



West Meon Parish Council Meeting Minutes
7th January 2025; 6.00pm
West Meon Village Hall

Present: Cllr H Davies (chair), Cllr R Gedye; Cllr V Burke; Cllr G Silk, Cllr Tim Main
In Attendance: Cllr Bolton (WCC), Cllr Wallace (HCC). Three members of the public and the Locum clerk, Tom Brindey

Item No.	Item	Decision
2898	Apologies for absence	1. None
2899	Chair's remarks	2. None
2900	Disclosable pecuniary interests	3. None
2901	Public questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Members RESOLVED to suspend Standing orders to allow for public participation. A member of the public spoke about traffic calming and offered to help A member. of the public advised they planned to stand in the by-election
2902	Resume SO	1. Members RESOLVED to resume Standing orders
2903	Report from outside bodies: District Council	<p>District Council.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Borough Cllr Neil Bolton addressed the council. Devolution and creation of a unitary authority would impact Winchester City Council. The Regulation 18 public consultation on the South Downs National Park local plan would run from 20 January to 17 March 2025. The Boomtown Music Festival license was being challenged by the police. Hydrock had advised that a topographical survey was required before they could progress their report on flood risk. This survey was not available from the Environment Agency. Hydrock could suggest a vendor.
2904	Report from outside bodies: County Council	<p>County Council.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Malcolm Wallace addressed the council. The county would decide on 9th January whether to request a postponement of the county elections planned for May 2025. The county would also consider it's stance on the proposed split into four Unitary authorities to cover Hampshire, Southampton Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, as part of the Devolution programme.
2905	Mins of previous meetings (03/12/24)	1. Members RESOLVED to accept the minutes as a true record and the chair was authorised to sign.
2906	By-election	1. The by-election for four seats on West Meon Parish Council would be called on 8 th January. Closing date for nominations is 16 th January. If there are more than four nominations, a poll will be held on Thursday 6 th February.

2907		1. Members RESOLVED to fund the issuing of polling cards.
2908		1. Members noted that the cost of the election would depend on whether it was contested.
2909	Flood Action group	1. Members noted that papers had been signed with Hydrock survey. 2. A grant of £10,230 had been received
2910	Funding for weir	1. Members RESOLVED to assign £30,000 in the 2025/26 budget
2911	Personnel development and training	1. Members RESOLVED to take out a subscription to the HALC LCPD service.at a cost of £180.
2912	Training for members	1. Members approved the cost of training courses for Cllrs Burke and Main.
2913	Community Transport	1. David Williams, a trustee of the Meon Valley Community Bus Association, addressed the council. 2. Mr Williams explained that the bus service was free and driven by volunteers. 3. The trust owned the buses. 4. Members RESOLVED to include a £1,000 grant to the trust in the 2025/26 budget.
2914	Clerk's report	1. The locum clerk presented his report which was noted.
2915	Clerk recruitment	1. Deferred to end of meeting
2916	Car Park Extension	1. Members noted the pre-app advice from SDNP planning that the proposed extension was unlikely to be approved, on several grounds. 2. Members agreed not to pursue the extension. 3. Members RESOLVED to assign £60,000 in the 2025/26 budget for improvements to the existing car park, including the marking of parking bays.
2917	Bank balances	1. The balances on the current and deposit accounts as of 31 st December 2024 were noted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current account 64,801.75 • Deposit Account 52,272.30
2918	Scribe	1. Members RESOLVED to take out a subscription to the Scribe accounting software.
2919	Payroll	1. Members RESOLVED to take out a subscription to a payroll company.
2920	Year-end forecast	1. Members noted the year end forecast: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash 113,631 • Earmarked 105,000 (Carpark 30k, Trees 5k, Recreation 10k, Flood 30k) • Free 8,631
2921	2025/26 budget	1. Members considered the clerk's 2025/26 budget proposals. 2. Members considered the substantial reserves and RESOLVED that these were necessary to fund the projects planned in 2025/26 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood defences • Car park refurbishment • Repairs to the wall at The Cross 3. Members RESOLVED to adopt the budget as amended.
2922	2025/26 precept	1. Members RESOLVED to set the precept at £40,500

2923	Payments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Members noted the payments made to date and those planned for January 2026. Members noted that the invoice for cloud hosting had been paid by the Locum clerk's company, Todeka Ltd, in order to reinstate the web site and councillor emails which had been blocked. 																																																
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee</th> <th>Service</th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Gross</th> <th>Method</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hugo Fox</td> <td>website</td> <td>9.99</td> <td>2.00</td> <td>11.99</td> <td>DD</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Todeka Ltd</td> <td>Cloud services</td> <td>99.98</td> <td>12.00</td> <td>119.98</td> <td>FP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Todeka Ltd</td> <td>Locum clerk services</td> <td>922.80</td> <td>184.56</td> <td>1191.36</td> <td>FP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HALC</td> <td>Training</td> <td>48.00</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>48.00</td> <td>FP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Winchester</td> <td>Election expense</td> <td>TBA</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HALC</td> <td>LCPD services</td> <td>180.00</td> <td>36.00</td> <td>216.00</td> <td>FP</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Starboard</td> <td>Scribe accounting</td> <td>719.00</td> <td>143.00</td> <td>862.00</td> <td>FP</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee	Service	Net	VAT	Gross	Method	Hugo Fox	website	9.99	2.00	11.99	DD	Todeka Ltd	Cloud services	99.98	12.00	119.98	FP	Todeka Ltd	Locum clerk services	922.80	184.56	1191.36	FP	HALC	Training	48.00	0.00	48.00	FP	Winchester	Election expense	TBA				HALC	LCPD services	180.00	36.00	216.00	FP	Starboard	Scribe accounting	719.00	143.00	862.00	FP	
Payee	Service	Net	VAT	Gross	Method																																													
Hugo Fox	website	9.99	2.00	11.99	DD																																													
Todeka Ltd	Cloud services	99.98	12.00	119.98	FP																																													
Todeka Ltd	Locum clerk services	922.80	184.56	1191.36	FP																																													
HALC	Training	48.00	0.00	48.00	FP																																													
Winchester	Election expense	TBA																																																
HALC	LCPD services	180.00	36.00	216.00	FP																																													
Starboard	Scribe accounting	719.00	143.00	862.00	FP																																													
2924	Planning applications received post agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> SDNP/24/04904/FUL 4 Headon View West Meon Hampshire GU32 1LH No objection SDNP/24/05205/HOUS Bolt House Love Lane West Meon Hampshire GU32 1HS No Objection 																																																
2925	Planning decisions	1. None																																																
2926	Date/time of next meeting	1. Tuesday 4th February 2025 at West Meon VH; 6.00pm.																																																
2927	To exclude press and public	1. Members RESOLVED to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.																																																
2915 deferred	Recruitment of new clerk	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate offered the role had withdrawn. Four people had since applied. The locum clerk was asked to draw up circulate CVs and propose a short list of candidates to be interviewed. The locum clerk was asked to arrange interviews with the selected short list candidates. Members hoped to appoint the new clerk at the February meeting. 																																																

The meeting closed at 8.41 pm

Signed:

Name:

(Chair of meeting approving minutes)

Dated: