



DRAFT MINUTES

West Meon Parish Council
06 June 2023; 7.30pm; West Meon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair); Cllr Waller; Cllr Nicholson; Cllr Edwards; & Cllr Gedye

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Bolton (WCC; left at 7.59pm); Cllr Pett (WCC; left at 7.59pm); & 4 members of the public.

Meeting started at 7.32pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2368	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2369	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Lumby (HCC).	
2370	Disclosable pecuniary interests	Cllr Waller - agenda item 2386; SDNP/23/02242/HOUS Sunnybank.	
2371	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2372	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. No questions/comments made.	
2373	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2374	District councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Report received (Appendix A). Cllr Bolton commented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK Shared and Rural England Prosperity Fund. [WMPC cllr commented that WMVH has already submitted an application.] Info to be placed on the PC website. Funding towards play areas? Flooding issues - hydrologist costs looking likely to be in the region of £5k. Could this be funded by a combination of a WCC grant & PC contribution? <p>Cllr Pett commented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNPA has confirmed that in principle CiL funds can be used for funding schemes tackling traffic speed issues, but would need to look into whether ok for legal costs. 	Cllr Nicholson

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDNPA – submitting strong objection to the M3 J9 proposal - Highways proposal does not do enough to mitigate the harm that will be caused. • A32/A272 speed cameras feedback – Parish forums on motorbike noise & nuisance has been organized for 14/06/23. Noise recorders not yet fitted. • MoP asked if results from the average speed cameras will be made public. [It should be. If not, becomes a FoI issue.] 	
2375	County councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Report received (Appendix B). Cllr Lumby commented as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current High Street road closure with no notification - no students are able to get to school by bus & GCSEs currently happening. Has been very inconvenient. Could have been done last week during half term. In the future, could Care Group drivers help families who don't drive if a similar situation occurs? [Cllr Waller to speak to Care Group.] • Last bus journey of the day will be stopping in WM. Has been communicated to villagers. 	Cllr Waller
2376	Police/PCSO report	Not received.	
2377	Mins of previous meetings (16/05/23)	Agreed as a true record.	
2378	Clerk's progress report	<p>Parish Lengthsman Agreement Timetable for 2023/24 has now been received. WM dates as follows: 26th June 2023 18th Aug 2023 24th Nov 2023 31st Jan 2024</p> <p>Cllrs to provide Clerk with list of work to be done for 26/06/23 asap.</p> <p>Finance & Administration WG WMPC-WMVH lease – discussions ongoing. To be discussed agenda item 2394.</p> <p>Asset Register Internal Auditor has advised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial cost prices of existing assets should be added in as 'best estimate', based on the total fixed asset value used for the AGAR 2021/22. • Insurance amounts for each category should be reassessed to reflect assets which can be self insured. <p>Community, Housing & Recreation WG Lengthsman (steps between Marlands Lane & Storeys Meadows) – Cllr Edwards to advise.</p> <p>Public questions Removal of un-working traffic speed signs on A32. Clerk currently trying to find out who owns signs.</p>	All cllrs
2379	Bank account	Bank balance - £127,127.04 @ 31/05/23 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statements 152, 01 May 2023 to 31 May 2023.)	Clerk

2380	Annual Governance Statement 2022/23	Resolved: that the PC completes and approves the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23.	Clerk
2381	Accounting Statements 2022/23	Resolved: that the PC approves the accounting statements for 2022/23.	Clerk
2382	Conflict of Interest with BDO LLP Form	Resolved: that the PC approves the form confirming that it has no conflict of interest with BDO LLP (external auditor).	Clerk
2383	Annual Internal Audit Report 2022/23	Resolved: that the PC receives and approves the annual internal audit report for 2022/23 and acknowledges any recommendations made within that report.	Clerk
2384	Image for Village Design Statement	<p>Cllr Waller clarified that the fee of £70.00 is only for the use in perpetuity of the image on ONE type of product e.g. notelets or teatowels. To use it on a different type of product would require new permission & fee.</p> <p>Resolved: that the PC postpones making a decision about purchasing the rights to the picture created for the VDS/LCA, until it has formal confirmation from WM Village Shop that it wishes to proceed.</p> <p>Cllr Trenchard to speak to Secretary of Village Shop Committee to explain how it could work and confirm that the Shop would need to pay for the manufacture of the goods but would then retain any profit made.</p>	Cllr Trenchard
2385	Payment of accounts	<p>Mrs J C Tester Clerk's salary & mileage claim (May 2023) £704.01</p> <p>NEST Clerk's pension (May 2023) £56.16</p> <p>Mrs J C Tester Clerk's expenses (meeting with Boules/Sports Club 24/05/23) £7.11</p> <p>West Meon Village Hall Hall hire (May 2023) £18.00</p> <p>Information Commissioner's Office Registration 2023/24 £35.00</p> <p>Do the Numbers Ltd Internal Audit for y/e 31/03/23 £320.00</p> <p>Victim Support Grant for f/y 2023/24 £100.00</p>	Clerk
2386	Planning applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDNP/23/02151/HOUS – Fox Cottage Woodlands Bramdean Hampshire SO240HW. Single storey side and rear extension with internal alterations. [NO OBJECTION.] • SDNP/23/02194/PNTEL - Telecom Mast Site at Vinnells Wood, Vinnells Lane, West Meon, Hampshire. Notification under regulation 5 - the replacement of the existing 3 no. antennas and installation of 3 no. proposed antennas mounted to tower headframe. Cabin to be upgraded internally. Ancillary development thereto. The overall appearance of the site will remain largely unchanged. [NO OBJECTION.] <p>Cllr Waller left the room for the following discussion.</p>	Clerk

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDNP/23/02242/HOUS Sunnybank Church Lane West Meon Hampshire GU321LD. First floor rear extension. [NO OBJECTION.] 	
2387	Planning apps received after 31/05/23	None received.	Clerk
2388	Planning decisions	None.	
2389	Planning WG	No written report & no updates.	
2390	Boules Court	<p>Resolved: that the PC has discussed the meeting between West Meon & Warnford Sports Club representatives and WMPC representatives on 24/05/23, and agrees upon the following design for the boules court:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting – rather than around the court as per the original planning application, trees to be placed along the side of the Rec where Ash trees have previously been removed. This will need to be done in the autumn/winter, not now. The PC would be happy with 10 saplings of native British trees. Purchase and planting costs to be incurred by the Sports/Boules Club. Permanent wooden picket fencing (similar to that around the infant play area) of 900mm (not 1200mm) height should be erected around the court, with the following distances between court and fence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> East & West 1.0m (reduced from 2.0m) South 0.5m (reduced from 1.0m) North 4.0m (reduced from 4.5m; the 'gazebo' area will be 3.0m rather than 3.5m in depth) <p>Clerk to e-mail the above to Hugh Morris.</p>	Clerk
2391	Community, Housing & Recreation WG	<p>No written report. The following updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls' Football Club at WM – looking to have training sessions over the summer. Proposal for 4 pitches. 7 a-side pitch won't fit in proposed area. Another meeting has been arranged to discuss & approach FA to see if there is any leeway on size. Recreation Ground playground – no progress. For July PC meeting. Parish News – Items to be included in the next PC report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for residents to cut back their hedges. Importance of Ox-eye daisies around The Cross (some residents have complained that it looks unkempt). Once they die off, maintenance will be carried out. Formal thanks to team who help to keep the village grounds tidy. Adult gym equipment – no progress. Cllr Nicholson to chase. Christmas Lighting – Cllr Waller has spoken to MoPs who arrange lighting. Need to request an estimate & speak to property owners. Monetary contribution for cost of electric to 	<p>Cllrs Waller/Edwards</p> <p>Cllr Nicholson</p> <p>Cllr Nicholson</p>

