

HAMBLEDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 January 2016 in the Village Hall

Present: John Anderson (Chairman), Mary Grove, Karen Jones, Mike Parry, Stewart Payne and Philip Underwood; Cllr. Nick Holder; and Jane Woolley (clerk)

Apologies: Paul Pattison, Cllr. Anna James

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2015 were **agreed** and signed.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Chairman: Director, Hambledon Village Shop; Trustee, Hambledon Almshouses, Trustee, Hambledon Football Club

Mike Parry: Trustee, Hambledon Almshouses

Karen Jones: Trustee, Hambledon Almshouses

Mary Grove: Member, Village Hall Committee; Trustee, Hambledon Football Club.

3. REPORTS BY WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Holder reported as follows:

Cutbacks to Surrey Police: further saving of £26m required over the next four years which had to take into account rises in, inter alia, domestic violence and cyber crime; cuts in many other areas but dedicated Neighbourhood Inspectors and Police Community Support Officers to remain in place; more emphasis on Neighbourhood Watch.

Cutbacks in central government funding to Waverley: revenue support grant cut by over 50 per cent; no longer possible to continue the six-year old Council Tax freeze if essential frontline services were to be maintained.

4. FINANCE

Financial statement/money off deposit

Noted the balance in the current account and **agreed** a transfer of £2,000 from the deposit account to cover projected expenditure for the remainder of the year.

Cheques

Confirmed the following -

Ryman: storage boxes for AEDs	£ 99.98
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Agreed and signed the following -

Tim Coleman: December maintenance	£ 180.00
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Waverley Borough Council: May election expenses	£ 799.61
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Colin Rapley: annual gully and ditch cleans (localism initiative)	£1,398.00
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Hambledon Village Shop: redeemed Smith's charity vouchers	£ 50.00
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Hambledon Almshouses: balance of Smith's grant	£1,950.00
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Workstation: ink	£ 67.98
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Jane Woolley: photocopying, Dunsfold Park planning application	£ 7.20
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Annual grants

- Cricket Club	£ 350.00
- Football Club	£ 350.00
- PCC	£ 400.00
- Hambledon Village Trust (S.137)	£ 400.00
- Hambledon Village Shop (S.137)	£ 400.00
- Hambledon Village Hall	£ 400.00

Budget, 2016-7 – see minute 8

5. PLANNING

Planning applications

- WA15/2360, Marepond Farm: rear extensions

Noted that these were within the 40 per cent limit if applied to the existing (extended) building but not if applied to the original house; that a condition imposed in 1997 that there should be no further extensions had been removed subsequently; the applicant's contention that the present proposals were supported in principle by pre-application advice received in 2013 provided they did not infringe Green Belt extensions policy; and that materials matched the existing house. **Agreed** not to object, subject to Waverley determining that the foregoing constituted grounds for granting permission.

- WA15/2395, Dunsfold Park

Noted this application which included 1,800 houses with the option to increase to 3,400 plus commercial/industrial/institutional/recreational development but which made little or no provision for the transport infrastructure that would be needed to accommodate a development of this size; that the date for receipt of comments (5 February) took account of the need for Waverley to finalise its draft Local Plan by the end of March; and that the Chairman and Stewart Payne would be attending a meeting of adjacent parishes on 20 January to review both the application and the proposed cut-off date. **Agreed** to reconvene after that meeting and before 5 February to formulate a Parish Council response.

Decisions on recent applications

- WA15/1955 - 11 Hydestile Cottages, Hambledon Road: change to size of first floor window: decision pending

- WA15/1959 – Hemingway House, Rock Hill: two-storey extension: full permission

- WA15/1965 - Certification of Lawfulness for existing use of The Greenhouse, Hambledon House as residential accommodation: refused

- WA15/2087 – Certificate of Lawfulness for single storey front extension, 1 Nutbourne Cottages, Roundals Lane: refused.

Orchard Farm

Noted that the outline planning application had yet to be finalised and that dates for the ERHA drop-in event and subsequent Parish Council-facilitated open meeting would be advised as soon as possible thereafter.

6. HAMBLEDON HOUSE – APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE

Noted that this had been withdrawn; that the concerns raised by last July's events appeared to have been recognised, together with the need for future weddings, etc being kept within reasonable noise and time limits; that there were likely to be a few of these in future, for which Temporary Event Notices would be sought on an as-needed basis; and that the possibility of the Parish Council being advised on an informal basis about these would be kept under review.

