

MINUTES OF MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

Held on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Jeff Channing, in chair, Julia Barnett, Peter Barnett, John Millns, Andy Simmonds, Gareth Jenkins and clerk to the council, Sue Holder. Also, in attendance were, Ian Jeffrey Test Valley Borough Council, Louise Govier of the National Trust and one member of the public.

19/091 APOLOGIES: Cllr Gibson

19/092 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

19/093 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 16th January : were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

19/094 MATTERS ARISING:

- Noted that a Test Valley Borough Council Planning Enforcement Officer has visited the site north of Hillside Cottage with nothing to report at this time.
- A new Lengthsman is still to be appointed.
- It was reported that Telent on behalf of Great Western Railway have tested the passenger information points at the train station, and they are working however the response rate can often be slow. A passenger information sheet is being considered to explain how to use the information points and quotes for a new server to support the system is in hand.

19/095 PARISHONERS OPEN FORUM: Nothing to report

19/096 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:

While there is a degree of uncertainty regarding Brexit, we do know our budget for the next year and the rise in Council Tax will be 2.99% and this will be agreed at the HCC Full council meeting on the 14th February. As you will realise there are different elements to the Council Tax and while HCC represents around 70% of the total, there are still the other elements to be determined.

Library the Andover Library refurbishment is now finished, and the Library is now open. It is a Community Centre and very family friendly.

Test Valley School It has now been decided that the Swimming Pool will be closed due to the cost of maintain it. The pool has an annual cost of circa £12k that the School cannot afford without additional funding. The loss of this facility is sad.

Buses. The continuing struggle with Finances means that bus routes are again under the spotlight please use the buses so that there is evidence of use.

Salt Bins. I would ask you all to check that salt bins have been filled in your villages and please contact me if there are any that still need to be filled up. I was promised that all Salt Bins would be filled by the 24th December. However, after the recent snow some may now be in need of a top up.

Highways. Please continue to report potholes on the HCC portal and please let me know if reported potholes have not been completed so that I can escalate and ensure that the work is done. The Highways report indicated that Hampshire Highways fills circa 6,000 pot-hole per month which is circa 72,000 per year.

Devolved Budget Please let me know if there are any projects that require funding as there is money available for 2019.

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19/097 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT:

- The Borough Council are not increasing the council tax for 2019/20.
- Borough Council elections are planned for May 2019 with a reduction to three seats in the Mid Test area.
- Traffic Parking Enforcement Officers are to be supplied with chest mounted cameras.
- Test Valley Borough Council have fined a fly-tipper £1000 for leaving rubbish on the A303.
- Test Valley Borough Council have fined a Taxi Driver £700.00 and revoked their license for failing to provide their records.

19/098 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT:

- Visitor numbers were down last year by 2,000 on the previous year. This was due to a period of snow, a wet Easter and a very hot summer, making it a challenging trading year. Visitor figures were recorded to be 375,758.
- Conservation projects continue on the Estate.
- The car park project is progressing with the Engineers looking at long term sustainable solutions to flood maintenance and to maximise the parking area.
- A new forest team has been secured without the need for EU funding.
- A Structural Engineer will visit the Village Hall to access the cracks in the walls which the parish council feel are getting worst.

The parish council addressed the increase in deer numbers in the village, and Louise responded that an increase had been recognised and that the Trust recognised that their current policy was not working. She gave assurances that the current plans would be reviewed. She re-iterated that culling is difficult on the Estate as much of the area is freely open to the public.

19/099 PLANNING

The clerk reported that there were no planning applications for the parish council to consider at the meeting. However, it was reported that Lime Kiln Meadow Farm has recently been offered for sale and is thought to be under offer. The parish council will register an interest with the planning department regarding any potential development of the site under permitted development rights. [Action JC]

19/100 HIGHWAYS

- a) **B3084 Speed Limit** The parish council were in support of Cllr Simmonds' proposal to request a reduction in the speed limit to 30 mph on Hatt Hill and the Spearywell Road following numerous accidents here and an increase in traffic. [Action AS]

A reduction in the speed limit and possible traffic calming measures in Mottisfont village centre were also discussed.

b)

- c) **Church Lane road surface to the cemetery** The parish council were in support of Cllr Simmonds requesting that Highways clear the road here of mud and surface water. [Action AS]

d)

e) **Outstanding Issues**

- Pot holes continue to be reported, including those in Bengers Lane.
- The footpath outside Hatt Farm has been reported to Hampshire County Council as slippery and noted at this meeting that there are no plans to resurface it.

f) **Lengths man**

The current Lengths man is leaving, and a replacement will be appointed.

Noted that the posts on the greens at the entrance to Church Lane need replacing and will be discussed at the next meeting.

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19/101 VILLAGE HALL Nothing to report

19/102 FINANCE

a) TSB Account 00182619	£8,313.02
TCB Account 01542503	£10,685.95

	£18,997.97

b) Payments approved at this meeting:

Clerks pay	£432.72	#618
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c)

d) Grants / Requests for funding

A grant of £315.00 has been applied for from HCC to pay for a final (19/084).

The parish council resolved to grant £150.00 for 2018/19 and a further £150.00 for 2019/20 for the defibrillator maintenance.

19/103 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS: It was reported that parish council elections were planned for May 2019.

• **19/104 CORRESPONDENCE.**

- Village Hall Committee – request for financial assistance with the defibrillator, approved.

19/105 MEETINGS ATTENDED:

- Cllr P Barnett attended the bus committee annual meeting and reported no concerns financially.

19/106 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr Simmonds reported that whilst train passenger numbers on services covered by the Three Rovers Partnership in general are in decline, Mottisfont and Dunbridge Station has seen an increase of 6.3% in passenger numbers and Dean 13.1%.

19/107 PARISHONERS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

- Pot holes in Oakley Road and Oakley Lane were discussed, which have been reported for repair.

19/108 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 24th April 2019 (Annual Parish Meeting).

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 09.15 pm.