		<p>be offered by PC. Pete Clements to be consulted by Cllr Waller.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking on Rec – school football tournament 09/06/23; extra parking will be needed during the day. PC agrees that okay for them to park on the Rec. Raises the concern about parking space going forward. • PC Rep on WMVH Committee - Clerk to inform VH that Cllr Edwards is now rep. • Steps between Marlands Lane and Storeys Meadow - Clerk to contact Hyde Housing to ask if they have adopted the area where the steps are. The 2010/11 planning consent documents indicate that this may be the case. • Property still for lease in Storeys Meadow – cllrs noted the huge discrepancy between the rental for this property and other Council housing in the village. Ground rent for properties in Storeys Meadow has also increased by £30/week. Cllrs consider this to go against goes against the principle of affordable housing. Agenda item for July PC meeting to discuss formally. Clerk to ask Cllr Bolton for more information before the meeting. <p>Resolved: that the PC approves the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary SID to be loaned from Corhampton & Meonstoke PC (C&MPC) at a cost of £50 per 2-week deployment. [Deployment Booking Form to be signed & returned to C&MPC.] • Potential sites identified by Cllrs Waller & Edwards approved by cllrs. Clerk to send details to HCC. • Licence S72 between WMPC and HCC to be signed. • Fee of £250.00 to be paid to HCC for assessing proposed sites. • Installation/removal details (including who undertakes; training needed; risk assessment etc.) to be confirmed (Cllrs Waller & Edwards happy to do; will need to carry out a full risk assessment & provide hi vis etc.) 	<p>Cllr Waller</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2392	Speed Indicator Device		
2393	Finance & Administration WG	No written report received. No comments/points raised.	Clerk
2394	Land Registration & Leases	<p>Resolved: that the PC has reviewed the information and advice given by the Internal Auditor and agrees upon the following actions going forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to contact current solicitor to advise that IA has advised to speak to a sector-specialist solicitor. To be thanked for assistance and paid for services rendered to date. • Giles Wheeler-Bennett to be thanked and paid for expertise. • Clerk to let Rifle Club and VH know that there will be a delay whilst the new solicitor is brought on board. • New solicitor to be contacted. <p>It was also noted that the application for registration of the Recreation Ground land by the PC was submitted at least 7</p>	Clerk

		months ago. There is a long delay with Land Registry. This will need to be sorted before leases can be drawn up.	
2395	Grants Policy & Grant Application Form	Resolved: that the PC approves the updated grants policy and grant application form. Cllr Nicholson to upload final copies onto the PC website.	Cllr Nicholson
2396	Flood Action Group	Report received (Appendix C)	
2397	Annual Meeting of the Parish	Resolved: that the PC has reviewed the Annual Meeting of the Parish, held 27/04/23, and discussed any issues emerging. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed indicator device (mins ref 2392). • Thanks to Cllr Waller for Parish News article. 	
2398	Reports & Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new WCC community grant schemes are due to commence 01/06/23: District Small Grants (up to £1k) & Project Grants (up to £5k). 	
2399	Date/time of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues 11th July 2023 at West Meon VH (Small Hall); 7.30pm. (<u>Changed from 4th July 2023.</u>) 	
2400	Confidential matters	Members of the public/press were excluded from the meeting.	
2410	Co-option of Cllr	Resolved: that the PC appoints Allan Thomson as a co-opted member of WMPC. Clerk to arrange necessary paperwork etc.	Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.49pm

Signed:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

Winchester City Councillors' June 2023 Report

UK Shared and Rural England Prosperity Fund

As part of the UK Government's Levelling Up agenda, Winchester District has been awarded almost £1.75 million by to spend on local investment through both the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and The Rural England Prosperity Fund.

Both funds have been designed to align with the levelling up agenda, and the council's local objectives of:

- o Tackling the Climate Emergency and Creating a Greener District

- o Vibrant Local Economy
- o Living Well
- o Your Service, Your Voice

Two drop-in sessions to support businesses and community groups with their REPF applications will take place next week:

Micheldever - 7 June - 09:30 - 11:30 - The Warren Centre Bishops Waltham - 7 June - 13:00 - 15:00 - Jubilee Hall - Ruby Room

The UK shared prosperity fund is £1m to be spent over three years throughout the district on projects that focus on inspiring pride in place, helping the district to become greener faster and supporting a vibrant local economy.

In addition, Winchester City Council is announcing four grant funding calls in its rural areas under the Rural England prosperity fund. There is a total of £745,000 over two years to support capital projects for small businesses and community infrastructure projects.

Applications for the Rural England Prosperity Fund for Businesses and Community groups are now open and will close on 3rd July 2023.

Grants are for between £10k to £25k and cannot be subject to other grant funding and businesses have to contribute 50%.

Many of the projects discussed at the parish councils, from solar panels on the village hall with EV points to the improvement of green spaces for the community, on the face of it, fall squarely under this funding and so I wanted to bring this to everyone's attention. Also, it is important that we get this message out to local rural businesses as this could really help with capital projects and the creation of jobs.

We don't want our rural community to miss out on economic stimulus.

<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/business/uk-shared-prosperity-fund>

Councillor Neil Bolton, Upper Meon Valley Ward

Nbolton@winchester.gov.uk

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor Report June 2023

1. Parish Forum on Motorbike Noise and Nuisance Following the installation of the average speed cameras on the A32 and the A272 and the increased police operations in the wider area, Hampshire County Council is holding a forum with the police and local MPs for parishes on motorbike noise and nuisance. This will take place via Teams at 3pm on Friday 14th July. All parishes within the Meon Valley Division are invited to attend. If you would like to attend, please let me know and I will forward the Teams link.

