



MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th FEBRUARY 2025, 7.30PM, AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

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

In attendance: Heather Bourner – Clerk
Vicky Fletcher-Manager National Trust, Mottisfont
0 members of the public

1) Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC Cllr A Johnston & Cllr A Simmonds.

2) Public Participation

There were no members of public present.

3) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interests in matters on the agenda. All Councillors confirmed no amendments were required to Register of Interest forms.

4) Minutes & Matters Arising

Resolved: The minutes of the meeting held on 21st November 2024 were agreed unanimously as a correct record. These were signed by the Chairman.

5) County and Borough Councillors' Reports

HCC Cllr David Drew – had sent a recent report which has been circulated to all Councillors.

National Trust Report

6) Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of Mottisfont Abbey reported on events and exhibitions that are planned for 2025, details of which are on the National Trust website.

She confirmed the new Rose Bridge is now complete and a formal opening will take place in the spring, work continues to upgrade the rose garden with new arches proposed which may require listed planning permission, lots of new edging has been installed particularly along the main drive and there is a project to replace curtains in the Whistler Room. Upgrades to the Stables Café are planned as is improved accessibility to the Old Kitchen Café.

Wessex River Trust were successful in their tender for fishing rights on the river and the hope is there will be some interaction with locals and in particular with schools.

Cllr Channing asked what plans were in place to improve parking at busy times and suggested the National Trust need to come up with a permanent solution to the issues which include queues on local roads and parking ad hoc all around the village. Visitor numbers have increased since the matter was first raised in 2005 and it was agreed a solution should be sought. Vicky agreed to consult with Paul Cook who now has a regional role for the Trust.

The cracks in the hall have been reviewed by a specialist who raised no concerns that is unsafe. The

suggestion is the crack is pointed and then monitored. Vicky will ask for the work to be carried out and confirm dates in due course.

7) Planning

The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/02523/FULLS- re roof outbuilding, create parking & replace gates & fencing- Newlyn's Farmhouse- permission

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications reviewed between meetings were endorsed:

24/02898/FULLS- construction of 12 houses, Dunbridge, former goods yard- statement of fact sent with request for application to go to planning committee

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed: None

8) Highways issues

Cllr Simmonds had sent a report to confirm major drainage improvements have been carried out by HCC on Hatt Hill including the removal of a large broken pipe that stuck out into the narrow section of the B3084 opposite Mottisfont Alms Houses. New drainage pipe has been laid underground right up to the junction of Hatt Lane and Hatt Hill, which included filling in the huge and dangerous drop on the edge of the carriageway.

He also said Hampshire Highways maintenance team are programming further drainage work that involves jetting on the section of the B3084 between Hatt Farm and a section of Spearywell Road.

He confirmed he has asked for repairs to be carried out to potholes on Oakley Lane, on stretches of the B3084 at Mottisfont, for example between Jerrem's Hill and the Bentley Bends, in Mottisfont village centre, on Mottisfont Lane and the Mottisfont section of Kimbridge Lane. Some potholes have already been marked up for repair work.

Finally, he has asked the Trust to cut back the badly overgrown hedge at Gardener's Cottage on Oakley Road after complaints by pedestrians.

Cllr Channing said has started reviewing potential sites to install posts for a SID device. All Councillors will review any further sites and these will be considered alongside the requirements of the policy before a report is sent to HCC to see if these sites are viable.

9) Resilience

Cllr Barnett had circulated a draft plan to all councillors and asked for feedback, the plan would be updated with this before a working plan can be agreed. Cllrs Mrs J and Mr P Barnett will attend the next TVBC resilience forum on 8th March.

13) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported as follows

Replacement pads were required for the defibrillators. The best price available was £109.00 for two sets, one for each machine. The Clerk was asked to purchase these and to have them delivered to Cllr Mrs P Barnett who will install them into each machine.

Invoices to Broughton Bus continue to be paid each month following the warm hub cinema events. Costs to the Parish Council will increase slightly as road closures have meant the bus has to travel further. So far, the increase is £12.50 but further costs may be incurred in February and March if the road closure remains in place. Once final figures are known the Clerk will invoice Broughton Parish Council for their share of the costs.

She reported TVBC Neighbourhood Planning team members will be attending the May meeting to talk to Councillors about planning matters.

Finally, she reported she attempted to book an officer's update event regarding end of year procedures and devolution but this was oversubscribed. Cllr Channing had participated in a Microsoft Teams meeting

regarding devolution and gave a brief overview. He said that no change in the role or boundaries of parishes was proposed. More information will become available in due course but the proposed Mayoral elections are expected to take place next year and the new unitary authority replacing TVBC is most likely to be elected in 2027.

14) Finance

i) To note the bank balances 11/02/2025: -

TSB Charity account

£5447.74

TSB Business Instant

£11950.45

ii) To approve the following payments and authorise on line transactions: -

H Bournier sal Dec	£332.80
HMRC	£83.20
H Bournier sal Jan	£332.80
HMRC	£83.20
H Bournier sal Feb	£332.80
HMRC	£83.20
Broughton Bus(Jan)	£104.40
Broughton Bus (Dec)	£39.60
Broughton Bus (Nov)	£79.20
National Trust Ins	£631.81
National Trust rent	£1200.00
Stockbridge PC lengthsman	£70.00
Clerks exps	£30.00

Future payment

H Bournier sal March	£332.80
HMRC	£83.20
H Bournier sal April	£332.80
HMRC	£83.20

Cllr Jenkins confirmed he had reviewed the broken post at the gate on Hatt Hill. The post had rotted and needs to be replaced. The original post was concreted in and will need to be dug out and a new one installed. Cllr Jenkins agreed to carry out the work and liaise with the Clerk regarding costs.

15) Correspondence

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

Mid Test Matters newsletter which had been circulated.

An invitation to attend Commonwealth Flag Raising event.

A request from NP team to visit a Parish Council meeting.

16) Any Other Business-

It had been noted a new defibrillator had been installed at Mottisfont and Dunbridge station which was very close to the machine at the Mill Arms. The Clerk agreed to establish if this was registered as available for general public use 24 hours a day. If this is the case the machine at the Mill Arms could be moved, perhaps to the Village Hall to provide a wider range of coverage.

17) Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 22nd May 2025 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall