

MINUTES of the MEETING of WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)
Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 9th April 2025 in the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney

Present: Cllr Pauline Maunder (Chairman), Cllr Rob Parker, Cllr Kevin Maunder, Cllr Andrew Porteous,
Cllr Matthew Besant-Gore, Cllr Andrew Porteous.
In attendance: WCCllr Stephen Godfrey, WCCllr Caroline Horrill.
Public 4
Clerk Jocelyn Jenkins

2371	1.1	Apologies for Absence HCCllr Porter.	Closed	
2372	1.2	Any Declarations of Interest to be declared/dispensations agreed. Cllr Parker – land adjacent to Brightlands site (PI), Cllr Besant-Gore – Gratton Trust (NPI).	Closed	
2373	1.3	Minutes of the meeting of 12th March 2025 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.	Closed	
	2	<u>Reports – the meeting adjourned during reports.</u>		
	2.1	The Public: <u>Benn Hitchin, Chair of the Gratton Trust</u> attended the meeting to seek permission to further explore siting a 'post locker' on the side of the pavilion (car park end). This would provide an income of £1200-£1400 per annum for the Trust. Insurance, vandalism etc would be dealt with by the owners of the box. It was confirmed that vehicles delivering parcels would be able to go under the height barrier. See 2375.1 below.		
	2.2	Report from HCCllr Jackie Porter: HCCllr Porter was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written report (Appendix 1) which noted the retirements of both the CEO and CFO at HCC.		
	2.3	Report from WCCllr Caroline Horrill: WCCllr Horrill noted that the City Council are entering a period of purdah due to a by election being held and that there are therefore less meetings for councillors. There is also a county council by election in Winchester. The arrival is anticipated of the Planning Inspector reviewing the Local Plan and a second batch of questions has been issued ahead of this. The submission in respect of Local Government reorganisation was made at the end of March. A request for an extension beyond the September deadline was made but has not been granted. The devolution consultation finishes next week. A Local Government reorganisation consultation will take place over the summer.		
	2.4	Report from WCCllr Stephen Godfrey: WCCllr Godfrey noted that the WCC Small Grant Scheme is expected to re-start soon. South Wonston Parish Council are reviewing their emergency plan in light of climate change, to consider wildfires and other weather events.		
		The meeting resumed after reports.		
2374	3	<u>Correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting</u>		
		The Council discussed and agreed actions for the following issues:		
2374.1	3.1	Popham Airfield Matters A representative of the group has asked to attend a meeting to draw attention to the campaign to save the airfield from development. It was agreed to invite them to attend the Parish Assembly on 15 th May 2025.	Clerk	
2374.2	3.2	War Memorial Poppy Cascade It has been confirmed that the plan is to cascade the poppies from metal obilisks (secured in the grass) rather than the Memorial. Permission for this was agreed .	Closed	
2374.3	3.3	HCC Reporting of Highways Matters All matters must now be reported on-line via the HCC website.	Noted	
2374.4	3.4	FreshWater Watch A resident has joined the organisation. Monthly water testing will commence (probably of the Dever at the Gratton) and a residents group may be formed.	Noted	
		<u>Matters arising from the minutes of 12th March 2025.</u> The Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following issues:		
2375	4	<u>General Matters</u>		
2375.1	2365.1	Gratton Trust – <u>Post Locker</u> See 2.1 above. It was agreed to give permission for the post locker. <u>SSE Tree work</u> Permission has been given to SSE to access the Gratton to carry out tree work around electricity cables. <u>Lease and sub-lease</u> It was agreed to make a formal complaint to Dutton Gregory solicitors in respect of failings by them when instructed in 2019 to write a new lease between the Parish Council and the Gratton Trust. <u>Security of the Gratton</u> The surgery have agreed to pay half the cost of a new gate. <u>Car park</u> The surface of the car park has been repaired by Clancy (contractor for Southern Water).		

