

**MINUTES of the MEETING of WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)**  
**Held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 in the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney**

Present: Cllr Pauline Maunder (Chairman), Cllr Rob Parker, Cllr Kevin Maunder, Cllr Andrew Porteous,  
 In attendance: Cllr Georgina Tibbetts (from 7.35pm), Cllr Matthew Besant-Gore (following co-option at 7.35pm).  
 Public: WCCllr Stephen Godfrey, WCCllr Caroline Horrill (from 8pm).  
 Clerk: 1  
 Jocelyn Jenkins

2360	1.1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr Judith Polak, HCCllr Jackie Porter.	Closed	
2361	1.2	<b>Any Declarations of Interest to be declared/dispensations agreed.</b> Cllr Parker – land adjacent to Brightlands site (PI), Cllr Besant-Gore – Gratton Trust (NPI).	Closed	
2362	1.3	<b>Minutes of the meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025 were agreed</b> and signed by the Chairman.	Closed	
2363	1.4	<b>Co-option</b> Matthew Besant-Gore, a resident of Sutton Scotney, was unanimously co-opted to the Council.		
	2	<b><u>Reports – the meeting adjourned during reports.</u></b>		
	2.1	<b>The Public:</b> <u>Fred Schiff, Pennybar Developments</u> Fred noted the comments of the Inspector undertaking the public examination of the WCC Local Plan. He thinks it likely that the issue of the lack of consultation in respect of sites in Sutton Scotney will be raised. The Inspector has sent eight questions to WCC in respect of the Brightlands site:- a soundness question on the site being on the opposite side of the A30 from the existing settlement, reference to the constraints and whether the site is deliverable and the viability of the site. Only 'soundness' can be challenged at present. Fred feels that a challenge could be made based on viability. If the site is removed by modification, there would be another 6 week consultation. Fred noted that he will be continuing to challenge the soundness of the plan even though his site cannot be added.		
	2.2	<b>Report from HCCllr Jackie Porter:</b> HCCllr Porter was unable to attend the meeting but provided a written report (Appendix 1). The report draws attention to a £13 million bus improvement programme, the HCC budget deficit and anticipated debt of £312 million by 2026 and work being undertaken on a review of education transport costs.		
	2.3	<b>Report from WCCllr Stephen Godfrey:</b> WCCllr Godfrey noted that the City Council budget has been set. There will be a 2.7% increase in council tax and further increases to parking charges. The business rates re-set has been delayed for a further year which helps the City Council finances. Dates for the Local Plan inspection have been published and the Parish Council can respond to the Inspector on the questions raised (to WCC) about the Sutton Scotney site. WCCllr Godfrey noted that developers are submitting planning applications even where sites have not been included in the Local Plan, such as at London Lane and Salters Lane in Sparsholt. WCCllr Godfrey believes that they are setting the ground for the next plan as there is no evidence to support sites not in the plan at this time. In Micheldever, the Estate have submitted a proposal to the Government New Towns Task Force for 20 thousand homes at Micheldever Station. The criteria to be used by the taskforce is not yet known and cannot therefore be challenged yet. The Task Force will feedback in July. The Government consultation on Hampshire devolution runs until 13 <sup>th</sup> April. Local government re-organisation proposals are due to be submitted at the end of next week. The letters published to date lack detail, no agreements have yet been reached and more time is being requested. Recent dry weather has reduced the risk of flooding. Planning enforcement are aware of potential breaches at Moldon Farm.		
	2.4	<b>Report from WCCllr Caroline Horrill:</b> WCCllr Horrill noted that the Local Development Scheme for the next local plan is approved but the SHELAA (call for sites) will not take place until the Government finalise changes to the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework). WCCllr Horrill further noted that if Micheldever Station is chosen by the New Town Task Force, consultation would apparently only take place afterwards. A new town with the proposed 20 thousand homes would be larger than Winchester but the homes would not count towards the Local Plan figures.		
		The meeting resumed after reports.		

