

**Minutes of the Ampport Parish Council meeting held on Monday 15th April 2024, 7.30pm at
Ampport Primary School.**

Present: Cllr C Harris – Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman, Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass, Cllr A Montagu, Cllr Mrs S Baker, Cllr Mrs D Stephenson, Cllr Mrs C Hemmings, & Cllr P Harvey.

Also present

Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk
TVBC Maureen Flood
3 Members of the Public

1 Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC S Hasselmann & Cllr P Waller.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no other declarations of interests. All Councillors confirmed there were no amendments required to register of interest forms.

Cllr Harris also noted the resignation of Cllr Douch and thanked him for his contributions to the Parish Council. The Clerk has advertised the vacancy.

3 Public Participation

A member of public who now owns the old cricket ground at the top of Keepers Hill said he is in the process of tidying up the area and purchased this as somewhere for his children to keep animals. He asked if the Parish Council would support the building of an Eco house on this land. Cllr Stephenson explained the process of the Neighbourhood Plan and the design code criteria. Cllr Harris said the Parish Council would only consider this once a formal application was submitted but it was suggested expert advice should be taken perhaps in the format of pre planning from TVBC.

4 Minutes of previous meetings & matters arising

Resolved: The minutes of the meetings held on 18th March were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Coke seconded Cllr Montagu. All in favour.

5 Specific reports

Principle & Process-Cllr Coke has nothing specific to raise.

The Fen & Green- Cllr Harris reported both the green and fen remain very wet in places. The ditch along the road, which runs into the millstream and into the Pillhill Brook, still has a high level of water in it. The ditch will need clearing by the Lengthsman when the water level has receded. The western side of the green and some other drier areas have received their first cut of the season.

A representative from Watercress & Winterbournes visited the Fen recently and has agreed to report back on a sensible scheme to enhance the Fen including advice on suitable trees to plant near the seat by the Fen's entrance.

Play Area -Cllr Harvey has accepted a quote for the repairs required to the play area and will ask the company to carry out the work. He is obtaining quotes for replacement goal posts. Cllr Hawkings-Byass will send a quote for the proposed new bench to the Clerk.

Weyhill Area- Cllr Hemmings confirmed the new notice board is due to arrive in the next couple of days and will be installed soon. She also reported that several residents in the Weyhill area had expressed an interest in visiting food vans near them. She agreed to research if there were any available sites.

Footpaths- Cllr Hawkings-Byass reported a fallen tree in a wooded area near a footpath which she will ask the landowners permission to remove. She said Green Flints are happy to cut the footpaths in the parish this growing season but will do this on a more timely basis to ensure they are well managed.

Communications—Cllr Hawkings-Byass reported that producing the newsletter was going well but delivering it was a substantial workload. One volunteer had stepped forward to help with delivery in Dauntsey Lane but more volunteers are required.

School Liaison –Cllr Baker reported the collapsed sewer near the school was very quickly repaired.

Projects- see Green & Fen.

Neighbourhood Plan- Cllr Stephenson outlined progress made on neighbourhood plan. In terms of milestones the NP is nearing completion sitting at a 7/10, 10 being completion. Feedback from the working groups from Ampport, Weyhill and East Cholderton had been received on the design codes. These were now being incorporated by specialist consultancy AECOM. The Housing Needs Survey results had also been circulated. Land adjacent to Michaelmas Grove has been identified as possible community space and will be designated as a green space.

Cllr Stephenson reiterated that all details relating to the NP including HNS results and Design Codes are on the APC website under NP.

Highways – Cllr Harris reported a continued lack of engagement with road issues in the parish from Hampshire Highways, reportedly as a consequence of a lack of funding from Central Government. He also noted a fatality following an accident outside The Hawk in Ampport. This appears to have been the result of an elderly motorist losing control of her vehicle. The first impressions are that this was a complete accident, but in the event that the authorities or members of the community consider that the road conditions outside The Hawk require changing, the PC will support sensible recommendations.

The safety of the junction of the A303 and Sarsons Lane remains a major concern. National Highways' inaction remains very disappointing. A recent incident where a driver lost control while turning into Sarsons Lane has been highlighted to National Highways and a response is awaited.

A member of public has raised concerns regarding the north end of Dauntsey Drove and the dangers of the junction on to the A342 where permitted right turns are potentially quite dangerous. Cars travel at excessive speeds on a badly marked area of the main road, with poor signage. Concerns have been reported to HCC.

Resilience Plan- Cllr Waller had sent apologies. Cllr Baker reported the next TVBC resilience forum is on the 20th April which Cllr Waller hopes to attend

6 Letter of complaint

The Clerk had circulated details of a complaint received from a food vendor. A full discussion took place and the Council confirmed they have confidence in the reply already submitted.

