

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Ampfield on Monday, 10th January 2011 commencing at 7pm.

PRESENT: Miss M.I. Rothwell (Chairman) – Presiding
Mr E.H. Butcher (from paragraph 1726), Mr A Clark,
Mr D.J.E. Gilks, Mr M.D. Hatley (from paragraph 1733),
Mr J. A. Jones, Mr B. Nanson, Mr. G. C. A. Roads, Mr D. Stevens

1719 Apologies for Absence

An apology had been received from Mr G. J. Choules who had other commitments.

1720 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 8th November 2010, having been circulated previously, were confirmed by the Meeting and signed by the Chairman.

1721 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no Matters Arising which were not covered by items on the agenda.

1722 Declarations of Interest

It was noted that Mr Hatley had a continuing interest in the Village Hall as Treasurer of the Village Hall Management Committee.

1723 Public Participation

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

1724 Housing Needs Survey

The situation on the housing needs survey, conducted in July and August 2010, remained the same in that no information had been received about the outcome and Council was not aware of any action being taken as a result of it.

1725 Ampfield Recreation Ground

1725.1 Progress with the new lease

Mr Nanson and the Clerk had met with Hedley Solicitors in December 2010 to discuss the drawing up of a new lease between Council and the Cricket Club. No problems were envisaged and the draft was expected to be ready within the next few weeks.

1725.2 Maintenance

The molecatcher had attended the Recreation Ground again as further molehills had arisen. It was agreed that Test Valley Borough Council (TCBC) contractors should be asked to apply a spring feed once the ground had dried out.

The Viridor Credits Panel would meet on 18th January 2011 to consider Council's application for a grant to undertake the drainage project. An advisor to the Panel would be at the site on the morning of the 18th January; Mr Clark, Mr Nanson and the Clerk would meet him there. Ampfield Football Club had not been able to play at the Ground since November 2010 and attempts were being made to contact them and determine the current situation.

(**Afternote:** Notification had been received subsequently that the Viridor Credits Panel had awarded the grant.)

There had been evidence of further firework displays on the Recreation Ground around the New Year period. The leftover cardboard and other debris had now mostly gone; Council would continue to monitor the situation.

Council had agreed previously to fund a member of the Cricket Club to attend a groundsmen's course. The second part of the course would be run in the Spring of 2011.

1725.3 Fencing on White Horse boundary

The fence panel erected by the Cricket Club to screen the toilets had come adrift and was leaning over at a steep angle. This would be raised at the next meeting with the Club which had been arranged for early February.

1725.4 Improvements to the pavilion base

The Cricket Club had requested permission to lay some slabs on the concrete base and generally tidy the area to improve facilities for spectators. Details of what might be achieved would be discussed with the

Cricket Club but Council agreed, in principle, to some modest expenditure to support the project.

1725.5 Inspections

Digley Associates had carried out an annual inspection of the playground. Few items had been reported and none were significant. Mr Nanson and Mr Clark would continue to tackle minor repair jobs. It was agreed that the condition of the height barriers and gates should be checked in the Spring; the task would be added to the inspection sheet.

1726 Assets including the bus shelters at Green Pond Lane and Baddesley Road.

Council agreed to the installation of a bus shelter on Baddesley Road subject to funding being made available. Mr Clark had reviewed the condition of the brick shelter at Green Pond Lane. Proposals to clean the roof and interior, repair the ceiling and clear up the vegetation were agreed. It would not be necessary to take down any of the nearby trees. Mr Clark and the Clerk would take forward the maintenance plan.

Council had agreed to fund the replacement PC needed for the Clerk as the existing kit was performing badly and the monitor displayed intermittent faults. Miss Rothwell thanked Mr Jones for his hard work and patience in acquiring, setting up and monitoring the new kit.

1727 Financial Matters

1727.1 Accounts for payment

It was proposed by Miss Rothwell and seconded by Mr Roads, that the following accounts be paid:

<u>Cheques to be signed at the meeting:</u>	£ (inc VAT)
Cllr Butcher- plants for War Memorial	53.38
Cllr Nanson-travel to Hedleys Solicitors-mileage	44.00
Digley Associates-playground inspection	41.13
Sharp Electronics (UK) Limited-photocopier	75.82
Southern Water-June-December 2010	47.83
Office Expenses November2010-January 2011	67.40
Microsoft Office 2010 for new PC	190.00
D Matthews - January salary	523.26
HMRC- January payments	185.51
D Matthews - February salary	523.26
HMRC- February payments	185.51

Novatech-PC, Monitor & keyboard-Cllr. Jones	<u>589.13</u>
	<u>2526.23</u>
<u>Payments made between meetings</u>	
Sheenmicro Management-website	75.20
Ampfield Parochial Church Council- Messenger advert	<u>15.00</u>
	<u>90.20</u>

1727.2 Income

At just under £600, income for the period had included rent from the Cricket Club and re-imburement of running costs for the speed limit sign from Braishfield.

1727.3 Anticipated Expenditure

Details of anticipated expenditure to end March 2011 had been circulated previously; Council agreed the recommendations of the Finance Committee of a net forecast figure of £44,031.

1728 Budget and Precept 2011/2012

Council agreed a budget of £43,083 for the next financial year 2011/2012. Care had been taken to ensure no increase in the Precept; Council agreed a figure of £33,000 for 2011/2012 which was a decrease of 5.48% over the previous year.

1729 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Suggestions for events and locations in the Parish, to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, were discussed. It was agreed that the Chairman would talk to the Parochial Church Council about their plans and ideas and that the subject would also be explored at the Parish Assembly in May.

