

TICHBORNE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Tichborne Parish Council held
via MS Teams at 6.30pm on Thursday 11th March 2021.

21/36) Apologies.

Mr R Foot	Councillor
Mr R Humby	County Councillor

Present.

Mr R Raimes	Chairman
Mr J French-Brooks	Councillor
Mrs G Hugh	Councillor
Mr N Kinder	Councillor
Mr A McWhirter	Councillor
Mr A Stewart	Councillor
Mr H Lumby	District Councillor
Mr L Ruffell	District Councillor
Mr B Gibbs	Clerk

One member of the public.

21/37) Waiver of six-month councillor attendance rule (Section 85 Local Government Act 1972).

Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 requires a member of a Local Authority to attend at least one meeting of that Authority within a six-month consecutive period, in order to avoid being disqualified as a Councillor.

This requirement can be waived and the time limit extended if any failure to attend was due to a reason approved by the Authority in advance of the six-month period expiring.

Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 states that *“if a member of a Local Authority fails, throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of their last attendance, to attend any meeting of the Authority they will, unless the failure was due to some good reason approved by the Authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the Authority.”* Attendance can be at any committee or sub-committee, or any joint committee, joint board or other body where the functions of the Authority are discharged.

Prior to the meeting Cllr Foot had sent his apologies as he was unable to attend this meeting due to changed work commitments as a result of the Covid-19 emergency.

The waiver of the six-month councillor attendance rule (Section 85 Local Government Act 1972) in respect of Cllr Foot was proposed by Cllr Raimes and seconded by Cllr Kinder.

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve this proposal.

21/38) Declarations of Interest.

a) None recorded.

21/39) Minutes of the last ordinary meeting of Tichborne Parish Council held on 3rd December 2020 (Previously circulated).

Chairman's signature

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It was noted that both the 2021-22 budget and precept had been approved at the meeting of the 3rd December 2020. However, the final precept figure was only calculated once the tax base had been received from Winchester City Council after the meeting took place.

It was **resolved** to include a minute recording this figure into the body of the 3rd December 2020 minutes as follows.

Following this decision the final figures from Winchester City Council was published in early January 2021 as follows.

The tax base for Titchborne in 2021-22 is now 117.66. Factoring in the approved 2% reduction this means that the Band D rate for Titchborne has been reduced to £35.86. The Parish Council therefore sought a contribution of £4,219.00 from Winchester City Council for 2021-22. This will have the effect of reducing the precept by £86.00 for the year.

Cllr Raimes proposed and Cllr Kinder seconded the proposal that the minutes of the last ordinary meeting of Titchborne Parish Council held on the 3rd December 2020 be approved.

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

21/40) Public Session

a) There was no requirement for a public session.

21/41) Reports by the County and District Councillors.

Cllrs Ruffell and Lumby presented a report (previously circulated) and asked if there were any questions. The main points are as follows.

Local Plan consultation: Winchester City Council has now launched its consultation on a Strategic Issues & Priorities document as part of developing its new 15-year Local Plan for the Winchester District. The consultation will run until Monday 12 April.

As previously mentioned, the Local Plan excludes the South Downs National Park, which has its own Local Plan. However, although it will not apply in most of this area, parishes may wish to consider the contents as it will impact on any parts of their parish outside the National Park and could affect neighbouring areas.

Council tax and charging increases: Winchester City Council's share of the Council Tax for the next financial year was approved at the full meeting of Council held on 24th February. The tax is to increase by 3%.

All other fees and charges will also be increased by an average of 3%. The exception is parking charges (as these were increased in October 2020) and the newly introduced charge for collecting garden waste.

The budget also contains a number of cost saving measures, including a reduction of 3.5 posts in the planning team.

Boomtown update: Last year's Boomtown Festival was cancelled as the result of the pandemic. No final decision has been taken yet on this year's festival. The organisers, Boomtown Festivals Ltd (BFL) are in dialogue with Winchester City Council officers with the expectation of going ahead. However, this will depend on a range of factors relating to the pandemic, both nationally and locally, including any restrictions in place during August which could prevent the event from taking place. It may also be the case that if the picture for August remains too uncertain over the next few months, BFL will have to make a decision whether or not to proceed well advance of the festival date.

It is for BFL to plan its own response to Covid. Our officers, working with the Director of Public Health, will be assessing Boomtown's proposals in detail in relation to the pandemic.

Chairman's signature

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Collectively they will be working closely with the event organisers to ensure that the appropriate Covid secure measures are considered and adopted, in line with national guidance and the lockdown restrictions in place at the time. If the event cannot be delivered in a 'Covid secure' way, then council officers will, in consultation with their public health colleagues, liaise with BFL and, if needs be, take action to prevent the event from taking place.

BFL have also recently submitted a planning application to South Downs National Park Authority to increase their currently permitted numbers to 74 999 with an additional 1000 Sunday tickets for locals. They have also applied for their current temporary consent for the festival to be made permanent. Details of the planning application can be viewed on the National Park website.

Cllr Lumby was asked a question about the reduction in the number of officers in the Planning department. He commented that many members of the City Council thought this was a false economy and the savings made (£149,000) would not make a great deal of difference to the overall budget but would make a difference in the increased workload of the department. This would be especially so in the planning enforcement section.

21/42) Finance and Orders for Payment.

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve this proposal.

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

V615 B.V.Gibbs Salary Nov-Dec 2020. £161.60.

