

**MINUTES of the MEETING of WONSTON PARISH COUNCIL (WPC)**  
**Held at 7.40pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney**

Present: Cllr Pauline Maunder (Chairman), Cllr Rob Parker, Cllr Judith Polak,  
 Cllr Kevin Maunder, Cllr Georgina Tibbetts, Cllr David Price.  
 In attendance: WCCllr Stephen Godfrey, WCCllr Caroline Horrill.  
 Public 4  
 Clerk Jocelyn Jenkins

2261	1.1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr Andrew Porteous.	Closed	
2262	1.2	<b>Any Declarations of Interest to be declared/dispensations agreed.</b> Cllr Parker declared an interest in respect of the land at Brightlands which has been included in the updated SHELAA.	Closed	
2263	1.3	<b>Minutes of the</b> meeting of 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2024 were <b>agreed</b> and signed by the Chairman.	Closed	
2264	1.4	<b>Co-option</b> No candidates for co-option attended the meeting.		
	2	<b><u>Reports – the meeting adjourned during reports.</u></b>		
	2.1	<b>The Public:</b> <u>Babette Bond, Gratton Trust</u> Babette advised that she has resigned, for personal reasons, from the Gratton Trust. Ben Hitchin has replaced her as Chairman of the Trust. Babette also noted that Southern Water will be returning at the end of this month to restore areas on the Gratton and the car park. <u>James Grey</u> James attended the meeting to advise the councillors that he will be submitting a planning application for 40 solar panels (covering an area of 40m x 4m). These are to help with energy security and to reduce costs on the farm. They will not be above 1.5m high and will not be visible to the public. James was thanked for advising the councillors of his plans.		
	2.2	<b>Report from WCCllr Stephen Godfrey:</b> WCCllr Godfrey noted that he was grateful to have been re-elected following the recent election. There has been no change in the running of WCC following the elections. The annual Mayor Making will take place next week and Councillor Russell Gordon-Smith will be the new Mayor of Winchester. The Environment Agency have confirmed that the threat of flooding is receding. The issue of flooding on the side of Wonston Road (from the Victoria Hall towards Station Drive) was raised and WCCllr Godfrey advised that this is an issue for HCC Highways.		
	2.3	<b>Report from WCCllr Caroline Horrill:</b> WCCllr Horrill noted that updates on Winchester re-generation projects will be issued now that the election is over. Action is being taken in Winchester to combat anti-social behaviour and also to seek to support voluntary rough sleepers. Sites for additional small rural housing developments, such as the development of 6 passiv haus flats in Micheldever, continue to be sought. WCCllr Horrill was asked why 1 Saddlers Close has remained empty for at least 6 months and she agreed to check on this and report back to the Parish Council.		
		The meeting resumed after reports.		
2265	3	<b><u>Correspondence received by the Clerk since the last meeting</u></b>		
		The Council discussed and agreed actions for the following issues:		
2265.1	3.1	<b>Rural Crime Prevention booklet</b> Two or three copies are available to each Parish. It was <b>agreed</b> to request three copies which could be held in public spaces in the Parish.	Closed	
2265.2	3.2	<b>Victoria Hall</b> Thank you for the annual grant made towards the running of the hall.	Closed	
		<b><u>Matters arising from the minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024.</u></b> The Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following issues:		
2266	4	<b><u>General Matters</u></b>		
2266.1	2255.1	<b>Gratton Trust –</b> <u>New mower</u> – It was <b>agreed</b> that the Parish Council would purchase the mower at a net cost of £16,005.25 and that the Gratton Trust would be asked to contribute £8000. The mower will be owned and insured by the Trust. <u>Perimeter path</u> It was agreed that the Parish Council will pay to restore the perimeter path at a cost of £13,318.60 net. <u>Car park entrance</u> The damage at the entrance and the HCC response that it is the responsibility of the landowner to pay for any further repairs or modifications to the entrance was noted. It was <b>agreed</b> that no action would be taken at present.		

