she has already reported the poor state of the roundabout and adjacent road and that it might be possible to get the entrance repaired at the same time but that planning permission should be applied for now (from WCC) so that it would be in place when work was scheduled. Richard will supply a drawing of the proposed wider splay for the Clerk to use in making the planning application. 4. Permission has been sought for a memorial tree to be planted on the Gratton. It was agreed that a small or ornamental tree could be planted but not large trees which could lead to future maintenance costs.		
	2.2	Report from HCCllr Jackie Porter: HCCllr Porter provided a written report (Appendix 1) which explains the 4.99% increase to Council Tax, changes to school transport and reporting of road issues, flooding and footpath problems. HCCllr Porter also drew attention to her response to the HCC Minerals and Waste Plan, where she has questioned the need for waste sites to always remain as waste sites.		
	2.3	Report from WCCllr Stephen Godfrey: The City Council have set their budget. There is a 2.7% increase to Council Tax plus increases in charges for other services. WCC are currently financially secure but the future is less certain. More tours of the Sir John Moore development site are to be offered in the early summer. WCCllr Godfrey emphasised that this is an important site for new home development but also for ecology and that while there will be an impact there will also be benefits. A concept masterplan is to be delivered later this year for the central Winchester regeneration around Friarsgate. The surgery has now been demolished which has opened up views to the river. Elections are to be held on 2 nd May and the pre-election period of purdah starts next week. A Flood Action Group (FLAG) meeting was held last night.		
		The meeting resumed after reports.		
2243	3	<u>Correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting</u>		

		The Council discussed and agreed actions for the following issues:				
2243.1	3.1	Lower Norton Farm – Traffic signs have not been collected from Norton Lane following work a few months ago. HCCllr Porter advised to report as fly tipping.			Clerk	
2243.2	3.2	Free framed portrait of King Charles – The Parish Council can claim one framed portrait. It was confirmed that the Victoria Hall would like the portrait.			Clerk	
2243.3	3.3	HALC County Policy Forum – This is being set up to provide updates, share best practice, network etc. Noted.			Closed	
2243.4	3.4	NALC Briefing on email addresses and website names – It was agreed that the Parish Council should seek to follow the revised guidance. Agenda item for April.			Clerk	
		Matters arising from the minutes of 14th February 2024.				
		The Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following issues:				
2244	4	General Matters				
2244.1	2233.1	Gratton Trust – See 2.1 above.				
2244.2	2233.2	Emergency & Flood Plans – HCC have confirmed their ownership of Bogmoor Sump and will maintain this moving forward. It will be added to the yearly vegetation clearing programme and a yearly inspection will be undertaken to see if excavation works are required. The Flood Action Group (FLAG) have made some purchases of equipment, from the grant provided by the Parish Council, to be used in the event of flooding in the parish. <u>Community Emergency Plan</u> Cllrs Kevin Maunder and Rob Parker have worked to update the detail in the plan and an updated copy will be circulated before being submitted to HCC for approval.			Clerk	
2244.3	2233.3	Village Greening Campaign/WeCan/Declaration of a Climate Emergency – Stuart Mills of Winchester Climate Action Network (WeCAN) will be speaking at the Micheldever Parish Assembly on Wednesday 17 th April about how communities can take practical steps to reduce their carbon footprint.				
2245	5	PLAY AREAS Council discussed and agreed actions for the following:				
2245.1	2234.1	Stoke Charity/Hunton Play Area (STCH&H) – Monthly Inspection No new issues identified. It was noted that the play area is currently water logged.			Clerk	
2245.2	2234.2	Pigeonhouse Yard (PHY) Play Area – No new issues identified. The condition of the slide unit continues to be monitored. <u>Soakaway</u> – WCCllr Horrill agreed in February to contact the PHY agent for an update on the soakaway and this is awaited.			Clerk	
2246	6	HIGHWAYS ISSUES - FOOTPATHS, GRIT BINS etc Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following:				
2246.1	2235.1	Footpath 7 Access – HCCllr Porter will be raising the grant refusal at a meeting later this week.				
2246.2	2235.2	Footpaths & Bridleways – HCCllr Porter advised that the signage at Barton Drove is inadequate and is to be improved. She also noted that the A34 services are seeking to put a solar farm on the adjacent field and wanted to use the Right of Way as an access road but the HCC Officer thought that access should instead be on the edge of the field.				
2246.3	2235.3	Noticeboards – The noticeboards at the bus stop on Oxford Road and at Gratton Close both require repairs. The possibility of asking the Men's Shed to undertake repairs was discussed. This would involve removing the boards and delivering them to the Men's Shed and Cllr Kevin Maunder will therefore look at the boards to see whether this is feasible.				
2246.4	2235.4	SID – The device was in Egypt during February. The data shows that speeds were lower than during July 2023 but this may be due to the amount of surface water on the road. HCC have been contacted about an additional site for the device on Bullington Lane.				
2246.5	2235.5	Oxford Road – An update is awaited on the proposed village gateways.				
2246.6	New	Litterpickers – The annual risk assessment letters have been issued. Vouchers for the litterpickers were discussed. Cllrs Pauline and Kevin Maunder declared an interest and did not participate in the discussion or decision. It was agreed to present the litterpickers with a £25 voucher each at the Parish Assembly.				
2247	7	PLANNING				
		New applications detailed below were considered and agreed as follows:				
2247.1	717	3 New Cottages, Wonston Road, Wonston.	Change in materials to exterior, change to rear fenestration & window to be added to side elevation.	24/00491/NMA Support		
2247.2	2236.1	Winchester Local Plan – Adrian Fox (WCC Strategic Planning Manager) has asked to meet again with representatives from the Parish Council in relation to housing allocations. A response has been made in opposition to the inclusion of 'Popham Garden Village; in the Basingstoke and Deane Regulation 18 Local Plan.				
2247.3	2236.2	Village Design Statement – Margaret Sandford will be making a presentation about the VDS at the Parish Assembly. See 2249.3 below.				
2247.4	2236.3	Southern Water Pipeline – Data on the pipeline and its capacity has been provided to Adrian Fox and shared with the Parish Council.				

2248	8	ACCOUNTS/AUDIT																													
2248.1	2237.1	Balances: As at 29/02/24 General Reserves are £86,738.55 but after Earmarked Reserves of £77,255.25 are £9,483.30. Payments for March (detailed below) totalling £2928.88 were agreed by the Council.	Closed																												
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2248.2	New	Asset Register – The updated asset register was reviewed and accepted with a minor change to more clearly show the value of assets insured.																													
2249	9	Other Council Matters																													
2249.1	2238.1	Publicity & Communications – <u>West Dever News item</u> – Promote Parish Assembly, VDS presentation and Margaret’s Mayor’s Award. <u>Facebook page</u> – There are technical difficulties in operating the current Parish Council Facebook page. Options were discussed and Cllrs Parker and Porteous will review these for further consideration at the April meeting.																													
2249.2	2238.2	Risk Management – The updated Risk Assessment for 2024/25 was agreed and signed by the Chairman.																													
2249.3	New	Parish Assembly, 9 th May 2024 – VDS presentation confirmed, a representative from the surgery will also attend with a short presentation.																													
9.25pm		Next meeting – Wednesday 10 th April 2024 at 7.30pm in the meeting room of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney.																													
Signed: Chairman dated.....																															