

AWBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of The Council held on Thursday, 28th September 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Allen (**PA**) (Chair), Daley (**CD**), Hawthorne (**AH**), Jackson (**GJ**), Legon (**PL**) Wheeler (SW)

In attendance: 8 Members of the public, TVBC Cllrs Nick Adams-King (**NAK**), Gordon Bailey (**GB**)

Apologies: HCC Councillor Roy Perry

Clerk: Ian Milsom

Action

1. 17/092 **Welcome and apologies for absence**

Apologies accepted from Cllr Jones

PA Welcomed Graham Smith, Head of Planning Policy, Test Valley Borough Council.

2. 17/093 **Declarations of interest**

Cllr Jackson declared an interest in planning item 17/100 i

3. 17/094 **Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)**

To receive a report from the NDP working group and to decide next steps.

CD introduced Kerry Daley (**KD**) and Vicki Maddison (**VM**), who have been working every 2 weeks for the last few months scoping the process of producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (**NDP**).

KD and **VM** delivered a PowerPoint presentation, a key feature of which was a depiction of wheeled cogs representing the many Inter-connected NDP stakeholders, and the themes involved in producing a plan. The list of stakeholders will firm up as the process advances. The three main themes are:

- getting started
- understand the community, via use of parish council website, ADVA newsletter, graffiti/talk walls
- producing a draft plan

Other key elements of the presentation were:

The Awbridge NDP is a two-year project, with a target completion date of August 2019

The NDP will provide a voice for the village and enable residents to influence how they wish to see their community developing in the future.

Key objectives: a survey of residents, primarily online, but

supported by face-to-face contact to achieve a target coverage of 50% of residents; establish a steering group, have advertised this without much response so far, but hoping that this will pick up.

Cost. Around £13,000 to produce plan. Funding available up to £9,000. Up-front costs will include survey tools (e.g. Survey Monkey), printing literature and advertising

Support from other sources in cash and kind. Test Valley Borough Council, 7.5 hours of free consultation time, and general support. Parish Council (PC), can it provide cash support of £2,000 and access to information held about the attempt in 2014 to kick-start a neighbourhood plan? Also push out updates to the community? Could PC approach ADVA regarding free advertising in ADVA News, and the Village Hall Committee regarding a cash contribution and free use of the hall facilities (e.g. for public meetings?

PA asked Grahame Smith (**GS**) if there was anything he could add. **GS** advised that the £13,000 cost of a NDP was a figure produced by the government. The cost could be more, depending on what is in the plan. There is a locality grant for neighbourhood planning which can partly offset the cost. Good that **KD** and **VM** are engaging with the community, and the two-year timeframe they have put forward is realistic. There is likely to be more support from TVBC than the basic 7.5 hours, which is for technical support, e.g. printing maps. TVBC will in addition carry out a housing needs survey, which will be part of the NDP. **GS** recommended talking to other parish councils in the area who have produced NDP's or are in the process of doing so, and he will provide contacts.

CD asked if the parish council should now agree the extent of its support. **GS** advised that this was not necessary. However, the Council should indicate its support for the NDP, as it is a document that will be owned by the Council. In response to a question from **GJ**, **GS** confirmed that a key step in the process will be to the endorsement of the area covered by the NDP.

**Clerk/
Full
Council**

PA extended the Council's thanks to **KD** and **VM** for all their hard work to date, and to **GS** for attending the meeting and providing additional information and guidance.

4. 17/095 Traffic Calming

To discuss and agree the measures to be moved forward.

CD provided a summary of what had been discussed previously, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation that was delivered at the August 2017 parish council meeting. **CD** reiterated the need to focus on what is achievable, not what we want or like.

CD explained about flashing light speed signs and what they can achieve in terms of accident reduction. Is willing to convey this information to parents with children attending Awbridge Primary

School. Advised that Hampshire County Councillor Roy Perry is supportive of this approach. Hampshire County Council has a programme of supporting traffic calming measures.

Road safety during school run. School will be more proactive and already staff have been out in high visibility jackets speaking to parents and advising them of safe practice. There is now a school crossing operative, who is engaging with drivers of commercial vehicles, asking them to avoid school run times where possible.

Awbridge Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) will lend support by following up reports of bad driving/speeding.

GB – Wellow has 25mph advisory speed limit. Vehicles cannot achieve this speed due to sheer volume of traffic. Will establish whether financial support from TVBC Councillor Grant Programme is possible.

A member of the public queried whether the signs were worth the money, given the relatively short duration of the twice-daily school run.

CD proposed moving ahead in principle with flashing advisory speed signs. Seconded by **AH**. **Resolved.**

It was agreed that costings should be obtained from both the public and private sectors, and it should be established if planning permission is required. **CD** agreed to bring costings to the November 2017 meeting.

CD

5. 17/096 Hampshire County Councillor, Test Valley Borough Councillor, PCSO and Clerk's reports

NAK – Verbal report covered:

Forthcoming community governance review, looking at parish councils and boundaries over the next year, with view to having in place by next general election. Will examine if there is an opportunity to absorb Romsey Extra into Awbridge.

Parish Council Planning Workshop at Stockbridge Town Hall on Wednesday, 4th October 2017. Briefing for parish councils on local plan. **PA** and **AH** agreed to attend.

PA/AH

Planning applications. Banksia – change to original plans. Height of ridges and windows. Largely a design issue, height of properties will not change.

PA raised concern at height of access road. **NAK** – Planning department are monitoring, height will not change from original plan.

Danes Road Proposal. **AH** recently met with agent. Included in discussions were how prospective developer could engage with Awbridge NDP at the appropriate time.

SW raised the possible closure of the Bunny Lane recycling centre. **NAK** advised that this is a Hampshire County Council (HCC) issue. HCC talking about closing half of recycling sites, resulting in one per area. Test Valley currently has two. Not certain that Bunny Lane will be the one to close, HCC will have to go to public consultation on the final proposals. **NAK** suggested contacting Councillor Roy Perry in his capacity as the locality County Councillor, and participating in forthcoming public consultation.

**Full
Council**

HCC Councillor Roy Perry written report – See Appendix 4.

Clerk - verbal report Covered the following:

- HMRC have advised that from 15 December 2017, payment at PAYE at Post Offices will be discontinued and payments will have to be made by Direct Debit, or online/telephone banking.
- Letter received from Caroline Nokes MP concerning poor mobile coverage. Pass any details to ryan.sutton@parliament.uk
- Community Policing Priorities Online Consultation www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/o11o17TV Closes 28 October 2017
- PCSO enquiry regarding arrangements for Remembrance Day
- Grant applications received from Victim Support and All Saints, Awbridge.

6. 17/097 Minutes

- i. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17th August 2017.

It was proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record of the business conducted. **Resolved.**

- ii. Information update on items from the meeting on 17th August 2017 not on the agenda
 - Councillors ID Cards
GJ will take Members' photographs at the Planning Committee meeting scheduled for 19th October 2017. **GJ**
 - Obscured road traffic sign on Danes Road
Parishioner volunteered to deal with.
 - Footpaths at Cowleas Cottages
GJ advised that condition of footpaths has been raised with HCC Highways and chased up. Also,

specific repair requested where resident recently had trip fall.

Increasing number of vehicles accessing Cowleas properties and the approach of winter will cause more damage to footpath surfaces, and damage to remaining grass verges through inappropriate parking.

Chase again with Highways Engineer.

Clerk

- Community Speed Watch (CSW)
PA led discussion looking at advantages and the barriers to implementation, mainly lack of volunteers.

It was agreed that CSW is not a feasible approach for Awbridge and it was proposed that it be removed from the list of traffic calming options.

Resolved

- Roke Manor Liaison Meeting – Postponed until 29/10/17

PA

7. 17/098 Public observations/questions on agenda items

To suspend the business of the Council to allow members of the public to make observations or put questions to the Council about items on the agenda.

A parishioner raised the condition of the footpaths at Cowleas Cottages. A member of his family recently had a fall due to the uneven footpath surface. First raised the condition of the footpath five years ago. Parishioner advised of the option to submit an injury claim to HCC.

8. 17/099 i. Highways/Footpaths/Lengthsman

To receive information from Members and from the public concerning any issues with highways and footpaths. This was covered under item 17/098.

No further issues raised.

- ii. To agree tasks for the Lengthsman in November 2017. It was agreed that Members will notify the clerk of any works required by Friday, 20th October 2017
- iii. National Highways and Transport (NHT) Parish Council Satisfaction Survey 2017. It was proposed that the parish council will respond to this online consultation. **Resolved.**
GJ agreed to complete the questionnaire.

ALL

GJ

9. 17/100 Planning

- I. To consider planning applications notified to the Council

Application 17/02126/FULLS
 Land to the rear of Springfield
 Erection of a stable block with a permeable track

Clerk

It was proposed that Council's response should be 'No Objection', with the addition of the following comments:

'The Council does have concerns relating to non-equestrian vehicles accessing/parking on the site, and light pollution, and asks that appropriate conditions which address these issues are added to any permission granted'.

- ii. Danes Road Proposal. To review current situation and to consider any action required by Council
 This was discussed under 17/096. No further action pending housing needs survey as part of NDP.
- iii. Update on previous applications – See appendix 1

10. 17/101 Southern Water (SW)

To discuss:

- i. SW's offer of a sum of money towards a community project as recognition of the disruption and inconvenience caused during their works.

Following discussion, it was proposed that the Council contact Southern Water to request that the donation be increased to £5,000. **Resolved.**

Clerk

- ii. What the SW donation might be spent on.
 Two options were identified, the traffic calming flashing signs and the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Options will be discussed further on receipt of Southern Water's response to the request for an increased donation.

Clerk

11. 17/102 Financial and Administrative

- i. Update on bank account signatories. The necessary paperwork has now been received from Barclays Bank. The clerk will write to those Members who are to be added to the new bank mandate, explaining what is required of them.

