

MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23rd SEPTEMBER 2021, 7.30PM, AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

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

In attendance: Heather Bourner - Clerk
Cllr David Drew – Hampshire County Council
Cllr Alison Johnston – Test Valley Borough Council
1 Member of public.

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr G Jenkins & Cllr A Simmonds

Public Participation

2) A member of public present commented on the very sad state of the millennium orchard. The grass is very overgrown and some of the seats appear to be broken. The National Trust advertise this as a lovely place to visit on their website which is disappointing. Cllr Channing agreed to feed the comments back to Vicky Fletcher.

Declarations of Interest

3) There were no declarations of interests.

Planning

4) The following decisions by TVBC were noted: None
Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:
21/02592/LBWS- internal alterations to lintels, west wing-Mottisfont Abbey – no objections

5) County and Borough Councilors' Report –

HCC David Drew – provided a report which can be seen at appendix 1

He reported that 32 people are currently in hospital in the North West Hants area suffering from COVID, most of whom have not been vaccinated, nationally the statistics show 99% of those dying have not been vaccinated.

He said there were County Council grants available for community projects, full details can be found on the HCC website. Cllr Barnett said there have been serious problems with broadband services in the area recently and asked if there were any funding available to help improve the infrastructure. Cllr Drew said there were various initiatives at planning stages, more details can be seen at www.hampshiresuperfastbroadband.com

TVBC Cllr Johnston – reported on an initiative to develop a strategic vision for rural villages, recognising that the rural communities play a large part in Test Valley life and its future. She will provide more details as the project progresses.

She said she had very much enjoyed a TVBC event at Mottisfont Abbey and that she had attended the joint TVATPC & TVBC event along with representatives from Mottisfont Parish Council.

She reminded those present that there is a TVBC grant pot available and help is available from TVBC officers to access community grants.

National Trust Report

6) Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of Mottisfont Abbey was not present. However, she had sent a report confirming visitor numbers were reduced and therefore no parking problems had arisen. She provided details of new staff and agreed to pass on any comments from tenants regarding the new management company in operation. She hopes to join the November meeting.

Minutes

7) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July were agreed unanimously as a correct record. These will be signed by the Chairman.

8) Road repairs, potholes & lengthsman

Cllr Channing reported on a message on the parish Whatsapp group regarding a recent road traffic accident on the B3084 in which a car overturned. The police took an hour to arrive, but fortunately two local residents were able to support the injured driver and direct traffic. There have been 5 accidents on this road so far in 2021 and the general view is the speed limit needs to be reduced. The road is very winding, in some places it is single track, the speed limits are not suitable for the roads and need to be reduced. Cllr Drew will send the Clerk advice that HCC issue regarding speed limits. Cllr Channing said the Parish Council were prepared to hire speed cameras to gather evidence to support the issue and that the time had now come to seek police intervention to help with this problem.

The road surface at the gateway at Dunbridge has still not been completed and HCC Drew agreed to discuss this with Cllr Simmonds.

9) Housing Needs Survey

Cllr Channing reported on the findings of the recent housing needs survey carried out by TVBC. 150 questionnaires were sent out and 42 were returned. The majority of respondents supported some additional housing development in the parish and about two-thirds thought it should be affordable. Cllr Channing will share this information with the land owner.

The Clerk said if the Parish Council wanted to consider drawing up a Parish Plan, Village Design Statement or Neighbourhood Plan help was available from TVBC. A neighbouring Parish will be organising a meeting to discuss this matter shortly and members of Mottisfont PC agreed they would like to participate. The Clerk will organise this.

10) Kissing Gates

Cllr P Barnett reported concerns raised where stiles on footpaths were proving difficult for accessibility. He will discuss the issue with HCC Countryside Access to establish what solutions can be found.

11) Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported as follows:

A revised health & safety, sickness and absence and self-certification form had been circulated. These were considered and formally adopted.

