

# MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2023, 7.30PM, AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr J Channing (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Barnett (Vice Chairman), Cllr P Barnett & Cllr A Simmonds.

In attendance: Heather Bourner – Clerk  
HCC Cllr David Drew  
Vicky Fletcher - National Trust  
Steve Lees - planning consultant  
Julian Boswell - architect  
4 members of the public.

### **Apologies for Absence**

1) Apologies for absence had been received from TVBC Cllr Alison Johnston.  
Cllr Channing paid tribute to two parishioners who had recently died: Eric Chase who had been a past chairman of the Parish Council and Professor Sir Eric Thomas a renowned physician.

### **Co-option of new Councillor**

2) Gareth Jenkins had expressed an interest in the current Parish Councillor vacancies and provided details of his skills and experience. Cllr Simmonds proposed he be co-opted and this was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Barnett and unanimously agreed. Gareth signed the necessary acceptance of office document and joined the meeting.

### **Orchard Homes presentation**

3) Steve Lees, planning consultant acting for Orchard Homes, gave details of the proposal to build new homes on land known as the old Station Goods Yard. This was the first time the Parish Council had seen the proposals. It is to be taken forward under TVBC's COM9 policy, which relates to community-led development and therefore needs both the support of the parish and to meet the housing needs of the community.

Julian Boswell, architect for the scheme, explained that the site had been surveyed to determine the degree of flood risk and this has been found to be minimal. Noise from the railway had been raised as a concern so the properties have been designed to have living spaces and bedrooms facing away from the railway line. The current plan is to build 12 semi-detached homes, 6 two-bed and 6 three-bed. Highways have been consulted and those houses near the level crossing will have parking spaces to the rear of the properties and those at the bottom of Barley Hill will have spaces accessible from the road. The planned development meets the parking standards set by the local authority. The properties have been designed to reflect architectural styles on Barley Hill, so that some will be brick-faced and some rendered. Three properties will provide affordable housing. These will be offered to a housing association and two are likely to be for affordable rent and one shared ownership.

There will be a public exhibition of the proposals at the Mill Arms on December 4<sup>th</sup> from 2.30 to 6.30pm and the architect, planning consultant, a representative of Orchard Homes and a parish councillor will be present. The public will be asked to complete a questionnaire survey and the views of the

community will help to shape the proposals. The results of the survey will be shared with the Parish Council. The exhibition will be publicised in the Acorn newsletter and on the parish WhatsApp group.

### **National Trust Report**

4) Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of the Mottisfont Estate, reported that work on river restoration continues, along with tree works. Tenders to manage fishing rights will be sought early next year and it is hoped to grant more access to users other than fishermen, including allowing Mottisfont parish residents access to the river banks on designated days.

Finally, she said, Christmas at Mottisfont Abbey starts on 25<sup>th</sup> November when the Trust expects an increase in visitors so traffic controls will be in place.

### **Public Participation**

5) Members of the public present also viewed the planning proposals for the Station Goods Yard.

### **Declarations of Interest**

6) There were no declarations of interests in matters on the agenda.

### **Planning**

7) **The following decisions by TVBC were noted:** 23/00908/FULLS-construction of agricultural access-Lime Kiln Meadow Farm-permission

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

23/02533/LBWS- replacement gates and lean-to roof - Walled Garden, Mottisfont Abbey - no objections

### **County and Borough Councillors' Reports**

8) **HCC Cllr David Drew** – had circulated a report which was shared with all Councillors and can be seen at appendix 1.

**TVBC Cllr Johnston** – had sent apologies.

### **Minutes**

9) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September were agreed unanimously as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Mrs J Barnett, seconded Cllr P Barnett. These were signed by the Chairman.

### **Highways issues**

10) Cllr Simmonds reported HCC are slowly but surely carrying out the works they have agreed to. Problems continue to be reported via the HCC 'report a problem' app. He also highlighted some temporary road closures while repair work is carried out. Signs to advertise this will be erected at least a day in advance. He also confirmed the grips on Lockerley Road have recently been cleared by the lengthsman.

### **Warm Hub Events**

11) Cllr P Barnett reported on an initiative to use the village bus to transport Mottisfont and Broughton residents to warm hub matinee cinema events at Kings Somborne Village Hall. Attendance at these events is free although there are costs associated with the bus hire.

