



West Tytherley, Frenchmoor & Buckholt Parish Council

Monday 08 November 2021 7:00pm in the King Edward's Hall, West Tytherley

Present: Fiona Collier (FC) Chair, Karen James (KJ), Jennie Newell (JN), Tim Koetser (TK), Nigel MacPherson (NM), and John Camilleri (JC)

Nick Adams-King (NAK) (Hampshire County Councillor, Deputy Leader TVBC and Cabinet Member for Planning)

Cllr Jane Higgins (JH) West Dean Parish Council

Alan Bannister (NDP) and 8 members of the public.

131/21 Apologies for absence:

Lucia Homer (LH). FC noted that LH is the longest serving member of the parish council and this absence is a rare event. LH has an exceptional record of attendance at meetings and had submitted an email with a report on highways and planning matters.

Deborah Hook (DH) (note) Apology received via email (sent before but not read until after the meeting)

Mel Camilleri (Clerk and RFO) is unwell and best wishes were conveyed for her speedy recovery.

132/21 Declaration of Interest: None

133/21 Minutes: the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 11th October 2021 were approved.

134/21 Public Forum: There were no matters or actions raised in the public forum

135/21 Report from Councillor Ian Jeffrey (TVBC)

Cllr Jeffrey was not present although a copy of Mid Test Matters had been received and circulated to the councillors. A copy of this publication is available on the Parish Council Website <http://www.wtparishcouncil.org/>

136/21 Report from Cllr Nick Adams-King (HCC)

A written report has been submitted to all councillors.

- Update on funding issues. NP asked if the lengthman grant was likely to be reduced. NAK was unable to confirm but re-iterated that all funding was being reviewed.
- Update on the Dean Road drain issue and gully work.
- Amenities tip there is now an increase on the number of permitted visits and changes to the booking process which give greater accessibility to the site.
- Review of funding application to GNN which support local volunteer care groups and possibility of funding from social services working group of which NAK is a member.
- A review of speed limit policy for the County. FC gave an update from the Hampshire Association Local Councils AGM which was held on 6th November 2021. A motion presented from Twyford Parish Council "Hampshire ALC requests that HCC adopts 20mph as the default speed limit for residential streets in towns, villages and rural settlements in Hampshire. Hampshire ALC also calls on HCC to

implement the new limit in such a way as to make it enforceable and to ask Hampshire Police to support all efforts to ensure compliance” was debated. An amendment to the motion was then introduced from Dummer Parish Council. It was clear that the motion would not be supported by the delegates. Hampshire ALC undertook a review by the Executive members of the wording of the motion and amendments and to further consult. It was encouraging that HCC appear willing to review the criteria for the introduction of speed limits. Whilst a 30mph is in place in the main body of the village Red Lane, Frenchmoor and Stoney Batter remain with the National Speed Limit and previous requests for 30mph have failed because of the lack of accident data, a change in policy would create opportunity for speed limits to be extended to cover these areas.

137/21

NDP: Update received from AB.

The NDP website has been updated and all are encouraged to use this as central source for up-to-date information on the NDP. Questions had been received from the Inspector and answers sent. The Inspector is active locally and AB is enjoying a good exchange and relationship. No significant flaws have been identified and the report should be completed by the end of this month (November). The referendum date is projected for early 2022. FC thanked AB for his continued commitment and endeavour.

138/21

Planning

i) Consideration to new planning applications

21/03198/LBWS 8 The Common, Dean Rd West Tytherley.

Replace door and windows on the side of rear extension.

JC outlined the plans which were a replacement to an existing structure. The application presented no change to character and was compliant with all local planning policies. JC recommended that the councillors not object to this application. It was agreed to support this application (Vote 2 X no object 4 X Support)

21/03001/TREES: Application to fell Ash at 4 North Lane.

LH had visited and had discussed with applicant enhancement (climbing rose) no further action required by PC.

(ii) TVBC consultation on the proposed revision of requirements for the validation of planning and related applications had been circulated and considered by all councillors.

139/21

Remembrance Day

(i) Councillors agreed to approve the purchase of the commemorative bench and WW1/WW2 silhouettes.

FC thanked MC and JC for sourcing the bench and silhouettes which will hopefully be delivered and in place for the 14th.

