

MINUTES OF MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING Held on Wednesday 16th January 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors Jeff Channing, in chair, Julia Barnett, Peter Barnett, John Millns, Andy Simmonds and clerk to the council, Sue Holder. Also, in attendance were, Andrew Gibson, Hampshire County Councillor, Ian Jeffrey Test Valley Borough Council, and Louise Govier of the National Trust.

19/072 APOLOGIES: None received.

19/073 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

19/074 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON THE 21st November: were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

19/075 MATTERS ARISING:

- A large pot hole in Keepers Lane still needs repairing.
- A discussion on how to deal with an urgent situation between parish council meetings was had.

19/076 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT:

- It was reported that Hampshire Highways are underfunded.
- As £1000 has been granted to the Village Hall Committee during this financial year, no further grants from Hampshire's councillors' fund will be considered for Mottisfont until the next financial year.

19/077 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT:

- The parish council brought to the attention of Cllr Jeffrey a possible breach of the residential conditions on land north of Hillside Cottage, and the dumping of waste on the site. Cllr Jeffrey will report this information to the new Enforcement Officer at Test Valley Borough Council.

19/078 NATIONAL TRUST REPORT:

- A recent road traffic accident has damaged the fence on Mottisfont Lane on the approach to the Abbey entrance.
- The Environment Agency has approved the conservation of the fishing hut on the estates main fishing beat, which is expected to cost approximately £35,000.
- Woodland management continues in Great Copse.
- A good Christmas was reported at the Abbey with the car park working well. Plans to improve the car park are progressing well.
- Snowdrops on the estate are early this year.
- A significant beam above the Whistler Room in the Abbey has been examined by a Structural Engineer due to concerns for a large split in the beam. Repairs are planned which will be delicate and expensive.

19/079 PLANNING

18/02798/PDQS	Hyde Farm	Notification of prior approval under class Q for conversion of agricultural buildings into 2 dwellings	Approval
18/03147/TREES 18/03318/TREES	Abbey	Felling and pollarding various	PC – no comment

19/080 HIGHWAYS

a) Outstanding

- Pot holes continue to be reported.
- The footpath outside Hatt Farm has been reported to Hampshire County Council as slippery.

b) Lengths man

- The current Lengths man is leaving, and a replacement will be appointed .
- Hatt Lane hedges will be cut soon and then Hampshire County Council will be asked to sweep the lane.
- Network Rail have repaired the kissing gate which was down on footpath 10.

- c) Information System at station.** Cllr Simmonds reported that the Three Rivers Partnership are aware of the need to improve the information system at Mottisfont and Dunbridge station but the solution might await the transfer of the station from Great Western to South West Railway. A digital information screen system would be very costly and is unlikely to be implemented.

19/081 VILLAGE HALL

The crack in the wall of the village hall is being monitored by a Structural Engineer appointed by the National Trust. A report will be submitted to the next meeting.

19/082 FINANCE

a) TSB Account 00182619	£9,646.35
TCB Account 01542503	£10,676.97

	£20,323.32

b) Payments approved at this meeting:

Clerks pay	£433.33	#616
National Trust – village hall and playing field	£900.00	#617

c) Budget / Precept.

A draft budget was approved by the council. Following consideration of the budget and anticipated year end balances, the parish council resolved not to increase the precept for 2019/20.

19/083 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS: It was reported that parish council elections were planned for May 2019.

19/084 SPEARYWELL ROAD PHONE BOX AND MOTTISFONT FINIAL

- The parish council resolved to adopt the phone box on the Spearywell Road **if at any point BT decide to de-commission it**. Noted that the National Trust, as the land owners, are in support of this decision, and a repair is required to the bottom belt on the door. Cllr Simmonds reported that a dozen members of the public, (even of whom live along Spearywell Road) fully support retaining the phone box and back the proposed Mottisfont finial idea alongside it.

Cllr Simmonds' proposal to install a post and finial on Spearywell Road was accepted subject to future grant funding becoming available from Hampshire County Council or some other source. Noted that the National Trust support the finial proposal, particularly in the cast metal format which is similar to the others around the village.

19/085 Village Centre – potentially dangerous wall

At the November meeting, concern was raised about a potentially dangerous wall in the village centre, however at this meeting it was reported that there is nothing visually obvious to cause concern, so the situation will be monitored.

19/086 CORRESPONDENCE.

- Information system at station, noted in minute 19/080 (c).

19/087 MEETINGS ATTENDED:

- Cllr P Barnett attended the bus committee meeting and reported no concerns financially. The Annual Meeting is planned for the 25th February at which future excursions will be considered and the possibility of a regular users list will be discussed.

19/088 ANY OTHER BUSINESS: None

19/089 PARISHONERS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: None

19/090 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 13th March 2019.

There being no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 08.45 pm.