2364	3	<b>Correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting</b>				
		The Council discussed and agreed actions for the following issues:				
2364.1	3.1	<b>National Highways</b> – A public information event about M3 junction 9 improvements is taking place at Tesco, Winnall on Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> and Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March from 10am – 3pm. Noted.			Closed	
2364.2	3.2	<b>Rural Housing Enabling Team</b> Spotlight event being held in Curdridge on 18 <sup>th</sup> March , 10 – 11.30am. Noted.			Closed	
2364.3	3.3	<b>War Memorial</b> The RBL have noted the difficulty of affixing a poppy cascade and are now proposing to use two 6 foot obelisks instead. Cllr Parker will seek more detail from the organisers.			Cllr Parker.	
		<b>Matters arising from the minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025.</b>				
		The Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following issues:				
2365	4	<b>General Matters</b>				
2365.1	2354.1	<b>Gratton Trust</b> – Lease and sub-lease An update is awaited from the solicitor. <u>Security of the Gratton</u> The new height barrier has been installed and the Trust are continuing discussions with the surgery about their gate.				
2365.2	2354.2	<b>Emergency &amp; Flood Plans</b> – No further flood warning has been issued by the Environment Agency and recent dry weather has made this less likely.			KM/ Clerk	
2365.3	2354.3	<b>Village Greening Campaign/WeCan/Declaration of a Climate Emergency</b> – <u>Air Quality Monitoring</u> A date for the meeting at South Wonston is awaited.				
2365.4	New	<b>Devolution &amp; Local Government Re-organisation</b> HCC are holding a virtual information event for councillors on 19 <sup>th</sup> March.				
2366	5	<b>PLAY AREAS</b> Council discussed and agreed actions for the following:				
2366.1	2355.1	<b>Stoke Charity/Hunton Play Area (STCH&amp;H) – Monthly Inspection</b> A quote of £175 from AVA has been accepted for emergency repairs to the fence behind the slide. The quote to replace the rotten stepping heads was discussed and possible alternatives considered. The Clerk will contact AVA to ask them to quote for any possible alternatives. It was noted that one of the wooden posts in the assault course needs replacing. Grass and Grounds have advised a 2.5% increase in prices for the 2025 season. It was agreed to keep the grass cutting contract with them for a further year.			Clerk	
2366.2	2355.2	<b>Pigeonhouse Yard (PHY) Play Area</b> – No new issues have been identified. <u>Soakaway</u> – No further communications have been received from the agent. See 2366.1 above re 2025 grass cutting.			Clerk	
2367	6	<b>HIGHWAYS ISSUES - FOOTPATHS, GRIT BINS etc</b> Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following:				
2367.1	2356.1	<b>Footpath 7 Access</b> – HCCllr Porter is seeking clarification on the grant refusal for the new accessible gate. A resident has supplied images of the previous gate and stile.				
2367.2	2356.2	<b>Footpaths &amp; Bridleways</b> – A request is to be made in the April West Dever News for volunteers to assist in a survey of ROW and in reporting any issues. This is the first step in what might then lead to ROW working days in the Parish.				
2367.3	2356.3	<b>Noticeboards</b> – Drier weather will be needed in order to undertake repairs on the noticeboards.				
2367.4	2356.4	<b>SID</b> – A request has been made for additional sites on Oxford Road for the SID. All sites must be approved by HCC. A preliminary review will be undertaken and a meeting requested with a Highways Officer if potential sites are found.				
2367.5	2356.5	<b>Oxford Road Gateways</b> – An update on when the scheduled work will be undertaken is awaited from HCC.				
2368	7	<b>PLANNING</b>				
		New applications detailed below were considered and agreed as follows:				
2368.1	734	Brambles, Oxford Road, Sutton Scotney	Scots pine to remove.	25/00380/TPC No comment		
2368.2	735	3 Norton Cottages, Norton	Erection of detached outbuilding.	25/00458/HOU No comment		
2368.3	2357.2	<b>Winchester Local Plan</b> – The questions raised by the Inspector in respect of the Brightlands site will be circulated again and consideration given to whether to make a response to these.				
2368.4	2357.3	<b>Village Design Statement</b> – The draft VDS is currently being written up.				
2369	8	<b>ACCOUNTS/AUDIT</b>				
2369.1	2358.1	<b>Balances:</b> As at 28/02/25 General Reserves are £61,006.69 but after Earmarked Reserves of £59,305.58 are £1701.11. Payments for March (detailed below) totalling £2565.94 were agreed by the Council.			Closed	
		Hugo Fox	Monthly website & email fee	44.98		
		CDC Buildings Ltd	Balance re height barrier	509.40		
		WCC	Dog bins (July – Dec'24)	260.00		
		HMRC	Qtr 4 PAYE	501.89		

		<div>Hants Pension Fund</div> <div>Jocelyn Jenkins</div> <div>Jocelyn Jenkins</div>	<div>February pension contributions</div> <div>February expenses</div> <div>March salary</div>	<div>290.32</div> <div>62.35</div> <div>897.00</div> <div>2565.94</div>		
2369.2	2358.2	NALC Model Financial Regulations 2024 Carried forward to the April meeting.				
2369.3	New	2024/25 End of Year & Audit The updated Asset Register and Publication Scheme were approved.				
2370	9	Other Council Matters				
2370.1	2359.1	<div>Publicity &amp; Communications –</div> <div>West Dever News item – Parish Assembly reminder, ROW.</div> <div>Website The new emails for councillors are now operating and are shown on the website.</div>				
2370.2	2359.2	Risk Management – The updated 2025/26 Risk Assessment was accepted and signed by the Clerk and Chairman.				
2370.3	New	Parish Assembly, Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 The hall has been booked (from 7.45pm), the City Councillors have confirmed that they will provide a briefing on local government reorganisation. The litter-pickers will be invited and it was <b>agreed</b> to give gift vouchers of £25 (as per 2024).				
9.10pm		<div>Next meeting – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.30pm in the meeting room of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney.</div> <div>Parish Assembly – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7.45pm in the main hall of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney.</div>				
Signed: Chairman ..... dated.....						