



c/o Mrs D Heppell Email: clerk.westmeon@parish.hants.gov.uk

## **MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING OF WEST MEON PARISH COUNCIL ON 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.30PM (DUE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC)**

**THOSE PARTICIPATING:** Cllrs A Trenchard (Chair) from 7:35 pm, J Nicholson (Vice Chair), C Adams, C Waller, M Edwards, and R Gedye

**BY INVITATION:** County Cllr R Huxstep until 7:45pm, City Cllrs L Ruffell and H Lumby until 8:10pm

**APOLOGIES:** G Silk

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** None

### Wmpc 1858 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they may have in any item of business on the agenda.

### Wmpc 1859 **MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC**

The Chair opened the meeting to the public but there were no issues arising.

### Wmpc 1860 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The Minutes of the Online Parish Council Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were **agreed**, signed and **approved**.

### Wmpc 1861 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR HUXSTEP**

Hampshire County Cllr Huxstep presented his report, see Appendix A.

Cllr Huxstep advised that there had been an increase in Covid numbers in Hampshire. He also gave an update on HCC climate change policies.

### Wmpc 1862 **CITY COUNCILLOR RUFFELL**

Cllr Ruffell presented his report, see Appendix B. He advised on progress on Winchester Sport and Leisure Park and imposing parking charges on Sundays. He also gave an update on outstanding enforcement issues in West Meon.

### Wmpc 1863 **CLERK'S REPORT**

- Damage to the **Bus Shelter** reported to Zurich Insurance and 2 x quotes received for repairs.
  - a) Silk Services **£9,360.00** inc VAT
  - b) White Worx **£11,400.00** inc VAT
  
- **Grant Request** received:
  - WM K9 Community dog training club £300.00 for provision of promoting responsible ownership of dogs in the West Meon community.

## TO RECEIVE WORKING GROUPS

### Wmpc 1864 PLANNING

a) i) SDNP/20/03432/FUL Metis Homes for 10 dwellings on land at the end of Long Priors. WMPC raise **NO OBJECTIONS** but Further Comments

1 WMPC consider that Plots 9 and 10 should be the same size as Plot 8. It is disingenuous to say that they are not large – they are imposing in the landscape and the development. The size of these two plots are one of the most pressing issues. The size of these plots should be reduced to match Plot 8.

2. WMPC raise concerns over the management company and whether they will be responsible for the roads and lighting.

3. WMPC raise concerns about the loss of parking at the end of Long Priors turning area. Alternative spaces need to be accommodated closer to Long Priors, as the turning head has been used historically as additional car parking spaces.

4. SDNP needs to ensure that both the solar cells and heat pumps are included in the final plan.

5. If granted permission, a condition should be attached to ensure that there is a Construction Management Plan to include wheel washing facilities for construction vehicles. Also for the reinstatement of Long Priors road surface, if damaged during construction.

6. WMPC request conditions be attached to control hours of working and the movement of construction vehicles and deliveries to and from the site. Vehicles should only access the site via the A272 north of the site to avoid congestion on the narrow Church Lane, especially by the school where there are existing severe congestion and parking issues. This has already been highlighted to the developers.

ii) SDNP/20/03665/FUL Lion Hill House Alton Road West Meon GU32 1JF New single storey dwelling **OBJECTIONS** raised.

The proposed dwelling by reason of its unsympathetic modern design is considered to be an inappropriate and insensitive form of development which is out of keeping with both the scale and design of the adjoining historic buildings and its siting within the West Meon Conservation Area and South Downs National Park.

Whilst West Meon Parish Council recognise that the application is for a single dwelling and that contemporary design can be appealing, the Parish believe the design not to be in keeping with the Conservation Area and the surrounding properties, and not adhering to the principles of design and materials in the West Meon Village Design Statement 2002. The application is

for a dwelling that would not be traditional in design or scale, and would affect the setting of the listed buildings around.

Whilst the recent appeal decision on this site is acknowledged, a high quality traditionally designed building is required which is sympathetic to its setting in the West Meon Conservation Area, the adjacent listed buildings and South Downs National Park.

WMPC would request that this application is referred to the Planning Committee as was the previous planning application due to the planning history of the site and appeal.

iii) SDNP/20/03727/HOUS 6 Doctors Lane West Meon GU32 1LW. It was agreed that **NO OBJECTIONS** would be raised.

It was agreed that the Parish would consult Mr P Brannon regarding the Government's White Paper on Planning and response by Parish Councils.