Cllr Coke proposed that no further response was sent. This was seconded by Cllr Stephenson. All agreed.

7 Southern Water update

Cllr Harris reported Groundwater levels are 10 metres higher than at this time last year. However, as a result of Southern Water's continuing relining work, it has been possible to vastly reduce the number of tankers deployed in the catchment. Further sewer lining and manhole sealing work is continuing. It is clear that at least half of the ground water infiltration is coming from private pipes. The relining programme is taking longer than planned, but is now making a real difference.

Full reports regarding work carried out and the Pan Parish Forum meetings can be seen on the Parish Council website.

8 Monxton & Ampport Village Hall

Cllr Harris reported the construction of the new hall is proceeding quickly. The roof should be complete soon and in the near future the windows and doors will be installed.

Finance of the build remains a challenge. There is approximately a £80k shortfall of funds to complete the entire project at present. Useful progress has been made in seeking funding and other help from villagers, and local businesses which have been approached. The fundraising effort will be widely publicised with a fundraising page going live very soon and gift aid on donations which will bolster the overall amounts received. There will be a further meeting of villagers from Monxton and Ampport to raise funds and get promises of help on 12 May, 4.30pm at The Hawk Inn.

See invitation at <https://partiful.com/e/4Nr902qq7iHDv0Nocxdq>. All are encouraged to attend.

9 Format of Annual Meeting

The Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Monday 20th May. This will be both the AGM and the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting will be advertised in the next newsletter and the Chairman of Monxton Parish Council will be asked to attend and talk about the new village hall project.

10 Update on Amport House

There is no update on the potential sale of Amport House at present.

11 Clerks report

The Clerk reported as follows-

Details of the email settings had been shared with an expert who is trying to solve the issue of one.com blocking emails from Gmail accounts but no response has been received. Emails to g mail accounts are still returned undelivered. Cllr Stephenson will make contact for an update.

An end of year grant return for the Neighbourhood Plan grant has been submitted. A surplus of £730.00 will have to be returned to the grant provider.

HCC confirmed a representative was visiting Amport parish on 14th March to consider the sites that have been proposed with regard to fitting speed awareness cameras. A recent request for the report has not been answered. The Clerk will ask Cllr Donnelly to chase this.

Payments for the water testing kits have been made but reimbursement from Southern Water and Green Flints are still awaited. Once received all the Parish Councils who have agreed to contribute will be invoiced.

Finally, she reported the Parish Council notice boards had been used by others and therefore keys to the boards must be circulating in the community. She said that if there was room and the advert was for a village event she left them, but Parish Council notices would always take priority.

12 Finance

i) To note the bank balances as at 31/03//2024

Lloyds current £249.30

Lloyds savings £13845.26

ii) Payments

Resolved: that the following payments be approved,

H Bourner salary	£475.76
HMRC	£118.80
H Bourner exp.	£24.19
Kinex electricity Feb	£10.07
Hugo Fox website	£11.99
Business Stream	£25.63
Bluestone Planning	£3719.10
HALC	£480.00

Retrospective

Taits £134.00

ii) Annual accounts to 31/03/2024 had been circulated by The Clerk and were reviewed. Cllr Coke proposed these be agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Baker. All Agreed. The internal audit would take place on 15th May.

13 Borough & County Councillor Reports.

HCC Chris Donnelly was not present.

TVBC Susanne Hasselmann had sent apologies.

TVBC Maureen Flood highlighted her recently circulated monthly report. She confirmed the TVBC annual council meeting will be held on 5th May, and that she has been assigned the role of Deputy Leader. She confirmed a round of pothole fixing was underway, and the next TVBC resilience forum on 20th April would be a worthwhile meeting to attend.

14 Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/00225/PDQN- Prior approval to change use agricultural building into 5 dwellings, Fox Farm- prior approval required

24/00265/FULLN- removal of stables and replace with 3 bed dwelling, Pipers Hill Farm-withdrawn

Resolved: that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

24/00111/CLLBN- certificate of lawfulness- rethatch Weyhill Barn, Amesbury Road- no objections

24/00804/CLEN- certificate of lawful existing use of land as dwellinghouse, Cedar Bungalow, Hay Down Lane- no objections

24/00823/FULLN- construction of timber frame car port, Hardy House, 3A Amesbury Road-no objections

24/00857/FULLN, reglazing of conservatory roof, Woodcote, Sarsons Lane- no objections

15 Correspondence

The Clerk highlighted a sales brochure from a tree maintenance company

16 New Items for next agenda

17 Community News

There is a blocked drain at the bottom of Keepers Hill which Cllr Baker will report.

18 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday 20th May, 2024, 7.30pm at Amport School which will be the AGM and Annual Parish Meeting.