(ii) The service of remembrance will take place at the War Memorial at 10.45am Sunday 14th November 2021 following a short service at the church at 10am. Hampshire Police would be in attendance, subject to the exigencies of service. It is hoped that motorists will be respectful and not attempt to drive through those attending the act of remembrance. FC also politely requested that those using garden machinery switch off at 11am when two minutes of silence will be observed. FC updated on the work recently carried out at the war memorial and thanked DH, her husband and son for maintaining the garden, Volunteers are invited to join them on Saturday for a final tidy up. A passionate exchange then took place where a member of the public objected strongly to a proposal by FC to site a small water butt in the corner of the garden.

140/21

Recreation Ground

- (i) TK had circulated to councillors' options for a new picnic bench to be located at the recreation ground. Councillors unanimously supported a natural wood option and not plastic. TK authorised to purchase.
- (ii) New SSE contract was agreed.

141/21

Finance

- (i) Approval of the Cash Flow Report and payments deferred to next meeting
- (ii) Presentation by Cllr Higgins Parish West Dean Council. The following is a full copy of the briefing report circulated to parish councillors.

- *West Dean Rec Ground RoSPA inspection Oct 2021 expressed concern about inadequacy of the bark woodchips at ground level. It highlighted "loose levels are too low to provide adequate protection" at four high risk areas - Swing Basket, Multi-Swing, Slide, and Traverse Wall.*

- *In terms of remedy, WDPC has the following considerations:-*

1. *These Woodchips were only laid in 2019. Despite being told then that they would last 6 years, we now understand their life-span is typically 2-3 years - they tend to constantly be moved or kicked around, especially under swings and other high traffic areas where children play. Woodchips also decompose year on year. As such, Woodchips have proved to be a high-maintenance / high-cost solution.*
2. *Wheelchairs cannot be easily manoeuvred on Woodchips so children with disabilities cannot readily access the Play Equipment.*
3. *WDPC invited quotes from 4 suppliers to replace safety surface covering with something which offers both longevity/durability and improved inclusivity to the community.*

Vitaplay quote attached:-

- o *After consultation with the supplier during an onsite inspection, agreed to limit the replacement of the surface covering to the 4 high risk 'fall' areas, and repurpose/redistribute the Woodchips to the other areas (where the geo-textile is exposed)*

- o *Rhyno Mulch looks favourable: a) most cost effective of the options quoted b) it's aesthetically more natural looking which is in keeping with a rural setting c) environmentally friendly - permeable surface allowing water to percolate, meeting the current demands for sustainable drainage (SUDS) i.e. designed to control surface water close to where it falls and mimic natural drainage as closely as possible.*

DCM Surfaces quote attached: Rhyno Mulch £6,254 + vat but they do not do the groundworks. Their estimate for groundworks is £12,808.00

Another company is intending to quote on Monday 8th November.

The finances

2021/22 Precept:-

- *WTPC: £14,175*

- *WDPC: £17,500*

- o *only 106.19 households. Band D tax = £164.80 p.a*

- o *£3,000 was held in Rec Grd Capital Reserves for playground resurfacing however £2,560 has just been spent on play equipment maintenance*

2022/23 Precept:-

- WTPC: £15,000
- WDPC: would see an increase to £27,000 to meet project costs
 - o IF WTPC can only afford to contribute £500 (already earmarked towards WDPC Rec Grd) WDPC may consider the project financially unviable, notwithstanding a 50% SWAB Grant.
 - o + £1K still needed to replenish WDPC Rec Grd Capital Reserves
 - o + £2,450 VAT on project costs would need to be cashflowed (HMRC reclaim in the following tax year plus the current financial reserves are too tight)
 - o Consequences: 106.19 households would be meeting the financial burden of maintaining an expensive resource. Band D tax would increase to £254.26 p.a

WDPCs dilemma

Residents' top priorities on how their Precept is spent was captured in the PC's survey conducted Nov 2020:-

1. Grass cutting - village green and rec grd
2. River Dun annual weed clearance
3. Defib

45% saw the Play Park as a lower priority BUT COVID-19 highlighted the importance of open spaces and Play Parks and the impact upon children's mental health. WDPC believe that providing an attractive, accessible, and safe environment for children to play is important to the wellbeing of the community. Parents/grand-parents with young children, children, and disabled children will all benefit from this project. WDPC would be deeply saddened if it had to remove key items of play equipment due to lack of funds.