### Wmpc 1865 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Cllr Edwards advised that the rifle club would like to extend the building 4 metres to the south and 1.5 metres to the west and east elevation. The Parish Council **agreed** that they would support the proposal in principle providing there was no loss of car parking spaces.

- i) It was **agreed** that the Parish projects should be:
  - Cleaning of the cross and war memorial.
  - Repair of recreation field area damaged by crows.
  - Rebuilding of bus shelter, with electric sensor light, solar lighting. Quotes received for repairs and with insurance.
  - Improve and clear river flow (Cllr Gedyes).
- ii) Grant request from West Meon K9 Community dog training club for £300.00 was unanimously **agreed**.
- iii) Cllr Edwards advised that he had contacted the owners Mr and Mrs Youngers about repairs to their iron railings and he will also get quotes for repairs to the damaged flint wall on |Church lane. .

#### **Schedule of Payments**

##### **Payments 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Biffa Bins WM village Hall	£95.70
BACS D Heppell salary September	
BACS Expenses	£14.50
HMRC	£26.80
WM K9 Community Dog training club	£300.00

It was unanimously **agreed** to approve the schedule of payments.

### Wmpc 1866 **HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT**

- i) SDNP advise that a Section 106 contribution of £4,028.14 is available for repairs to the car park. Awaiting quotes from Cllrs Silk and Edwards.

### Wmpc 1867 **COMMUNITY, RECREATION AND TRANSPORTATION**

Cllr Nicholson advised that there would be no Christmas Fair this year.  
Cllr Waller advised that the Christmas lights need checking and arrangements made for Christmas trees. He also advised the next date for Lengthsman is 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2020.

Wmpc 1868 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING**

Cleaning of cross and war memorial, repair of recreation ground field, bus shelter repairs, Parish News.

Wmpc 1869 **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020, online meetings.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Chair .....

**Appendix A Cllr Roger Huxstep      Member for Meon Valley Division**

**Hampshire County Council Divisional Report for West Meon Parish Council**

**Spotlight on Covid-19 costs - County Council takes stock of latest financial forecasts for tackling the pandemic**

On Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, HCC’s Cabinet reviewed the current picture, the result of significant unplanned additional costs during the outbreak, as well as lost income from areas such as school meals, country parks and registration services (births, deaths and marriages). Latest predictions put these extra costs and losses at around £160 million this financial year – with around £83 million of that unfunded.

The overall costs and losses rise to over £210 million over the next three years, and despite a potential financial response package having been agreed earlier this summer, a further £80 million of savings will still be needed in the budget by April 2023, in order to meet rising demand in services such as social care for vulnerable children and adults.

Leader of Hampshire County Council, Councillor Keith Mans explained: “The job of forecasting the financial impact of coronavirus is an immensely difficult task, not least because of the uncertainty caused from such a fast-moving, evolving pandemic. We continue to monitor the figures closely, and report them regularly to Government, while taking stock and making our own financial mitigations.

“Our exposure to Covid-19 is currently expected to cost us in the region of £83 million this year.

Fortunately, Hampshire was in a strong financial position before coronavirus hit, thanks to our strong track record of careful and consistent budget planning alongside the prudent use of our reserves. As such, we have put plans in place so we can weather the storm this year, but a council smaller than Hampshire might not have been able to cope with such challenges.

“We have had some additional, welcome funding from Government in the form of grant and reimbursement of lost income, to support local authorities’ response to the crisis, and together with some additional savings secured across our departments, the financial liability of coronavirus for this year is slightly less than we predicted earlier this summer. However, moving into the medium term, the situation worsens as we also take stock of growing demand in adult social care which we expect to increase further as a result of the pandemic, further lost income and council tax revenue, and the costs of responding to any subsequent coronavirus outbreaks. It means that our total unfunded costs and losses rise to around £210 million over the next three years – with the need for at least £52 million from Government in order to remain financially viable in the future.

“We have remained steadfast in our representations to Government on the severity of this unprecedented situation and continue to stress the need for a sustainable funding solution to help us through the current

financial crisis we face from coronavirus, and into the future – including opportunities that allow local authorities greater freedoms to charge for some services, and flexibility around setting council tax. I sincerely hope Government addresses these concerns in the next Comprehensive Spending Review, set to be announced later this year, and looking ahead to the next three financial years. This would deliver a much-needed step in the right direction towards providing local government with a more stable financial outlook for the years ahead and safeguarding crucial local services to the people of Hampshire and beyond.”