2375.2	2365.2	Emergency & Flood Plans – No further flood warning has been issued by the Environment Agency and recent dry weather has made this less likely. The website will be updated to show links to fire related risks.			KM/ Clerk																												
2375.3	2365.3	Village Greening Campaign/WeCan/Declaration of a Climate Emergency – Air Quality Monitoring A date for the meeting at South Wonston is awaited.																															
2375.4	2365.4	Devolution & Local Government Re-organisation See 2.3 above.																															
2376	5	PLAY AREAS Council discussed and agreed actions for the following:																															
2376.1	2388.1	Stoke Charity/Hunton Play Area (STCH&H) – The annual inspection report is awaited. A resident has raised a query about the play area boundary and this is being investigated. AVA have been asked to suggest alternatives to the wooden stepping heads by the slide.			Clerk																												
2376.2	2366.2	Pigeonhouse Yard (PHY) Play Area – No new issues have been identified. The annual inspection report is awaited. Soakaway – No further communications have been received from the agent.			Clerk																												
2377	6	HIGHWAYS ISSUES - FOOTPATHS, GRIT BINS etc Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following:																															
2377.1	2367.1	Footpath 7 Access – HCC/ir Porter is seeking clarification on the grant refusal for the new accessible gate. A resident has supplied images of the previous gate and stile.																															
2377.2	2367.2	Footpaths & Bridleways – No responses were received to the item in the West Dever News seeking volunteers to assist in auditing local footpaths. Councillor Polak has audited four footpaths to date and she and councillor Kevin Maunder will conduct more audits this month. A display for the Parish Assembly was considered.																															
2377.3	2367.3	Noticeboards – Councillor Kevin Maunder will seek to assess all the boards this month to see what work is required on each of them.																															
2377.4	2367.4	SID – It was agreed to request a meeting with HCC to consider further SID sites.																															
2377.5	2367.5	Oxford Road Gateways – Work on the gateways is due to start on 4 th July.																															
2378	7	PLANNING New applications detailed below were considered and agreed as follows:																															
2378.1	736	Sutton Cottage, Stockbridge Rd, S/Scotney	Norway maple to crown reduce by 1.5m.	25/00569/TPC No comment																													
2378.2	737	Bridge Cottage, Hunton Lane, Stoke Charity.	Ground floor side extension and façade alterations.	25/00402/HOU No comment																													
2378.3	738	The Old Estate Cottage, Winchester Hill, S/Scotney	Installation of black double glazed aluminium units.	25/00581/HOU No comment																													
2378.4	739	Figsbury House, Wonston Road, Wonston	Holm oak to reduce by 20-25%	25/00590/TPC No comment																													
2378.5	740	Northolt Cottage, Oxford Road, S/Scotney	Removal of fruit tree.	25/00719/TPC No comment																													
2378.6	2368.3	Winchester Local Plan – The Parish Council will be speaking at the Local Plan hearings on 1 st and 2 nd May, in respect of the site allocation for Sutton Scotney.																															
2378.7	2368.4	Village Design Statement – The draft text is now being reviewed.																															
2378.8	New	CIL and Infrastructure Spend Plan – Community Infrastructure Levy, and the possibility of funds being available in the Parish if development takes place, was discussed. The need to consult on the preferences of residents for identified issues was considered. It was agreed to review the previous Parish Plan and the VDS data next month and to consider a new survey of residents and possible update to the Parish Plan.																															
2379	8	ACCOUNTS/AUDIT																															
2379.1	2369.1	Balances: As at 31/03/25 General Reserves are £58,367.38 but after Earmarked Reserves of £57,690 are £677.00. Payments for April (detailed below) totalling £4376.93 were agreed by the Council.			Closed																												
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2379.2	2369.2	NALC Model Financial Regulations 2024 Carried forward to the May meeting.																															
2379.3	2369.3	2024/25 End of Year & Audit The Clerk advised that the internal auditor is unable to carry out this year's audit due to a serious illness and will also be retiring with immediate effect. Tim Light of Lightatouch has agreed to undertake this year's internal audit.																															
2380	9	Other Council Matters																															
2380.1	2370.1	Publicity & Communications –																															

		West Dever News item – Parish Assembly, footpath audit. New Code of Conduct & Declaration of Interests Form These will be circulated prior to the May meeting when their adoption will be considered.		
2380.2	2370.2	Risk Management – No new issues have been identified.		
2380.3	2370.3	Parish Assembly, Thursday 15 th May 2025 Arrangements were discussed.		
9.15pm		Next meeting – Wednesday 14 th May 2025 at 7.30pm in the meeting room of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney. Parish Assembly – Thursday 15 th May at 7.45pm in the main hall of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney.		
Signed: Chairman dated.....				