2266.2	2255.2	<b>Emergency &amp; Flood Plans</b> The draft Emergency Plan has been submitted to HCC for review. Updated notices will be printed for the noticeboards.			Clerk																						
2266.3	2255.3	<b>Village Greening Campaign/WeCan/Declaration of a Climate Emergency –</b> No new matters were identified for consideration this month.																									
2266.4	New	<b>Grant request from hedgehog rescue –</b> Further details on the grant request have not been received. Carry forward to June meeting.																									
2267	5	<b>PLAY AREAS</b> Council discussed and agreed actions for the following:																									
2267.1	2256.1	<b>Stoke Charity/Hunton Play Area (STCH&amp;H) – Monthly Inspection</b> It has been confirmed that the new basket swing is only slightly smaller than the original. The Annual Play Area Inspection has identified some issues with the sweeping see saw and AVA have been asked if they could also remedy these. Issues with the gate will be added to the June agenda for consideration.			Clerk																						
2267.2	2256.2	<b>Pigeonhouse Yard (PHY) Play Area –</b> The Annual Inspection has only noted minor concerns which will be addressed where possible. A resident has raised concerns about dogs in the play area and the gate being left open. These issues will be raised with residents through the June West Dever News item. Soakaway – The new agents details have been passed to WCCllr Horrill.			Clerk																						
2268	6	<b>HIGHWAYS ISSUES - FOOTPATHS, GRIT BINS etc</b> Council discussed updates and agreed actions for the following:																									
2268.1	2257.1	<b>Footpath 7 Access –</b> HCCllr Porter is seeking clarification on the grant refusal for the new accessible gate.																									
2268.2	2257.2	<b>Footpaths &amp; Bridleways –</b> No new issues were noted.																									
2268.3	2257.3	<b>Noticeboards –</b> Carried forward to the June meeting. See also 2268.6 below.																									
2268.4	2257.4	<b>SID –</b> It was <b>agreed</b> to defer a decision on purchasing a second device until the June meeting.																									
2268.5	2257.5	<b>Oxford Road Gateways –</b> No further update has been received from HCC.																									
2268.6	New	<b>Lengthsman visit 23<sup>rd</sup> May –</b> The Lengthsman will be asked to cut the hedge at the side of the Victoria Hall and cut back around the noticeboards on Oxford Road and at the Wonston Arms. Any remaining time to be spent on clearance of the footpath at Beggars Drove.																									
2269	7	<b>PLANNING</b>																									
		<b>New applications detailed below were considered and agreed as follows:</b>																									
2269.1	719	Busy Bees, Stockbridge Road, Sutton Scotney	Cotoneaster – to reduce over-hanging branches back to boundary.	<b>24/00880/TPC</b> <b>No comment</b>																							
2269.2	720	4 New Cottages, Wonston Road, Wonston	Removal of 5 fir pine trees.	<b>24/00955/TPC</b> <b>No comment</b>																							
2269.3	2258.2	<b>Winchester Local Plan –</b> Representatives from the Parish Council were invited to a meeting with Adrian Fox (WCC Strategic Planning Manager) on 26 <sup>th</sup> April. WCC are seeking to allocate 40-50 new homes to Sutton Scotney at the Regulation 19 stage of the Local Plan. Sites at either Brightlands or Dairy Field are being considered. The Parish Council are opposed to further development due to ongoing sewerage issues, flooding and the lack of infrastructure in the village and have written to Adrian Fox outlining the basis of these concerns. It will be necessary to gather supporting evidence for submission to the Regulation 19 consultation and it was <b>agreed</b> to commission a flood risk assessment report for both of the proposed sites at a cost of £1450. Testimony from residents in respect of the sewerage issues will also be sought.																									
2269.4	2258.3	<b>Village Design Statement –</b> A presentation is to be made at the Parish Assembly on 9 <sup>th</sup> May.																									
2269.5	2258.4	<b>Southern Water Pipeline –</b> See 2.1 above.																									
2270	8	<b>ACCOUNTS/AUDIT</b>																									
2270.1	2259.1	<b>Balances:</b> As at 30/04/24 General Reserves are £94,847.16 but after Earmarked Reserves of £90,822.29 are £3994.87. Payments for May (detailed below) totalling £2006.41 were agreed by the Council.			Closed																						
		<table><tr><td>Fair Account</td><td>Internal audit fee</td><td>410.00</td></tr><tr><td>WCC</td><td>Dog bins (Jan – March)</td><td>130.00</td></tr><tr><td>Hants Pension Fund</td><td>April contributions</td><td>280.03</td></tr><tr><td>Jocelyn Jenkins</td><td>April expenses</td><td>303.80</td></tr><tr><td>Jocelyn Jenkins</td><td>May salary</td><td>870.59</td></tr><tr><td>Hugo Fox</td><td>Monthly website fee</td><td>11.99</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td><u>2006.41</u></td></tr></table>			Fair Account	Internal audit fee	410.00	WCC	Dog bins (Jan – March)	130.00	Hants Pension Fund	April contributions	280.03	Jocelyn Jenkins	April expenses	303.80	Jocelyn Jenkins	May salary	870.59	Hugo Fox	Monthly website fee	11.99			<u>2006.41</u>		
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2270.2	New	<b>Annual Return 2023/24 – Section 1 Annual Governance Statement</b> It was <b>agreed</b> to accept the Annual Governance Statement and this was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.																									
2270.3	New	<b>Annual Return 2023/24 – Section 2 Accounting Statements</b> It was <b>agreed</b> to accept the Accounting Statements and these were signed by the Chairman.																									

2270.4	New	<b>BDO Conflict of Interest Form</b> – The form was signed confirming that none of the councillors had a conflict of interest with BDO, the external auditors.		
2270.5	New	<b>Insurance 2024/25</b> – Quotes from Clear Insurance and Zurich were considered but differ greatly in the level of Officials Indemnity insurance being quoted for and further questions will therefor be raised in respect of the quotes. It was <b>agreed</b> to delegate a decision on the insurance to Councillor Polak and the Clerk.		
2271	9	<b>Other Council Matters</b>		
2271.1	2260.1	<b>Publicity &amp; Communications –</b> <u>West Dever News item</u> – Regulation 19 housing allocation and dogs in play areas.		
2271.2	2260.2	<b>Risk Management</b> – No new issues have been reported.		
2271.3	2260.3	<b>Parish Assembly, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b> – Plans were discussed.		
2271.4	2260.4	<b>Website Domain &amp; Councillor emails</b> A further update from Hugo Fox is awaited.		
2271.5	New	<b>June meeting date</b> It was <b>agreed</b> to retain the date of 12 <sup>th</sup> June subject to there continuing to be sufficient councillors able to attend for the meeting to be quorate.		
9.40pm		<b>Next meeting – Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7.30pm in the meeting room of the Victoria Hall, Sutton Scotney.</b>		
Signed: Chairman ..... dated.....				