Either: The Play Park is seen as a valued resource to both Hampshire and Wiltshire residents of West Dean (and the project is tackled jointly between WTPC/WDPC)

Or: WDPC will need to make some difficult decisions according to the priorities of its parishioners and financial means (without placing a disproportionate financial burden on WDPC tax payers). This would potentially mean the loss of play equipment creating high risk 'fall' areas: Swing Basket, Multi-swings, slide, and climbing wall, retaining the Train, Play House, Pavilion, 2x benches, Tunnel, Table Tennis Table, and Goal Posts. Limiting appeal to a younger child.

It should be noted that villagers formed a playground committee less than 10 years ago, raised funds and bought the basket swing, climbing wall, play train and tunnel because the park needed more equipment.

JH answered questions concerning potential claims/liabilities against the provider of the chippings which unfortunately is not an option available to WDPC; also questions regarding other grant funding applications.

Decision: The councillors did not consider that they had sufficient time or financial information to review and consider this request so it was agreed that all would further study the briefing note and respond by email no later than 1200hrs Wednesday 10th November 2021. FC thanked JH for attending the meeting.

(iii) Consideration of NAK grant deferred to next meeting

142/21

Councillor Reports

i) To receive reports

Highways: LH (by email) NAK thanked for his help in trying to resolve the longstanding issues with Dean Rd. Sections of the road remain on the list for re-surfacing but there is no projected date for this work. Negotiations are taking place to repair/fill in the gully, HCC Highways believe the problem is caused by parking of vehicles for the school, but local councillors supported LH view that the problem

is caused by water erosion as it flows down the hill. A jet patcher has been used to remove defects in this part of the road. The road has been resurfaced in parts south of the culvert in Dean Road, the work itself is satisfactory but the water does not drain away. The highways manager has informed the PC that significant work would be required to offer a significant drainage solution at this location and HCC are unable to direct resources that way. This had been communicated to Mrs Bannister.

Footpaths. KJ and FC reported on issues with FP 12. No enforcement for clearance can be undertaken by the Countryside team as the footpath is passable. There is no enforceable minimum width for footpaths although there is a recommendation of 1.5metres. FC had walked the footpath and cleared some brambles, but they are currently dying back anyway, and action will be needed in the spring when regrowth occurs. Further letters will be sent to the landowner who to date has not responded to requests to keep the path clear of obstructions. FP 10 had a tree down across it which has been cleared. A new fingerpost requested to replace the damaged post outside Heatherdene Dean Rd.

Lengthman: NP reminded councillors and the public to provide him with details of any works .

Quotes to be submitted for works to repoint- repair damage to steps at the war memorial.

- ii) Review of areas of Responsibility: JN to assist DH with youth matters and will consider becoming the Greening Project lead.

143/21

Correspondence, AOB, urgent matters

- (i) Letter from Twyford PC – See update from Hampshire ALC at 136/21
- (ii) Request for sign at North Lane Junction Winterslow Rd because of the increased traffic to Norman Court. FC and LH had carried a site visit and spoken with the occupier of North Lodge who had suffered incidents of damage and nuisance as a result of motorists (visitors and deliveries) attempting to reach Norman Court. LH had made a request to Highways for a replacement sign. The occupiers at North Lodge had purchased and placed signage at the entrance to their property. FC contacted Norman Court Educational Establishment (Emily Martin EM) and requested that their website be updated with location/direction advice for their clients and visitors. EM had made attempts to get road signage which had been refused by HCC.
- (iii) The response from TVBC over the boundary change had been received and clarification that only part of Buckholt was moved into West Tytherley Civil Parish from Nether Wallop, this had not been clear on the original notification. It is disappointing that the Buckholt is divided in this way, and this will hopefully be reviewed in the next boundary reorganisation.

144/21

Date of next meeting

The next **West Tytherley, Frenchmoor & Buckholt Parish Council** meeting will take place at **7pm** on **Monday 13th December 2021** at **King Edwards Hall**

Being no further business, FC closed the meeting at 8:45pm

DRAFT MINUTES TO BE SIGNED AT THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes published on the Parish Council's website wtparishcouncil.org