

MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17th FEBRUARY 2022, 7.30PM, AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr J Channing (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Barnett (vice chairman) Cllr P Barnett, Cllr J Millns, & Cllr G Jenkins.

In attendance: Heather Bourner - Clerk
TVBC Alison Johnston
Vicky Fletcher- National Trust
PCSO Marie Stubbington
2 Members of public.

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Simmonds & Hampshire Cllr David Drew.

Public Participation

2) No matters were raised by the members of public present.

Declarations of Interest

3) There were no declarations of interests.

Planning

4) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

21/03193/FULLS replace windows & doors and external paintwork-1 Riverside, Lockerley Road- permission

21/03216/LBWS- replace windows, doors & paint finish- Oakley Farmhouse- withdrawn

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

22/00177/LBWS-replacement of modern windows and removal of modern paint finishes internally to oak frame- no objections

5) Report from PCSO Marie Stubbington.

PCSO Stubbington introduced herself and confirmed she had several years working for the police services, the last eight as a PCSO. She said two PCSO's and 3 Police Officers covered the rural beat surrounding Mottisfont which included 24 villages. She said she was aware of the concerns raised by rural communities and was aware of a recent spate of thefts and vandalism in the area. She encouraged everyone to report any incident of concern online as accumulations of evidence regarding one incident can really help. Reports should ask for details to be passed to the beat officers She recommended making it as difficult as possible for thieves to operate using things such as doorbell systems that recorded any movement outside the home or using defensive planting to deter thieves. Finally, she said she would like to hold beat surgeries in the parish and would be grateful for details of a good location to carry these out.

6) County and Borough Councillors' Report –

HCC Cllr David Drew – was not present but had sent a report which is at appendix 1

TVBC Cllr Johnston – reported that Borough Councillor grants were available and applications can be accepted up to March 22nd
She confirmed that she and Cllr Nick Adams-King will be meeting a planning officer at the

disused Station Goods yard to discuss any possible developments. She confirmed the next local plan is now out for consultation.

7) Station Goods Yard, Dunbridge

Cllr Channing explained that the site had recently been advertised for sale under its current planning permission which was use for open storage. The current owners had sought planning permission for housing on the site but had never succeeded in gaining this. At a recent meeting with the owners, the Clerk, Cllr Channing and Cllr P Barnett had discussed ways forward because the parish council did not think that open storage was appropriate in this residential location. TVBC Cllr Johnston will report back from her meeting with planning officers in due course.

National Trust Report

8) Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of Mottisfont Abbey reported some work has taken place on Oakley Bridge although more is required. Mottisfont Abbey are applying to be part of a pilot system regarding advance bookings to hopefully manage visitor numbers and in particular parking, which has caused many issues in the past.

Minutes

9) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2021 were agreed unanimously as a correct record. These were signed by the Chairman.

10) Road repairs, potholes & lengthsman

Cllr Channing confirmed that Cllr Simmonds had repeatedly reported the large potholes near the railway crossing to Hampshire Highways. Cllr J Barnett reported an email she had received recently from a pedestrian who had been injured tripping in a pothole. Despite the issue having been reported several times no work had yet taken place. The Clerk said she would ask HCC Cllr Drew to help with this issue as a risk of injury had clearly been identified. Cllr J Barnett will supply some photographs as evidence.

Network Rail have confirmed the level crossing gates at Dunbridge Station will be replaced with full gates although the work is unlikely to take place for some time.

11) Kissing Gates

Cllr P Barnett had circulated an in-depth report about all footpaths in the parish along with details of stiles and gates present and suggestions as to which of these could be improved. Details had been shared with the National Trust as some footpaths cross their land and they have agreed to review the report and discuss further with Cllr Barnett, although for the most part, gates and stiles on their land were in good condition. Cllrs Barnett will arrange a meeting with the HCC Countryside access team to establish what can be done to make improvements to those footpaths for which other landowners are responsible.

12) Closed Churchyards

Cllr Channing reported that the Parochial Church Council has now served notice on the Parish Council in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 to take responsibility for St Andrew's closed churchyard. It has been established the churchyard was officially closed in 1888. The Clerk said this had been discussed at the November meeting and confirmed following receipt of such a notice the Parish Council can serve notice on the Borough Council, passing responsibility to them. It had been agreed in principle the Parish Council should take this course of action.