Clerk

- ii. To approve and accept the 2016/17 annual report and the external auditor's certificate

It was proposed that the 2016/17 annual report and the external auditor's certificate be approved and accepted.
Resolved

- iii. Bank reconciliation at 18 August 2017. This was approved and signed by the Chair– see appendix 2

iv. Cheque payments detailed at Appendix 3 were authorised.

12. 17/103 Date of next ordinary meeting of Council and items for the agenda

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 9th November 2017, commencing at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

All

A meeting of the Parish Council Planning Committee is scheduled for Thursday, 19th October 2017.

All

Signed:

Date:

Designation:

APPENDIX 1

Planning Update

Reference	Address	Details	Decision
17/01597/FULLS	Berriedael Church Lane	New site entrance gates with brick piers	Current
17/01864/TPOS	Daneswood, Danes Road	Remove 1 x small Ash	Permission subject to conditions and notes
17/01956/VARS	Banksia, Romsey Road	To Vary Condition 15 (approved plans) to replace previously approved plans	Current
17/01471/FULLS	Drogheda, Stanbridge Lane	Construction of a hexagonal garden building for use as an astronomical observatory/summerhouse	Permission subject to conditions & notes
16/02939/VARS	The Granary, Coles Farm Cottage	To Vary Condition 2 of 13/01610/FULLS (Change of use from flat for auxiliary use of dwelling house to holiday let) to allow the use of the property as assured shorthold tenancy	Planning Inspectorate appeal dismissed

APPENDIX 2

Bank Reconciliation At 18 August 2017

Community Account balance per bank statement dated 18 August 2017	£9,520.07
Business Premium Account balance per bank statement dated 1 March 2017	£6,236.14
	<u>Total</u>
	£15,756.21
Plus HMRC VAT Refund not shown on bank statement	£ 863.00
Net bank balances at 18 August 2017	<u>£16,619.21</u>

APPENDIX 3

Cheque Payments

Cheque	Amount	Payee	Detail
200175	£120.00	BDO LLP	External audit fee 2016-17
200176	£196.80	Post Office Limited	PAYE 2016-17
200177	£1007.39	I. Milsom	Salary July-Sept 2017

APPENDIX 4

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS, September 2017

ROMSEY EXTRA DIVISION

Awbridge, Chilworth, East Dene, East Tytherley, Lockerley, Michelmersh & Timsbury, Nursling & Rownhams, Plaitford, Romsey Extra, Sheffield English, Wellow, West Tytherley & Frenchmoor

1 BROADBAND:

Superfast Broadband is apparently available to more than 91% of homes and businesses in Hampshire, and we're on target to reach more than 97% by the end of 2019. I am always conscious that those overall figures do not reveal the lower coverage in rural areas- including Romsey Rural. However, the Hampshire Superfast Broadband team is working hard on BT to roll-out services as fast as possible. For example, this year alone, Romsey Rural, has seen more than 250 properties gain access to superfast services and plans are in place to upgrade at least a further 1,700 premises by 2019.

The community led Test Valley Virtual Town project achieved the sign-up levels required for Virgin Media to move to the next stage of its plans to bring fibre optic broadband to a number of villages in the area and you can read more about this on the broadband programme website:

<https://www.hampshiresuperfastbroadband.com/alternative-solutions/test-valley-virtual-town/>

There are however areas outside of the programme because they are generally more expensive to reach. That's why we've launched a Community Match Funding scheme to enable residents to pay for half the cost of installing a superfast broadband service while the council provides the other half. Two communities have already signed contracts — Silchester, near Tadley and Lepe in the New Forest. A crowd-funding facility will also be available shortly, to make the process even easier for residents and at last one community in the Romsey Rural is working with the County Council to develop its own solution.

2 ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Work in Bell Street Romsey began on Monday 4 September, and is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2018. Key dates and events have been factored into the plans, and works will be suspended on 9 September to allow for extra traffic expected in the area for the Romsey Show; and will shut down for the busy Christmas trading period from mid - November, ahead of the Winter Carnival and Christmas Lights switch-on.

3 EDUCATION

The Department for Education has introduced a new method of GCSE grading for mathematics, English language and English literature.

This summer, for the first time, results have been rated using a scale of 1-9, with 9 being at the very top of the scale. With this new system, the benchmark of performance has been significantly raised.

With two systems temporarily running in parallel for different subjects, it is also a challenge to summarise the performance of schools. That said, early indications from schools would indicate that the underlying trend in outcomes is an improvement on previous years in Hampshire. See the figures for Mountbatten, Romsey and Test Valley Schools.

4 DEVOLUTION

The result of the recent general election means that it will be difficult, and probably impossible, for the Government to progress any devolution proposals that do not have widespread local consensus. I met recently with the Minister for Devolution and he acknowledged that the Solent proposal for a mayor to be shared between Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight (and afterwards districts of South Hampshire) does not have the required level of support

The County Council has put forward proposals for better local collaboration to help boost jobs, skills and infrastructure and will work productively with all its partners — including parish councils — to bring powers and funding down to a local level.

Roy Perry September 2017