



MINUTES OF MEETING OF EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL
16 October 2023
19:00 East Woodhay Village Hall

Chairman: Cllr Hurst (Chair)

Present: Cllrs G Dick, M Rand, K Titcomb, C Roots, M Hainge, S Cooper

Clerk: Amy White

In attendance: Two parishioners, Cllr Thacker (until 20:00)

Item 1: 67/23 Apologies

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Bowden and Cllr Watson.

Item 2: 68/23 Declarations of Interest

None.

Item 3: 69/23 To approve Minutes of Meeting held 25 September 2023

The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman, Cllr Hurst.

Item 4: 70/23 Actions arising from Full Council Meeting held on 25 September 2023

Item	Action	Owner
51/23	Clerk to put up a notice of vacancy on noticeboards, notify BDBC and advertise for a new parish councillor. Actioned	Clerk
58/23	Clerk to meet with Dick Randall, playground repair contractor, to organise repair or removal as necessary for the train equipment. Actioned-playground repaired on Wed 11th October.	Clerk
	Clerk to add approved Data Protection and CCTV policies to the website. Actioned.	Clerk
59/23	Clerk to confirm the bronze package with Hugo Fox. Actioned.	Clerk
60/23	Clerk to ask Kieron Venn for a police update. Actioned but no response from email of 26 Sept and 11 October.	Clerk
64/23	Clerk to invoice new amount for Trade St lease. Actioned (and invoice paid).	Clerk
	Clerk to add Finance Committee Terms of Reference to the website. Actioned.	Clerk

	Cllr Hurst asked the council to inform the Finance Committee of any foreseeable budgetary considerations for their areas of responsibility in time for the November meeting. Item 11 on Agenda.	All Cllrs
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Item 5: 71/23 County Councillor Report

Cllr Thacker updated the council- further information can be found in the report at the end of the Minutes.

Cllr Hurst and Titcomb will respond to the consultation on Cllr Thacker's report on behalf of EWPC.

Resurfacing on the A343 from Penwood crossroads to Seven Stones bridge is still planned for this financial year.

Item 5: 72/23 Policies for Approval

The Clerk had circulated the following new policies for comments: Subject Access Request, Data Breach Policy, Freedom of Information. Update of General Privacy Notice and Data log.

This forms part of a routine review and update of general practices, partly driven by the CiLCA qualification for which the Clerk is enrolled.

The policies were approved and will be added to the website.

Action: Clerk to add approved policies to website.

Item 6: 73/23 Planning Update

Planning Committee Minutes are on the EWPC website.

Cllr Titcomb noted many applications received by the council are not making reference to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Action: Clerk to send out reminder of the Neighbourhood Plan on Facebook/website.

Item 7: 74/23 Amenities Update

Amenities Committee Minutes are on the EWPC website. Playground repairs identified since the previous Amenities meeting were completed by Dick Randall (previously used contractor for playground repairs).

A faulty connection in one of the CCTV cameras has been fixed free of charge by Cybertronix. Cllr Roots now has the wildflower seeds for sowing in the parish field and will send out a date for council volunteers to sow seeds in a small area.

Action: Cllr Roots to organise date for wildflower seed sowing in parish field.

Item 8: 75/23 Footpaths Update

The gates for footpath 25 have been delivered to the landowner and Corinne Davis-Cooke of Hampshire Rangers is now in the process of organising the installation.

Item 9: 76/23 Speed Indicator Device

- a. Cllr Hainge reported that Greenham Trust has refused any funds for the purchase of a permanent SID. *Council agreed not to progress with a fixed SID.*
- b. The council discussed whether to continue to use Premier Grounds to move the SID at the new quoted price of £70 (excl VAT). *It was agreed to continue with Premier Grounds, with a review in December.*

Action: Clerk to confirm the new quote for SID movement with Premier Grounds.

Item 10: 77/23 Police engagement proposal

Cllr Bowden was absent. Moved to next meeting.

Item 11: 78/23 Highways

The Highways report can be found on the EWPC website. To clarify on the action from the previous Minutes ref Highways, a proposal from East End residents that the rusting village sign be renovated by a local team to retain the existing original cast name plate has been approved by HCC Highways and met with no objection from EWPC.

Item 12: 79/23 Finance Update

The Finance Committee Minutes are on the EWPC website.

a. Accounts for payment:

The Clerk presented the following amounts for payment:

Date invoiced	Budget line	Explanation	Amount
30-Sep-23	Annual Maint Agmnt	Scofell Maintenance and grass cuts 31500	£615.91
30-Sep-23	VAT	Scofell Maintenance and grass cuts 31500	£123.18
27-Oct-23	Litter Warden Salary		£451.53
27-Oct-23	Litter Warden Exps		£35.00
27-Oct-23	Clerk's Salary		£693.53
27-Oct-23	PAYE	HMRC Month 7	£177.56
2-Oct-23	Administration	WHCH bookings for September 2023 Inv 3051	£36.00
25-Sep-23	Audit	BDO LLP External Audit fee	£315.00
25-Sep-23	VAT	BDO LLP External Audit fee	£63.00
27-Sep-23	Payroll Admin	Red76 Payroll for Jul 23 Inv 7094	£16.00
27-Sep-23	VAT	Red76 Payroll for Jul 23 Inv 7094	£3.20
27-Oct-23	Pension Contribution	Nest Direct Debit	£70.27
12-Oct-23	Misc Maintenance	WH playground repairs by Dick Randall	£4,779.00
12-Oct-23	VAT	WH playground repairs by Dick Randall	£955.80
4-Oct-23	Misc Maintenance	Wildflower seed mix for parish field (Clerk purchased)	£163.50
5-Oct-23	Administration	2 x Poppy Wreaths (order split with Ashmansworth Parish Council) (Clerk purchased)	£33.99
10-Oct-23	Chairmans Allowance	Engraved whisky glass for retiring chairman (clerk purchased)	£40.99
			£
Total:			<u>8,573.46</u>