The Clerk therefore formally proposed she write to TVBC serving notice on them to take responsibility for the upkeep of the churchyard at St Andrews. All Cllrs agreed this was the correct course of action.

13) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported as follows:

Meeting dates for 2022 have been set as Feb 17th, May 19th which will be the joint AGM and annual parish meeting, 21st July, 22nd September and 17th November

It was agreed that the AGM would take place on 19th May at 7pm, to be followed at 8pm by the Annual Parish Meeting. All Councillors were asked to consider the format they would like the meeting to take, whether any visitors should be asked to attend and give presentations,

and if refreshments should be served.

Concerns had been raised about reported damage to verges by Ace Liftaway trucks currently operating in the area. The Clerk confirmed she had written to the company who had disputed this view. Further complaints raised about the routes these trucks are taking and their speed have also been received although no evidence has been presented. Cllr Channing had been informed that HCC had served notice on Ace Liftaway to reduce the size of the large waste pile at Belbins and the spoil is being transported to construct a wildlife lake at East Tytherley. The planning application for this lake does not have a traffic routing plan. The truck movements are temporary.

Finally, the Clerk confirmed she had attended a HALC update event for Parish Clerks.

14) **Queens Jubilee Celebrations**

A local group had approached the Parish Council to ask for assistance with events to be held in the parish to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. The Clerk confirmed she will apply for a County Councillor grant if the group confirm what form the celebrations are to take.

Finance

15) Balances in the bank accounts were noted as:

31/01/2021:

TSB Charity account £5594.05

TSB Business Instant £11596.39

Payments Resolved: that the following payments be approved and online transactions agreed

H Bourner sal Feb	£250.03
HMRC	£62.40
H Bourner exp	£45.75

Future payments

H Bourner sal March	£250.03
HMRC	£62.40
H Bourner sal April	£250.03
HMRC	£62.40

Retrospective

H Bourner sal Jan	250.03
HMRC	£62.40
Community heartbeat trust	£189.82
National Trust	£900.00

16) **Donation to Broughton Bus.**

The Clerk confirmed £25.00 had been put aside in the budget every year to make a donation to the Broughton Bus however Cllr P Barnett had established at a recent meeting that a donation had not been made recently. Residents of Mottisfont are able to use this service. Cllr Millns believed this sum was related to a historical insurance payment that no longer applied.

Cllr P Barnett, who represents the parish on the bus committee, confirmed that the latest accounts did not show any financial concerns. He said the number of drivers was adequate but that passenger numbers were currently low. Because this was a scheduled service the bus has to run even when empty. All agreed the situation should be monitored and a financial contribution considered if required in the future.

17) **Correspondence**

The Clerk confirmed the following items of correspondence had been received: -

An email regarding motions made to HALC regarding 20 MPH zones

A newsletter from HALC

Emails regarding the TVBC local Plan consultation

Any Other Business

18) A request has been received from a member of public for a bench at Oakley Road. The proposed site was subject to an environmental stewardship agreement and was not therefore possible. An alternative might be considered once the footpath boundary had been realigned although several other possible sites on other footpaths might be preferable.

Cllr Millns said the Village Hall heating system was potentially in need of modification. The lease for the building is in the name of the Parish Council and as such any VAT paid by the Parish Council for these repairs could be recovered. Cllr Channing said the hall had barely been used over the last two years for understandable reasons and was currently used very little and the Parish Council recognised that this would affect the amount of work that could be done to the Hall until bookings and finances improved. Cllr Millns will ask the Village Hall management committee to consider this.

Date of next meeting

18) Thursday 19th May 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall

Appendix 1

Transport Plan to map vision for transport infrastructure to 2050

Hampshire County Council is set to consult on a new plan for local transport that aims to decarbonise the transport system, support economic prosperity and help people in Hampshire live healthy lives

Ahead of seeking agreement to publicly consult on the draft Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP 4), in March, transport planners have briefed members of the Environment, Transport and Economy Select Committee (14 February). The scrutiny committee learned about the background to the Plan, national Government Policy it takes account of and what it could mean for transport infrastructure development if it is approved and adopted.

Subject to being adopted, when finalised, LTP 4 would become a core part of the County Council's policy framework.

