

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLETON & HARESTOCK
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday 14th January 2019
at the Henry Beaufort School, Harestock.**

Present: Cllr P Cunningham (Chairman), Mr J Biddlecombe, Mr R Warren, Mrs A Neilson, Mr J Mead, Cllr K Learney, Mr D Fountain, Mrs H Saunders, Mrs L Fielding (Clerk)

Also: Cllr Horrill (WCC) and one member of the public.

18-135 Apologies for Absence

Mrs J Burgess, Cllr A Weir and Cllr J Warwick sent their apologies.

18-136 Declarations of Interest

Mr J Biddlecombe declared an interest in Paddock View.

18-137 Minutes of the meeting held 10th December 2018

The minutes of the meeting of 10th December 2018 were presented and it was noted by Mrs A Neilson that in 18-131 she was referred to as Mrs A Burgess. It was proposed by Mr J Mead and seconded by Mr D Fountain that with that one correction, that the minutes be accepted.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held 10th December 2018 be approved with one correction.

Note: These minutes (14th January 2019) are draft until approved and signed at the Parish Council meeting on the 11th February 2019.

18-138 Matters Arising:

Cllr K Learney reported on the question of wash down facilities at King's Barton which had been raised in the last meeting, and stated that these facilities are now in place.

18-139 Military Report: Sir John Moore Barracks/Worthy Down

WO1 (RSM) Scott was not present and no matters were raised concerning the military.

18-140 Public Participation

A member of the public who had recently moved to Harestock reported that he was very glad to now be living in an area that was supported by a Parish Council. He raised the point that the Parish Council needs to be transparent with their financial reporting in particular as external auditors will look carefully at the website to check everything is in order. Specifically the Finance Committee minutes should be available on the website, and that any minutes shown on the website should clearly indicate that they are a draft version if they are uploaded prior to being ratified by the Parish Council. Other documents such as agendas should be available in a timely manner. These issues will be investigated. The member of the public then reported that as a new parishioner he was delighted to see how well maintained and well used the Bradley Rd Playground was, and it was lovely to hear the children playing there. Additionally he had concerns about the Junction of Wellhouse Lane and Andover Rd as it is difficult to get across as drivers cannot see the outside lane coming out of Winchester.

18-141 Police Report

PCSO Bidle was unable to attend. However an incident report was received from the Winchester City Neighbourhood Watch Representative and the Parish Council noted an incident reported on Andover Road North.

18-142 Planning

The planning schedule for December was circulated and discussed. There were no objections raised for applications 18/02742/TPO (Ascot House Old Stable Mews), and HCC/2018/1033 (Upton Grey Care Home). The application for 18/02826/HOU (Hamptworth, New Road) and 18/02729/HOU (Herga, 7 Valley Road) was supported by the Parish Council. The Parish Council discussed some concerns that the application for 18/02703/HOU (74 Main Road) was not in line with the Littleton Design Statement and the hard surfacing increasing the risk of

water draining down Main Rd. The Parish Council would like to see permeable block paving and this will be raised with the relevant planning officer. Late notice had been received for planning application 18/02862/HOU (2 Three Maids Close), however the A1 sized document was difficult to read and Mrs L Fielding was asked to contact the planning office for a paper copy.

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Mrs L Fielding reported that the Littleton Tree Warden volunteer has now resigned, which means we have two vacancies for tree wardens in the Parish. Mr R Warren reported on the tree outside 194 Buriton Rd in that Winchester City Council have now written to the home owner and stated that they have done a land registry check and that that the dying Cherry tree is owned by the landowner and they recommend the tree is removed before it falls on to Priors Dean Rd and causes injury or harm to anyone. Mr R Warren asked if there was anything the council could do to support the landowner. At this point Cllr K Learney pointed out that she and Cllr P Cunningham had an interest in this topic as Winchester City Councillors. Following a discussion with regard to the Parish Council's legal statutory powers, the parish councillors voted unanimously that they were not able to act in this situation. However Cllr K Learney in her capacity as city council representative indicated that she would be happy to talk to the landowners and Mrs L Fielding was asked to contact them to inform them.