V616 B.V.Gibbs Salary Jan-Feb 2021. £161.60.

V617 B.V.HMRC pre-payment PAYE/NIC £82.92.

V618 R Raimes. Defibrillator expenses £50.00.

V619 R Raimes. Defibrillator parts £57.00.

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve these orders for payment.

b) The Clerk spoke about the 2021-22 budget that had been agreed at the December meeting. Further discussion took place about the amount of money to set aside for ongoing maintenance of the community defibrillator.

Cllr Raimes proposed and Cllr Kinder seconded the proposal that a figure of £100 be earmarked for the next year's community defibrillator expenditure.

c) The Parish Council had approved a 2% decrease in the precept at its December meeting without waiting for the delayed 2021-22 tax base to be published. The final figures from Winchester City Council were published in early January 2021 as follows.

The 2021-22 tax base for Titchborne is 117.66. Factoring in the approved 2% reduction this means that the Band D rate for Titchborne has been reduced to £35.86. The Parish Council therefore sought a contribution of £4,219.00 from Winchester City Council for 2021-22. This will have the effect of reducing the precept by £86.00 for the year.

c) To review the Financial Risk Assessment for 2020-21.

The Clerk said he would be updating the Financial Risk Assessment for uploading on to the Parish Council's website once the Parish Council had accepted the amendments made to this year's document. These included listing the S137 fund at £1,555.84p at a rate of £8.32p per elector multiplied by the number of electors (187).

The Clerk also said that it was time to review the Parish Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

In addition the Clerk requested a review of his salary.

A VAT claim for £31.93 has been submitted.

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve the amendments and publish the document on the website.

Chairman's signature

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21/43) Planning & Licensing.

a) Planning applications and decisions received from The South Downs NPA

SDNP/21/00609/TCA: Tichborne House Riverside Farm Lane Tichborne SO24 0NA

Fell Conifer trees marked on aerial plan (plus 3 Pines itemised P and one clump of ash). The conifers are either dying or overcrowding the neighbouring trees (predominantly oak/yew or cherry). They were planted in the 70s with no consideration for their final size. Once cleared I will Plant 1 tulip tree and 1 London plane. Replanting has already been undertaken in boundary where there is more open space, 3 Fagus, 5 Tilia and 3 prunus avium.

The Parish Council of Tichborne has **no objection** to this proposal.

SDNP/21/00290/FUL: Matterley Farm Alresford Road Ovington Winchester Hampshire SO24 0HU.

A change of use of land from agriculture to mixed agriculture and holding of one music festival event for a number of attendees not exceeding 75,999 (plus 1,000 attendees on the Sunday for local residents) in any calendar year including retention of wooden structures within woodland and minor alterations to existing access on A31, both associated with festival use. Storage containers (storage use associated with music event) on site throughout rest of the year.

The Parish Council asked the Clerk to post a preliminary comment in order to meet the statutory deadline for representations. It was noted that Cllr McWhirter would also be submitting his own detailed comments to the Local Planning Authority that the Parish Council may wish to support.

The Parish Council of Tichborne resolved to raise an **objection** to this proposal. Between meetings the following comments were submitted to the South Downs NPA.

The SDNPA commented that it could not grant permanent permission in 2019 and required a number of years in order to properly assess the ecological impact of the event upon the site and the locality.

The decision notice was issued on the 17th December 2019 after that year's event.

As there was no Boomtown Fair in 2020 The Parish Council takes the view that the proposed assessment period has yet to commence.

The Parish Council therefore asks that the current application be refused as the situation that existed in 2019 still applies.

If it is so minded to accept the principle of development, it is hoped that the LPA will not consider granting any permanent permissions.

The Parish Council is grateful for all the work undertaken by our colleagues at Cheriton Parish Council and Mr Anthony McWhirter (also a councillor at Tichborne) in providing material planning considerations for objecting to the proposal.

The Parish Council is in full agreement with the objections raised by them in the documents already published on the SDNPA planning portal.

Over the years the Parish Council has seen a significant amount of planning creep with regard to the site.

We have also seen a similar effect with regard to the associated licensing applications.

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

There were no applications to receive.

Chairman's signature

date

21/44) Environment, Highways & Transport.

a) The Clerk said that he had recently signed the 2021-22 Lengthsman agreement and had returned this to the Clerk of Soberton Parish Council. At the same time the Clerk raised the Parish Council's concerns about the lack of contact with councillors in advance of the visit and also the length of time spent in the village. The Clerk was again asked to ensure that contact was made in a timely manner.

b) There were no reports to be received regarding Boomtown Fair.

21/45) Correspondence.

Further correspondence regarding Southampton International Airport's planning application has been received. There was also some correspondence about two Supplementary Planning Documents concerning the South Downs National Park Authority's Local Plan.

This information was **noted** by the Parish Council.

21/46) Tichborne 2000 publication. A discussion took place regarding the viability of the project. Further information was requested from Hampshire Printing Services regarding the format of the files held by them.

21/47) Reports that the Chairman deems urgent – NO DECISIONS to be made.

There were no reports to receive.

21/48) Exempt Business: To pass a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from the discussion of the following matters where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve this.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.43pm.

Members of the Tichborne Parish Council are summoned to the Annual Council Meeting of the Parish Council to be held at Grange Farm, Tichborne on Tuesday 25th May at 7.00pm.

**Brendan Gibbs,
Clerk to the Parish Council of Tichborne.**

Chairman's signature

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