Subject to approval on the 10 March 2022, a 12-week public consultation to gather people's views on the draft LTP 4 will commence.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20220214DrflTP4toSelectCtee>

Public consultation opens on County Council's adult social care savings proposals

Hampshire County Council has opened a six-week public consultation on proposals to save £680,000 from its Adult Social Care budget to help meet the County Council's overall budget shortfall of at least £80million by April 2023.

The proposed changes, which could contribute £320,000 towards this target, would end:

- the Neighbourhood Care and Support grant scheme
- the Community Based Support grant scheme
- the Rural Connections grant scheme.

These grants are currently provided to voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations across Hampshire to support adults to continue to live independently in their communities.

Additionally, a further £360,000 could be contributed by reducing funding for commissioned non-statutory services that support people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The consultation closes at 11:59pm on Monday 21 March 2022.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/07022022socialcareproposals>

Maintaining momentum towards a County Deal

Following publication of Government's Levelling-Up White Paper today (Wednesday 2 February), work continues across Hampshire and the surrounding areas to further explore options for a possible County Deal – with a focus on benefitting local communities, by bringing decisions and powers closer to people and places

On 8 February, Members of Hampshire County Council's Cabinet will receive an update on the ongoing work and direction of travel towards a Pan-Hampshire County Deal – based around options featured in a summary 'prospectus' document published in the autumn. The prospectus sets out the ambition, priorities and options for taking forward a County Deal for the Pan-Hampshire area (covering Hampshire County Council, the 11 district and borough councils within the County Council administrative area, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, Isle of Wight Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council) and has formed the basis of further discussions during November and December with the area's borough, district and unitary authorities, as well as wider engagement with other stakeholders.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/02022022CountyDealupdate>

Further year's funding agreed to keep community transport services on the road

With the COVID-19 pandemic still having an impact on levels of all public and community transport use across the county, Hampshire County Council has agreed to maintain contract payments for community transport operators at 100% from 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023. The Executive Member for Highways Operations, agreed a [recommendation to continue the policy](#), implemented during the early stage of the pandemic, of paying 100% contract payments to community transport operators. The move will assist those operators in the recovery and operation of their services, supporting them to maintain service levels whilst they experience lower than usual passenger numbers, and user confidence rebuilds during the coming financial year.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20220131CommTrspSupport22-23>

County councillor grants

A reminder that applications for county councillor grants for this financial year need to be submitted by 28 February. The 2022/23 county councillor grant window will open on 1 June. The link for applications is here:-

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/community/grants/grants-list/county-councillor>

Apply now for grants to run food and activity clubs during the Easter holidays

Community and voluntary organisations able to deliver holiday activities and food schemes for children and young people are being urged to apply for grants for the Easter school break. The grants are provided through the [connect4communities programme](#), which is led by Hampshire County Council in collaboration with partners and funded by the Department for Education (DfE). Previous funding from both the DfE and the Department for Work and Pensions has provided around 77,512 spaces to children eligible for benefits-related free school meals during the 2021 school holidays.

The final date for applications is 20 February 2022

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/220128HAFEastergrants>

Hampshire proud to be first Highway Authority to trial low-carbon street furniture

Hampshire County Council is the first Highway Authority in the country to trial plant-based plastic bollards, in an effort to reduce its carbon footprint, improve safety and save money. The trial project aims to install plant-based bio polymer bollards, derived from sugar cane, which are lighter - so easier for Hampshire Highways operatives to install – and cheaper. The 'non-concrete' bollards are low carbon because they are not made of concrete and they do not have the associated carbon costs in terms of manufacturing. A key constituent of concrete is cement, and the cement industry is responsible for around 7-8% of global carbon dioxide emissions.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/25012022Noncretebollards>

County Council to consult on Home to School Transport changes

Changes to Home to School Transport arrangements, being proposed by Hampshire County Council, will be the subject of a public consultation set to open on 31 January 2022. The eight-week online consultation will be open until 27 March 2022. An information pack and questionnaire will be available, from 31 January, on www.hants.gov.uk/consultations. People will also be able to request easy read, or other alternative format versions. Additionally, a number of information events will be held where children, young people, parents and other interested stakeholders will be able to ask any questions they may have about the proposals. Details about the events will be published also on the consultation webpage.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20220118HtSTConsultationDecision>

[Cllr David Drew](#)

[Test Valley Central Division, HCC](#)