1730 Correspondence and Communications

A list of items received on paper and electronically is at Annex A. Key items are included under agenda headings.

1731 Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

1731.1 Planning Committee

The following applications had been commented on after discussion on:

22 November 2010

10/02433/FULLS

The Cottage, Knapp Lane

10/02532/FULLS	16 Beechwood Crescent
10/02677/TPOS	Pincroft 35 Beechwood Crescent
10/02627/TPOS	Hook Wood, Hook Road
10/02626/TPOS	Hook Wood, Hook Road

13 December 2010

10/02757/FULLS	Woodlands, Hookwood Lane /Woodlea Way
10/02726/FULLS	Downderry, Hook Crescent
10/02858/TREES	Bishops Cottage, Wingham Lane
10/02392/FULLS	Hazelwood, Hook Road
10/02790/FULLS	Buddys Barn, Winchester Road
10/02928/TPOS	20 Beechwood Crescent

1731.2 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee had met immediately prior to Council's meeting that evening and its recommendations had been agreed.

1731.3 Public Transport & Highway Liaison (PT&HL)

Mr Clark had attended a meeting on 19th November 2010 about how the concessionary fares scheme would run on its transfer from TVBC to Hampshire County Council. Those aged 60 or over could still travel free on buses but the start time had been changed from 9.00am to 9.30am. Weekends and Bank Holidays were not restricted. Railcards would no longer be available under the scheme from 1st April 2011.

1731.4 Village Hall Liaison

The pantomime had been a success; the next attraction was "Opera Dudes" who were appearing on 25th February 2011.

1731.5 School Governor

Recruitment of a new Headteacher was still in progress.

1731.6 Safer Neighbourhood – Local Action Group

The December meeting of the Local Action Group had been cancelled due to the severe weather. The next meeting would be in February and Mr Stevens would attend and report back to Council in March.

1731.7 Hampshire Association of Local Councils
Test Valley Association of Parish Councils (TVAPC)

Footpath Warden
Tree Wardens/Environment
Website

There was nothing new to report.

1732 Highway Matters

1732.1 Maintenance and winter arrangements

Council had received very positive feedback about the supply of grit bins by Hampshire County Council (HCC) for use in severe winter weather. These had been placed at various sites around the Parish and had proved their worth. There was, however, some confusion about the system for re-filling the bins and Mr Clark would seek clarification from HCC. Snow shovels had also been supplied and would be retained for use on the Straight Mile, Knapp Lane and Flexford Close.

1733 Chapel Wood

1733.1 Friends of Chapel Wood

Three working parties had been held. Various activities had been undertaken including coppicing of holly, removal of duckweed from the pond, planting of bluebells and mending the gate at the Chapel Hill entrance.

1733.2 Work in the Woodland

Coppiced holly had been left for Parishioners to use at the St Mark's Christmas coffee morning. A significant amount of Rhododendron had been cleared away from the woodland behind St Mark's room which had opened up the glade area and created more light and space. A new fire pit had been dug and a bonfire had been lit in December to clear the large amount of arisings left from the pruning work. The fire had been put out before everyone left. The water in the pond had remained constant for some months now and it was hoped that the lining was, in fact, intact despite the storm damage. Some very positive feedback had been received about the reduction of the outer hedges in the churchyard. The view of St Mark's from the road had been opened up which would help improve security.

1733.3 Burial Ground

Mr Roads had costed the materials needed to build the protective framework around the cruciform hedge; labour would be supplied in-

house. Council concluded that the saving was not significant and agreed that the estimate from Barker & Geary to supply and fit the protective framework be accepted. The work would be done in 2 stages with the fencing for the yew hedge being done within the next couple of months and the box hedge done later in the year. The Chairman thanked Mr Roads for his work in testing the estimate. The Clerk would write to Barker & Geary and confirm acceptance. Mr Roads and the Clerk would discuss the work with the Revd. Gilks.

Council had approved the request from a family, whose address was in the Straight Mile, to be laid to rest in the Burial Ground. The Clerk would write to the family.

1734 Parish Assembly 2011

The Parish Assembly had previously been booked for Monday, 25th April 2011 but, as this was Easter Monday, the date for the Assembly was changed to Monday, 9th May 2011. The Chairman, Mr Nanson and the Clerk would draw up and issue the timetable for the preparation and publishing of the annual newsletter. It was intended that the newsletter be distributed before Easter.

1735 Elections 2011

Mr Hatley confirmed that the Village Hall had been booked for the elections on 5th May 2011. The date for the Annual Council Meeting in May was set for Monday, 16th May 2011 to fit in with the timing of Councillor appointments following the election. Other Council meetings for the remainder of 2011 were confirmed as: 14 March, 11 July, 12 September and 14 November.

1736 Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC)

Mr Hatley reported that Council services, including highways maintenance and refuse collections, had done very well keeping everything going during the severe winter weather. There would be a review of some roads and locations in the area to improve their priority rating for attention in icy conditions. Housing numbers required for the area continued to change but an overall reduction was still expected.

Concerns remained about the occupation of the field near South Holmes at the bottom of Ampfield Hill. The Chairman had written to the TVBC Enforcement Officer. TVBC would continue to monitor the situation to help ensure that all activities on the 3 parcels of land were lawful. Mr Hatley confirmed that close attention would be paid to any land coming up for sale in the Parish.

1737 Date of the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Monday, 14th March 2011 in the Village Hall, Ampfield commencing at 7.00pm.

1738 Closure

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....