The bulk of the costs of running the village bus would be met by a TVBC grant which will be claimed by Mottisfont Parish Council. There was a balance of £72.00 and Broughton Parish Council had agreed to pay half. He proposed that Mottisfont Parish Council also pay an estimated £36.00 towards the project. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Barnett. All agreed.

### **Resilience**

12) Cllrs P and Mrs J Barnett reported on attendance at the TVBC resilience event on 28<sup>th</sup> October at which they had given a presentation of their work on the Mottisfont resilience plan. They have also attended other meetings to discuss how resilience plans could be tailored to meet the needs of small

communities. An input from the emergency services is still required but the intention is to bring the plan to the next meeting of the Parish Council for agreement.

### **Defibrillators**

13) The Clerk reported that she had received two invoices for the continuing contract for the defibrillator machines and emergency phones. Full details of costs had been circulated along with the alternative costs if the Parish Council were to purchase batteries and replacement pads when required.

Cllr P Barnett expressed concerns that, should there be an emergency, mobile phone coverage was limited locally and the emergency landline phones should be retained. There was a credit on the account of £60.90 so the balance of £59.10 was all that was required to keep the contract for a further year. The following year this would be £120.00

Pads had recently been replaced in the machines and would not need to be replaced again for two years unless they were used. The cost of replacements was approximately £60. The batteries would need to be replaced in Nov 2026 and the cost of these was approximately £195.00. To continue with the contract would cost £252.00 per year.

After some discussion it was agreed the emergency phones should be retained because mobile phone signal is locally very poor, but Cllr Channing proposed the support package for the machines was not renewed. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J Barnett. All agreed

### **Clerk's Report**

14) Proposed meeting dates for 2024 were 15 February, 6 May, 18 July, 19 September and 21 November. If the proposals for Station Goods Yard proceeded, more meetings could be scheduled and these would be advertised to the public.

Payment to the church to help with upkeep of the burial ground had not yet been made as bank details to make the transfer were still awaited.

A schedule of S106 monies available had been received from TVBC. £1058.70 was available and was assigned to be spent on a play space. As there is no play space in Mottisfont, the Clerk agreed to contact TVBC to ascertain what else the money could be used for in the community. Ideas were speed awareness cameras or a defibrillator at the village hall.

Annual inflationary pay rise details for Clerks had been received and shared with Cllr Mrs J Barnett. Essentially the trade unions had agreed a rise of £1 per hour for all grades back- dated to April 2023. Gross back pay of £172.32 was due and all agreed payment should be made. From December 2023 monthly pay would rise to £392.04.

A performance related rise to £18.58 per hour from April 2024 was also possible. Cllr Mrs J Barnett will organise a performance review with the Clerk and make any proposals regarding pay at the meeting in February 2024.

### **Finance**

15) Balances in the bank accounts were noted at 16/11/2023 as: -

TSB Charity account  
£8822.90  
TSB Business Instant  
£11722.74

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

H Bourner sal Nov	£296.30
HMRC	£74.20
H Bourner exp	£20.00
H Bourner back pay	£137.67
HMRC	£34.46

**Future payments**

H Bourner sal Dec	£313.64
HMRC	£78.40
H Bourner sal Jan	£313.64
HMRC	£78.40
Village Hall lease	£1200.00

**Retrospective**

Vision Ltd (website)	£134.37
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**iii) Budget plan 2024/25**

The Clerk had circulated estimates for likely income and expenditure for 2024/25 and the Parish Council discussed future levels of expenditure. Given the rate of inflation and the increase in all costs, Cllr Jenkins proposed an increase of £500 to the precept, seconded by Cllr P Barnett. All therefore agreed to apply for a precept in 2024-25 of £8250.

**Correspondence**

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

A letter confirming the rise in rent for the Village Hall from £900 a year to £1200, reflecting the increase in the RPI

Details of new Community Asset Fund Grants

Mid Test Matters newsletter

Communications from SSEN following storm Ciaran

**Attendance at Events**

17) As at item 12, three Councillors had attended an event on resilience organized by TVBC.

**New Items for next agenda**

18) Review of use of Village Hall

Consideration of the Parish Resilience Plan

The Meeting closed at 9.25 pm

**Date of next meeting**

18) Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall

Appendix 1-Report from HCC David Drew**Next steps towards an updated Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan**

Hampshire's five minerals and waste planning authorities are entering the next stage in updating the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan - fulfilling their collective duty to ensure that the whole area can continue to provide a steady and adequate supply of minerals for building homes, schools, hospitals and roads, as well as provide sufficient waste resources and facilities

Over the next two months, an update of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (the 'Proposed Submission Plan') is set to be considered by each of the five authorities (Hampshire County Council, New Forest National Park Authority, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and South Downs National Park Authority) to determine whether each Authority agrees that further consultation can take place prior to the Plan being submitted to the Government's Planning Inspectorate for examination.

The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan is evidence-based and is in line with national planning policy. The local policies contained within the Plan guide the decisions that each of the five minerals and waste planning authorities make when determining planning applications for minerals extraction or waste infrastructure and operations.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231101HantsMinWastePlanSubmission>

### **Voice of Hampshire's youth take to national political stage**

Members of the Hampshire Youth Parliament are set to be the voice of Hampshire's young people on the national stage, after being appointed Chair of the Government's Youth Select Committee and the South-East Youth Parliament Debate Lead

Dmitrijs Meiksans, Hampshire MYP for the North West, has been elected as Debate Lead for the South East region at the UK Youth Parliament sitting at the House of Commons on Friday 17 November.

For the first time ever MYPs will debate a Bill in the House of Commons. Hampshire MYPs will help make history by leading one of the five debates on:

- Holiday hunger
- Quality of food
- Standardisation
- Financing/funding
- Additional pricing

They are currently holding elections for the next round of Youth MPs, with voting beginning on 30 October.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/23102023hypnews>

### **Meals on Wheels – helping you to stay well during the colder months**

To coincide with national Meals on Wheels Week, Hampshire County Council is reminding local residents that Meals on Wheels are available to anyone with a long-term health condition who may struggle to shop for or prepare food for themselves

Meals on Wheels are designed for anyone over the age of 18 living with a health condition who has difficulty shopping or cooking for themselves.

Hampshire County Council's Meals on Wheels are provided by Health and Independent Living Support (HILS) and currently cost £8.50 for a two-course hot meal (a third course is £1.50 extra), with afternoon tea costing £3.95.

National Meals on Wheels Week is organised by the National Association of Care Caterers to celebrate the service and the vital role it plays in supporting older and vulnerable people living in local communities across the country.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231030mealswheels>

### **Hampshire's community pantry network grows as more help announced with cost-of-living challenges**

More residents of Eastleigh and Test Valley will soon be able to join the thousands of Hampshire people who use community pantries to stretch their grocery budget each week, with the announcement of a county-wide package of support totalling more than £424,000

Pilands Wood Community Association in Bursledon, and Test Valley charity Unity have received start-up funding from Hampshire County Council's Household Support Fund (HSF) to open community pantries in their areas. The Pilands Wood pantry will operate from the local community centre, while Unity will provide a travelling pantry serving the Stockbridge, West Wellow and King's Somborne areas.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231011pantries>

### **County Council to consult on proposed changes to School and Post-16 Transport**

Proposed changes to Hampshire County Council's School and Post-16 Transport Policies will be the subject of two public consultations set to run from Monday 30 October until Wednesday 6 December

As required by the Department for Education (DfE), there are two policies in place for the County Council's school transport provision for children and young people: one for children of compulsory school age, and a Post-16 Policy for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) travelling to further education or training.

The first of the two consultations will seek feedback on a proposal to increase the parental financial contribution to the Post-16 Transport service, annually from September 2024, in line with inflation. As with most Local Authorities, the Post-16 Transport service is discretionary and requires a partial parental contribution, with the majority of the overall costs funded by the County Council. The proposed annual increase comes following ongoing exceptional challenges in the transport market nationally which have seen the County Council's transport costs rise significantly above inflation, from £34 million in the 2021/22 financial year to over £50 million in 2022/23.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231019transportconsultations>

Cllr [David Drew](#)  
[Test Valley Central Division, HCC](#)