A schedule of meeting dates for 2022 had been prepared. Some discussions took place regarding the date for an annual meeting and also whether the volume of ordinary meetings per year was considered too much, not enough or just right. The Clerk confirmed the legal necessity was a minimum of four meetings per year. She will circulate the schedule for Councillors to consider and the matter will be discussed at the November meeting.

Finance

12) Balances in the bank accounts were noted as:

31/08/2021:

TSB Charity account £5341.18

TSB Business Instant £11581.82

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

H Bourner sal Sep	£249.83
HMRC	£62.60
H Bourner exp	£22.58
DJC Services	£201.78

Future payments	
H Bourner sal Oct	£249.95
HMRC	£62.48

Retrospective	
H Bourner sal Aug	£249.95
HMRC	£62.48

13) Grant for grass cutting at burial grounds

Cllr Channing said he had opened discussions with the Reverend Bowden regarding The Parish Council funding work to burial grounds and churchyards. Further research will be required and the matter of a grant will be considered once more details have been obtained.

14) Correspondence

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

A letter from Police & crime commissioners including a consultation on More Police Safer Streets

A TVBC facilities survey which Councillor Channing agreed to complete.

An email from a parishioner regarding traffic issues to which a response had been sent.

15) Items for the next agenda

Completion of resurfacing work/refund of expenditure at Barley Hill gates

Update on fitting kissing gates

Meeting dates 2022

Any Other Business

16) Cllr Channing reminded all Councillors to consider whether meeting every other month was essential.

Date of next meeting

18) Thursday 18th November 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall

Appendix 1

HCC David Drew

Update from Hampshire County Council – September 2021

August has been a quieter month, as is to be expected over the holiday period. I've therefore added a note about your Air Ambulance at the bottom, with a link, which I think you may find of interest.

A safe return to education – new Covid measures for the Autumn term

As the autumn term approaches, Hampshire County Council is highlighting the COVID-19 measures that will be in place across the county's pre-schools, schools and colleges, to support pupils and students to safely return in full to face-to-face learning.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20210827backtoschool>

Helping Afghan evacuees - how to donate

Hampshire County Council is pleased to be working with local partners including our District and Borough councils, NHS, support providers and local charities to assist Afghan families moving to

the UK to re-settle as part of the Government's Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy programme.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/08262021afghanrefugeehelp> and also:-

<https://www.testvalley.gov.uk/news/2021/sep/support-and-help-for-afghan-evacuees-in-test-valley>

Hampshire partners in waste prevention call for tougher legal action on fly-tippers

Hampshire County Council and the county's other local authority partners within the Project Integra waste disposal partnership have joined over 150 other local authorities and 10 professional bodies to call for the Sentencing Council - the Council for England and Wales which promotes greater consistency in sentencing, whilst maintaining the independence of the judiciary - to consider tougher fines and sentences for fly-tipping offenders

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20210818Fly-tippingPenaltyCall>

New one-stop-shop for family historians as Hampshire Genealogical Society creates new base in county Record Office

Finding out more about your ancestors is set to get easier as Hampshire Record Office in Winchester becomes the new home of the Hampshire Genealogical Society – with the Society's volunteers and Record Office staff together offering a one-stop-shop of support for people researching their family history.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/05082021Genealogicalhome>

Hampshire & IoW Air Ambulance

July 2021 has been our second busiest month since March 2020 with 145 deployments. This was up slightly compared to a year ago, although significantly down on July 2019.

97 incidents responded to by air, the remaining 48 by road.

There was a doctor on every day shift; this has almost always been the case now since April 2020. Where a doctor has not been present HIOWAA delivers an enhanced level of care to patients compared to that of a standard ambulance road crew.

The cost for providing this service is in the region of £15,000 every day – paid for by generous support from the public.

<https://www.hiowaa.org/july-mission-breakdown/>

Cllr David Drew

Test Valley Central Division, HCC