## **Overwhelming majority of Hampshire pupils back at school following lockdown**

It’s been a successful start to the autumn term, following lockdown leading to many school children learning from home for nearly five months

Attendance at Hampshire schools is exceptionally good and above the national average, despite the fears relating to COVID-19. The week ending 18<sup>th</sup> September 2020 saw: 91% of primary aged children attending Hampshire schools compared to 86% nationally; and 92% of secondary aged pupils compared to 88% nationally. Many absences are explained by the need to continue shielding because a pupil has a serious medical condition, or a pupil has one of the more usual childhood illnesses.

Councillor Roz Chadd, the Executive Member for Education and Skills at Hampshire County Council, said: “As a parent myself, I can fully understand that there may have been anxiety about the return to school following lockdown and the school summer holidays. It is fantastic to hear that any apprehension seems to have rapidly dispersed leading to such a high number going back to school at the beginning of the autumn term.

“I’m most especially pleased, to hear from schools, that any impact on pupils’ health and wellbeing, including their mental health, appears to be minimal. Pupils have settled in well and have quickly adapted to the new arrangements in place at school to prevent the spread of infection. More importantly, children have been telling me how happy they are to be back in the classroom with their class-mates and teachers, not to mention how good it is for them to be with their friends again.”

In preparation for the new term, all schools carried out detailed risk assessments to put in place whatever they needed to, to welcome children back to a COVID-19 safe school and prevent the virus spreading. Those arrangements vary from school to school, depending on the size and layout of their sites, as well as the ages and number of children attending, but they include:

- Placing children in distinct ‘bubbles’ (groups) to be maintained throughout the school day
- Operating a one-way system around the school site
- Staggering the start and end of the school day
- Staggering break times
- Building time for frequent handwashing in the daily timetable
- Additionally, providing hand sanitiser in strategic areas of the building
- Frequent reminders to Catch It, Bin It, Kill It
- Additional cleaning of school buildings.

Ahead of children returning to school, the County Council’s Director for Public Health, Simon Bryant, stated that children are far less likely to be affected by coronavirus, citing a Public Health England Study which showed that those aged under 16 years old, accounted for just 1.1 per cent of 130,000 confirmed coronavirus cases during the first wave of the virus.

## **Hampshire sets out clear actions to reduce carbon emissions**

Hampshire County Council's Cabinet reinforced its commitment to tackling the causes and impact of Climate Change when it agreed an Action Plan 2020-2025, as part of the overall Climate Change Strategy. The Action Plan details how the organisation will strive to meet its carbon reduction and resilience targets and includes a new Framework which focuses on the significant programmes of activity needed

The Action Plan and Framework shows how our ambitious approach and combined efforts can bring about significant progress in mitigating against, and building resilience to, climate change. We have the evidence, research and tools in place to focus on this challenge, and it is now absolutely imperative that everyone gets on board – from individual lifestyle changes to industries adopting new technologies.

Council Leader, Cllr Mans said “Together, we can make the changes needed to bring carbon emissions in Hampshire down to net zero – but without national action and Government funding to support local initiatives, the County Council's commitment alone is not enough. We can do so much more together – indeed, only by doing so will we have a chance of leaving the legacy we want for future generations.” The County Council's Cabinet approved the Climate Change Action Plan and Framework 2020-2025. It is based on a carbon baseline produced by the Carbon Trust which established that the greatest sources of emissions in Hampshire, and therefore where efforts must be focussed to reduce them. These are from industry and commercial operations (38.89%), transport (36.98%) and housing, such as energy use and heating (23.66%)

The plan includes input from collaborations with organisations, specialist groups and experts to better understand their priorities and capture ideas on how Hampshire can reach its carbon neutral target, and how we can all work together effectively to achieve this.

Cabinet also approved new decision-making tools, created by the Carbon Trust, designed to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impact of all significant decisions made by the County Council at the start of all projects. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets; and will ensure climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

## **Great Waste Grants Open**

Grant funding is now available to community groups, small businesses, schools, charities and Parish Councils to fund projects to help reduce waste, reuse or repair items. The fund has supported many projects in the past including repair cafes, cookery and upcycling classes in schools, a second-hand school uniform service, swap events and a click and collect service for refillable containers.

The deadline for the first round of applications is Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020. A second round of applications will be open in early 2021. For more information <https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/02102020Wastegrant>

## **Surface Water Drainage and Flooding - Useful Contacts:**

Hampshire Highways routinely maintains Hampshire's 60,000 gullies and 4,600 catchpits, as well as carrying out a continued programme of improvements to highway surface water drainage systems to make Hampshire more resilient to the effects of extreme weather as we have seen lately. Please see below some useful contacts:

If you believe the flooding is from a main river contact the Environment Agency at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency> or phone 0800 80 70 60.

