

**MEETING OF HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD WEDNESDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7:30PM**

Minutes

Present: Cllr Caukill (Chair), Cllr Wallace, Cllr Stewart, Cllr Humphrey, Cllr Buckle, Cllr Butcher, Cllr Large, Cllr Sinclair (7:35pm)

Also attending: K Horton (Clerk), Cllr Louisson and Cllr Oppenheimer. 3 residents in attendance.

1) Welcome

2) Apologies for Absence. None received

3) Declarations of Interest. Cllr Butcher expressed an interest in item 9 and would excuse himself from discussion and decision making.

4) Approval of Minutes - Parish Council Meeting held on 10th July 2024. No questions raised. Cllr Stewart proposed, seconded by Cllr Humphrey and duly accepted as accurate record. Minutes signed.

5) Public Participation

- **Resident:** Resides close to the property called "Spring Garden" and while they have no concerns about the planning application in relation to the property, they want to make the Parish Council aware that when the house was owned by the Trust, there was a leak of 2000L heating oil. The Trust was meant to carry out some remediation work but they do not believe this happened. They are concerned about the possibility of the water supply being contaminated.
- **Resident:** While the Trust paid for the oil tank to be replaced and refilled, they do not believe that any remediation work was carried out and that contamination will be an environmental issue. Previous resident has moved abroad. Resident wants Parish Council to highlight concern in response to Planning Department and request action is a condition of planning approval.

6) Report from County Councillor Oppenheimer. Report for September had been circulated ahead of meeting.

- **Solar Together Hampshire.** Scheme for buying solar panels and battery storage. Applications due by 18th October.
- Devolution in Hampshire. There has been a break through and Cllr Nick Adams King (for HCC) and three Unitaries have completed expression of interest to Whitehall. Negotiations have started this week and Cllr Oppenheimer hopes that more monies and powers are devolved.
- Road repairs have seen more money passed to Highways – wet weather has caused issues for road repair and vegetation growth.
- Tenant farm opportunities being publicised
- Planning – has been contacted by Rotherfield seeking support for SEN school

7) Report from District Councillor Louisson.

- EHDC housing numbers from Whitehall are significant and will be an issue for EHDC to solve. Previously, were expecting to provide 570 new houses per year and new figures (under consultation) expecting to do over 1,000 per year. EHDC will struggle to meet this and there is concern that EHDC will not be able to provide a 5yr supply plan and as such the area will be opened up to speculative development. Even if all proposed sites from local plan consultation were used the supply would not be there.

- Budget. Actions being taken to try and address shortfall; the council are focused on meeting balanced budget. Action is required to do this.

8) Parish Council Finances/Administration

- Clerk's Report inc
 - Stairs Hill. To note correspondence on the concerns of residents relating to speed and weight restrictions being disregarded and to consider what further action the Parish Council might take on this matter. Clerk has engaged with HCC Highways, Hampshire Constabulary and County/District Councillors to identify whether further action will be taken. Review of options: Community Cameras ruled out historically (see December minutes), residents suggestions for more markings and chicanes would not be supported by Highways per their email of 18th September 2024. It has also been confirmed that the Parish Council can not instal a speed camera privately. Proposed and agreed further action:
 - Write to Donna Jones – outline problem and help appendix with research to date:
 - Oppenheimer advised that Froxfield and Steep are reaching out to the Police Commissioner already and suggested another option is "20 is plenty" signage. Explore costings for signage
 - Community Speed Watch option for Stairs Hill residents to run. To approach Selborne and Greatham if a new group can not be set up with the intent of combining efforts
 - 5 accidents in last 6 months. Does not tally with Highways' records:
 - Hatching at top of hill is not clear enough - escalate to Highways
 - Publicise the reporting of accidents so residents understand the necessity of completing this
 - Sign removed on hill going down – Cllr Sinclair will provide photos – raise to Highways.
 - Sign on Lower Green. £384 paid to JK Engineering for repair and reinstatement of sign on RH side.
 - To note an application to EHDC Planning for tree felling on three ash trees on Lower Green. No cost to PC for tree felling.
 - To receive the recommendation of the Staffing Working Group and accept the following policies/documents for 2024/25. Proposed and accepted:
 - Grievance Procedure
 - Temporary Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk
 - Financial summary for July and August 2024 and in addition:
 - Notification of Payments made under Item 14 of the Financial Regulations since the last meeting
 - Notification/authorisation of other payments
 No questions made, summary signed.

- 9) **Grant Request.** To consider a request from Hawkley Sports Club for funding to the Hawkley Fireworks event. Cost of event £3,500 and have requested £350. Cllr Caukill proposed £400, this was seconded by Cllr Wallace and all were in agreement.

10) Physical Environment

- **Greens.**
 - To note that the arrangement for mowing Upper Green. Resident has offered to mow Upper Green alongside another resident. Thanks expressed for the work.
 - To note the response to a request for horses to be tethered and attended to on Upper Green on a defined date. Request from local stable (Inadown) to attend pub.

- **Verges.** To delegate authority to Clerk to arrange for parish verges to be cut, if thought necessary, at a later date. Hampshire Highways provision of cut has been reduced: 1m cut was carried out early in the season but unclear if a further cut will be carried out in which case HPC can do so. Proposal approved.
- **Ditches and Hedges.** To agree whether a reminder should be sent to residents on their obligations to clear ditches and hedges. Proposal approved

11) Planning.

- **To receive a verbal report from the Planning Advisory Working Group following their visit to Empshott Grange and discussion with applicants for a Special Educational Needs School.** No formal planning application has been made yet. The group behind the proposal had offered a visit to the Planning Advisory working group ahead of an application being submitted to explain the intentions of the school. A separate Q&A session for local residents had also been organised by the applicants. Details shared:
 - The intention is to turn the building into school for 40 children with special needs aged 5-16yr (non-residential). Pupils will be brought to school by minibus. To attend 09:30 – 15:00, five days a week. Ratio will be 25 staff and 40 pupils with a starting roll of 10.
 - The school will be funded by Local Authority.
 - Driving force Alice Anstey and Arthur Scott have partnered. Have formed Empshott LLP and Rotherfield have already set up small school and alternative provision.
 - Documents not available yet through planning. Arthur Scott is not allowed to sell house separately and so it needs to be used – doesn't work letting it as a single house. Hotel or Wedding venue were also considered. More information when planning formally logged. Very little internal works and nothing planned externally aside from adding some windows and doors to garages
 - Cllrs shared some concerns that residents have raised about noise and traffic
 - A community meeting was held yesterday and approx 50 attended.
In conclusion, HPC will wait for application to come through and then have full planning meeting.
- **To consider a response to the following planning application(s):**
 - **SDNP/24/03393/FUL.** Location: Spring Garden, Stairs Hill, Empshott, Liss, Hampshire, GU33 6HN
Proposal: Replacement dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling
Existing building has passed useful life and no concerns about proposed plan. Details of an oil leak had been shared by residents and a search on EHDC Planning confirmed the replacement oil container was installed in 2021. Cllrs were in agreement the possible contamination should be highlighted to EHDC. Cllr Sinclair had also heard from another resident who is concerned about a mobile home being left in situ. No Objection to be recorded but recommend a Site Investigation Report is completed and that a condition is placed on the use of a mobile home being restricted to period of construction
 - **SDNP/24/03711/TCA** - Jolly Robin Cottage, Hawkley, GU33 6NQ
Proposal: Birch T1 - Crown thin. No objection to be recorded

12) Date of next meeting – Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 7:30pm

Meeting closed 8:54pm

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Signed, Councillor Caukill, Chair HPC

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Date