Natwest Current Account Balance as at 30/09/2023: £22135.24

Redwood Savings Account Balance as at 30/09/2023: £41814.75

Budget: At the next meeting, the precept will be in first draft so any identified budget costs need to be submitted to the Finance Committee.

The audit cycle is complete for 22/23. The BDO report noted the following:

The council has answered Section 1, Assertion 9 incorrectly. The response should have been 'Yes' because the council is a sole trustee.

In addition the council has also not answered Q11a & Q11b (Trust funds) on the Accounting Statement. It should have answered 'Yes' to Q11a because the Council does act as a sole trustee and it should have answered 'Yes' to Q11b because the figures in the accounting statements do not include any Trust transactions.

The above is in reference to the East Woodhay Parish Council Grounds which is a registered charity (but with no financial transactions).

Item 15: 80/23 Gigaclear (fibre to premises)- update by Cllr Hurst

Cllr Hurst updated the council. Gigaclear is legally allowed to install cabinets on Hampshire owned land (ref the cabinet installed on the land at the top of Greenways, Woolton Hill).

Item 16: 81/23 EWWH

Cllr Titcomb updated the council on the running of the hall. She is assisting with creating a new constitution and new management team. Some very capable volunteers have come forward as new Trustees but there is still a need for some more.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Titcomb to continue to advertise for more volunteers.

Item 17: 82/23 Items to carry forward to next meeting

Policing engagement proposal, budget first draft and precept discussion.

7:15 EWWH next meeting

Actions from Meeting of 16 October 2023

Item	Action	Owner
72/23	Clerk to add approved policies to website.	Clerk
73/23	Clerk to send out reminder of the Neighbourhood Plan on Facebook/website.	Clerk
74/23	Cllr Roots will send out a date for council volunteers to sow seeds in a small area.	Clerk
76/23	Clerk to confirm the new quote for SID movement with Premier Grounds.	Clerk
81/23	Clerk and Cllr Titcomb to continue to advertise for more volunteers.	Clerk/Cllr Titcomb

Hampshire County Councillor Update

October 2023 Tom Thacker

1. HCC financial planning this autumn

The financial challenges facing the County Council, and local government nationally, are well documented. Each year, it costs more to deliver public services, but the money received from central Government and council tax increases is not enough to meet the extra costs, which results in a deficit. High inflation and growing demand for local services means that in the two years up to the 2025/26 financial year, the budget shortfall is expected to rise considerably to £132m, one of the biggest deficits the County Council has ever faced.

Proposals this autumn set out options for how Hampshire County Council could close this budget gap and comes on top of over £0.6bn of spending reductions already delivered since the start of national austerity. Hampshire is in a better financial position than most other county councils, and while the Authority's finances are stable until 2025/26, future stability relies on central Government fundamentally changing the way that local government services are funded, or reducing what councils are legally required to deliver.

In the absence of any immediate Government action in this regard, Hampshire County Council must plan on the basis of closing the budget gap itself, applying a combination of tactics to help balance the books, including changing and reducing services and delivering only those services which the council must legally provide.

A final decision is to be made by the full county council in November. After this, some proposals may then be subject to more detailed public consultation.

2. Transforming in-house nursing and specialist care

A ten week public consultation is now underway on proposals that would see £173 million invested over the next five to six years to transform and expand the future of nursing and specialist accommodation directly provided by HCC for the county's growing older population. The proposals recommend concentrating on the delivery of specialist nursing care, complex dementia care and short-term support – to either prevent a hospital admission or support a hospital discharge, so ensuring care could be provided more cost effectively.

The proposals include:

- building new nursing homes in Havant, Winchester and the New Forest
- modernising and expanding care at existing homes in Basingstoke, Aldershot and Emsworth
- withdrawing over time from the direct provision of residential care, with the closure of a number of the council's older homes.

More detail and a link to the consultation can be found at <https://hampshirecc.welcomesyourfeedback.net/s/HCC-Care2023>.

The consultation closes on 12 November 2023 with a final decision expected in February next year.

3. Countryside Services - Parish Pages

Parishes, town councils and other local groups may find the [Parish Pages](#) page on the HCC website a useful source of countryside information, including opportunities for grants and funding, information about Parish Pollinators, becoming a Volunteer, Countryside Canines and a guide to rights of way for parishes and communities. In addition, the Definitive Map is useful in identifying and locating rights of ways -

www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/rightsofway/definitivemap

4. Increased payments to local residents hosting Ukrainian families

The county council has announced that it will be paying an extra £200 per month to all Hampshire residents hosting Ukrainian guests as part of the Government's Homes for Ukraine Scheme, until the end of March 2024. This takes the monthly payment to £700, which is above the Government's current guidance for local authorities.