7. COMMUNITY PLAN

Noted that the application to Big Lottery for supporting funds, which had been prepared with professional advice, had been unsuccessful on the grounds that it was difficult to see why the problems or issues set out in the application needed to be addressed by a Community Plan; and that this view reflected previous informal advice, including that given by Waverley Borough Council. Noted that, a month after articles on the proposed Plan had appeared in the Parish Magazine and on the web site, only six expressions of interest had been received.

Agreed, therefore, not to proceed with the idea as originally postulated but to revert to using the 2003 Parish Plan as a base document, to be up-dated and re-issued in either its existing or a new format and with whatever might be the most appropriate title; and, to prepare for this - to ascertain from Waverley what it would require the document to contain for it to be regarded as material consideration for planning purposes;

- to invite the views of village organisations and groups on what would make Hambledon/its facilities a better place for them/their activities;

- to incorporate the answers in a discussion document, for presentation and a following question and answer session at the Parish Assembly;

- to include £1,000 in the budget for 2016-17 to cover fees for professional advice already obtained and for printing costs of the resultant new document.

8. BUDGET, 2016-17

Noted that the final draft (tabled), with the inclusion of £1,000 for a Community/Parish Plan, would increase last year's precept by just over £1,000; that, averaged out over the past nine years, there had been virtually no increases in the precept; and that, during the last four years, Waverley's support (compensatory and Council Tax support grants) had decreased year-on-year by 10 per cent or more. **Agreed**, therefore, that the proposed increase was not unreasonable and **approved** the precept and the budget for 2016-17.

9. VILLAGE MATTERS

Police

Noted that no crimes had been reported since the last meeting.

Highways: Localism initiative

Noted that an application for a grant of £2,500 in 2016-17 had been submitted to SCC, based on Colin Rapley's estimate.

Noted that gullies and ditches had recently been cleared throughout the village, together with the footpath along the A283 from the Lane End crossroads to Northbridge Farm.

Highways: other matters

Noted the further concerns of Paul Smith (The Sheiling, Petworth Road) regarding flooding of his and adjacent properties and **agreed** that a further visit from Mike Parry would be appropriate.

Noted complaints resulting from the cutting back (as part of the localism initiative) of overgrown trees/hedging that had been obscuring site lines outside Tigbourn Court; that the Chairman had informed the property owner that essential remedial work would be undertaken; and that the work would be supervised by Mike Parry. **Agreed** that, on this occasion, the Parish Council would pay for the remedial work, after which a decision could be taken as to whether the further involvement of SCC Highways might be required.

Noted the run-off of water from fields on the west side of the Hambledon Road during the recent wet weather.

Noted that Cllr. Victoria Young had agreed to fund the filling in of potholes at the entrance to the Hambledon Common car park from her 2015-16 SCC budget.

Superfast broadband

Noted that the survey of properties in Hambledon which were served by the BT cabinet at the A283/Lane End junction indicated that approx. 60 per cent were able to receive Superfast; that central government and SCC plans for its extension to all properties would be discussed at a meeting with Peter Martin, Deputy Leader, SCC and in charge of its negotiations with BT, on 15 January; and that Chiddingfold would also be represented at the meeting.

Defibrillators

Noted that these were now available at the Church and the Village Shop; expressed concern about their being placed in locked boxes, even though the codes would be given to anyone dialing 999; queried the £20 training fee, given the amount of information that was publicly available; and noted that the first training session was planned for 7 February, to be attended by representatives of the Football Club, the Cricket Club, St Dominic's and the Nursery School plus (probably) two individuals.

10. VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Almshouses

Agreed to suggest to the Trustees that the Smith's charity money (minute 4) be spent on external works, including improvements to the fencing.

Village Shop

Noted work to be undertaken wef 1 February, as part of the second phase of the current refurbishment; and that full details were on the web site and would also be included in the February Parish Magazine.

Neighbourhood Watch

Noted that, in view of Surrey Police cut-backs (see minute 3), this might be reviewed as part of the Parish Plan up-date.

The Merry Harriers

Noted that it remained up for sale and that a meeting had taken place earlier in January to review alternative forms of financial input/ownership. **Agreed** the importance of Hambledon retaining its village pub, noted potential vehicles for helping to ensure this and asked the Clerk to have an initial informal discussion with the owners.

11. OUTSIDE MEETINGS

There were none.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Surrey/Sussex devolution. Noted the letter from the Sussex and Surrey Association of Local Councils, that Surrey was not particularly supportive of the idea and that no information about it had been formally received by Waverley. **Agreed**, therefore, that it would be premature for the Parish Council to accept the invitation to attend a forthcoming briefing meeting on this topic.

Death of George Walker. Noted the letter of condolence that had been sent on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.45

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16 February 2016