2. Cost of living support Hampshire County Council has announced plans for how £14.2million of additional funding will be used to help local households struggling with the cost of food and energy prices. The funding is an extension of Government's Household Support Fund (HSF) until the end of March 2024. They will continue to work closely with other local organisations including district and borough councils, education settings, charities and neighbourhood groups to ensure that eligible households receive support with food, energy and water bills and assistance with essential household items. This includes up to £200,000 of funding to provide locally-based food and energy advice services, alongside practical help with costs. The funding allocation includes:

- £800,000 to support the community pantry network and £361,000 for organisations supporting unpaid carers
- £800,000 in community grants for locally based organisations to support local residents
- £4,442,870 to district and borough councils to provide food vouchers and support with exceptional housing costs
- £2,845,622 to schools and other educational establishments to offer support at their own discretion to families most in need
- £460,000 in direct fuel support to vulnerable adults
- £715,000 in food vouchers to foster carers and connected carers.

Details of how to seek support can be found at the connect4communities website

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities>

3.Greening campaigns More communities across Hampshire can be empowered to take positive action on climate change over the next three years, thanks to almost £0.5million of National Lottery funding awarded to the Greening Campaign, with support from Hampshire County Council. This could include improving the energy efficiency of people's homes, reducing CO2, reducing waste, reusing and repairing, being more sustainable through locally grown produce, and providing green spaces for wildlife to thrive. The Greening Campaign is a structured process, guiding communities to act on climate change and biodiversity locally. Guidance, based on experience gained from working with over 200 other groups across the UK, provides a blueprint for success for each step of the way, starting with motivating people in the community to get involved, through to making it fun and rewarding. Locally, we have seen a successful campaign in Hambledon. Two events are being held for those wanting to know more - on 12th June in Winchester and on 15th June in Petersfield, both at 6.30pm. Information or booking can be found at <https://greening-campaign.org/events/>

4.New support for buses Operators of nine bus routes have secured funding totalling £3.5m from Hampshire County Council, including protecting services in Alresford, Petersfield and Winchester for the next four years. Buses locally are under pressure with bus passenger numbers locally and nationally still below pre-pandemic levels. This is making it more challenging for the operators to deliver viable services, especially when coupled with increased operating costs and driver shortages. I continue to engage with the council on some local changes locally and can how these can be more joined up. The Government has extended the £2 bus fare cap to the end of October 2023, rising to just £2.50 until November 2024, so this is very much an affordable way to travel when services are available and the timetables work.

5.Rural verge cutting Hampshire Highways have now begun their seasonal grass cutting programme. This can be an emotive subject to many, especially in the nesting season. The department work closely with the conservation charity, Plantlife UK, to ensure that their work promotes biodiversity; in particular, they try to avoid cutting grass at ecologically important times, and particularly at sensitive sites. For safety reasons however, there are some locations where roadside grass still needs to be mown in order to maintain adequate visibility and sight lines, for example on the approaches to roundabouts or at junctions. More information can be found at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/grasscutting>

6.Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan consultation The consultation on the update to the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan closed at the end of January this year. The summary report on the responses can be seen at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan/minerals-waste-plan-partial-update-consultation>

These responses are being considered and the next stage is for the Minerals and Waste Authority to publish a response.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division
hugh.lumby@hants.gov.uk

APPENDIX C

Report from the WM Flood Action Group

Further to the very helpful Parish Council meeting last month we have made some progress and I have met with the architect acting for the proposed purchasers of Westbury House. The meeting was very positive and the architect advised

- 1 They have a pre application running with South downs national Park for the redevelopment of Westbury House as a single family home.
- 2 The redevelopment would involve substantial works to the river and pond to the front to include – de silting the current pond and river section, adding a further pond to take more water.
- 3 They are looking for the main entrance to come from the gate at the bottom of Coombe lane and to carry out works to the entrance way to prevent future flooding.
- 4 They have employed their own ecologist to work on the plans for the river and have suggested we might use him as well.

In all a very positive response.

I have also enlisted Sally Falconer who owns the northern section of the river after coombe lane to the group and am speaking to the Langdon's who appear equally positive about helping with works to alleviate the problems.

I am aiming to have a first meeting of the group in the first week of July, subject to the availability of the environment agency.

I hope this gives you a little update on progress.

Regards

David Butcher