Urgent issues on the public highway can be reported to the County Council via [www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems) during office hours and via 101 outside office hours.

Surface water flooding on the highway can also be reported direct to Hampshire County Council at [www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems](http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems)

For other incidents of flooding please report these at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/reportingflooding>

Flood prevention guidance on reducing the risks and impacts of flooding is available at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/floodprevention>

Advice from Hampshire County Council and the Environment Agency on managing the risk of flooding is available at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/flooding/sandbags>

Advice on how householders can be prepared: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/emergencyplanning/whattoplanfor/floodingadvice>

To sign up for flood alerts visit: <https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>

**Cllr Roger Huxstep**  
**Member for Meon Valley Division**  
**Hampshire County Council**

**6<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

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## **Appendix B**

### **October Parish Council Report.**

#### **Winchester Sport & Leisure Park reaches next major milestone**

Winchester City Council's new sport & leisure park at Bar End is set to become one of the greenest buildings in the south of England after reaching its latest major construction milestone. Construction partner Willmott Dixon has now completed installation of more than 400 Photovoltaic (PV) solar panels on the roof of the fitness suite and sports hall, which will generate enough renewable energy to power the lights in the main swimming pool hall for 21.5 hours a day.

In addition to the PV panels, the new centre boasts a specialist infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions and improve water efficiency through the use of thermally-efficient solar control glazing, extensive rainwater drainage and biodiversity enhancements. Combined heat and power for heating the pools' water and electrical generation will also contribute to the project achieving an 'excellent' BREEAM rating, a key marker in certifying the building's sustainability credentials.

The state-of-the-art facility will be equipped with the latest features including a 50m competition pool, a separate training pool (also with a movable floor), an eight-court sports hall, four squash courts 200 gym stations, two large studios and 'Top Rock' indoor fun climbing. A hydrotherapy suite, in partnership with The Pinder Trust, will also be available for patients with long term health conditions and for the public to receive physiotherapy, support with sports injuries and pain relief or for general relaxation.

#### **35 new affordable council homes in Kings Worthy**

One of Winchester City Council's newest housing schemes is starting to take shape. The scheme will provide 35 homes with a range of different housing options including affordable rent and shared ownership.

Contractors Drew Smith have made significant progress over the summer, with all foundation work well advanced and the timber frame construction complete to many of the plots. The scheme is on track to be completed in summer 2021. The council is also working with local residents and ward councillors to preserve a much-loved open space called Top Field at Hookpit Farm. Significant ecological preservation work is being carried out with over 100 slow worms already relocated on the site for protection. Public Consultations have been held by the Natural Environment and Recreation Team which will inform how the area will be left.

The mixture of homes at Hookpit Farm includes 25 affordable rent, eight shared ownership and two discounted market sales.

## **Winchester Street Market trials Broadway move on Sundays**

Winchester Street Market will be trialling a new location in The Broadway from Sunday 6 September.

Moving the stalls from their previous location on Winchester High Street and Middle Brook Street car park, this trial looks to test an element of the long-term aspirations around increasing the vibrancy of the Central Winchester Regeneration area. Organisers are also looking to assess the benefits around improved ease of social distancing in the more spacious area.

The primary location will be The Broadway and there will also be a limited number of stalls positioned on the Lower High Street and Middle Brook Street. The trial will assess the impact on the market and High Street footfall as well as the level of traffic generated in Colebrook Street.

To accommodate the stalls, The Broadway will be closed from the bus station entrance to the junction of Market Street and Colebrook Street, with access to the Mercure Wessex Hotel and Market Street routed via Colebrook Street. Great Minster Street and the Square will remain closed

## **Free Wi-Fi launched in Winchester city centre**

Winchester City Council has launched the new service which will be available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, helping to support the city's reopened businesses.

The Wi-Fi coverage includes Winchester Railway Station and all of the High Street, as well as The Broadway, King Alfred statue, Jewry Street and The Square, enabling residents and visitors alike to remain connected as they shop, eat and go about their day. Those who sign up will also be eligible to receive updates and special offers of interest.

To access the Wi-Fi search for the WinCityFree Wi-Fi network signal on your device and tap connect. Registration is a couple of clicks and you will be online in no time at all and able to check your email, or visit your favourite websites without worrying about data charges.

**Hugh Lumby Laurence Ruffell**