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Barton Farm Development

18-143 Nothing to report from the Forum however it was noted by the councillors that the occupancy seems to be increasing.

Littleton & Harestock Show

18-144 Mr R Warren reported that the show committee meeting are now being held on the first Monday of each month which is convenient for reporting into the Parish Council. In the past the show committee have produced an outline plan in May and a later detailed plan in July for approval by the Parish Council. This year the show committee would like to provide only one detailed plan in May, and that the public liability insurance would not be available until August. This was approved by the Parish Council, with the requirement that the public liability insurance should be provided to the Parish Clerk as soon as it is available. Mr R Warren reported that the show committee were looking into Cashless payments for the entry gates, and that the issue with the alcohol license had now been resolved.

County Councillor's Report

Cllr Warwick was unable to attend but sent the following report:-

18-145 **Flood Mitigation Works** – A further update on the scheme has been arranged for County Councillors next week. **Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (2019/20)** - 2019/20 represents the final year of the current spending review period and as such the majority of grant figures are in line with the four-year settlement that was released in 2016/17. There were previous announcements in the Autumn Budget for additional funding in adults' and children's social care in 2019/20, which will provide around £12.9m of additional funding to Hampshire, together with current year funding for pothole repairs of just under £12m. Specific announcements in the provisional local government finance settlement are provided below. **Council Tax** - The referendum limits for 2019/20 are :

- Up to 3% for HCC and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Authority (no further social care precept increases for HCC this year). This is in line with HCC's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) assumptions.
- £24 band D increase permitted for Hampshire Police.

Revenue Support Grant (RSG) - Hampshire's RSG was reduced to zero in 2019/20 as part of the original four year settlement. HCC lost a further £1.6m as a result of 'negative RSG' which reduced our top up grant from business rates. The Government has announced that there will be no negative RSG in 2019/20 and this therefore represents a benefit of £1.6m to the Council next year. **Business Rates** - A £180m surplus from the business rates levy account will be

distributed on the basis of need, of which Hampshire will receive just over £1.8m. **Hampshire Adoption and Fostering Services** - HCC is looking for adopters and foster carers who can care for children of all ages but especially sibling groups and children with disabilities. Potential adopters will have access to the in-house adoption support team and additional support packages. For further information contact 0300 555 1384 or there is a Winchester Drop in Information event on Saturday 2nd February from 10am to 2pm at the Winchester Discovery Centre

District Councillors' Report:

18-146 Cllr Horrill reported that the response from government on the financial settlement was positive and that this was welcome given the pressure on finances for local government. WCC have used the Strategic Asset Purchase Fund to purchase, at market value, the Friarsgate Surgery and addition properties including Subway, Gandhi's and the Coral betting shop which now brings the majority of the central Winchester development area into WCC ownership. They have great aspirations to improve the appearance and bring up the quality of the whole area. The public consultation for the **Winchester Movement Strategy** is now closed, and they will now use this input together with Hampshire County Council to come to an agreed strategy with the focus on reducing traffic in the city centre. The City Council will be inviting the parishes to provide feedback on a number of services, including grass cutting and the waste contract. Further dialog regarding planning and enforcement is also anticipated. WCC are in the process of selecting an operator for the Sports and Leisure Park, and ensuring a business case is in place. Cllr Horrill reported that the required housing numbers needed by 2036 have not yet been released by government, however residents should not be concerned by the large response to the call for sites as this does not mean a commitment to build. Mr J Biddlecombe reported that over recent weeks he had noticed unpleasant smells coming from the Paddock view area in Main Rd, and he was concerned that Hyde housing had not been carrying out the agreed maintenance schedule for emptying the septic tanks. Cllr Horrill agreed to investigate. Mrs H Saunders was concerned with the level of accidents occurring at the junction of Wellhouse Lane and Andover Rd, and Cllr K Learney felt that the full numbers of accidents there are not being reported. It was believed that vehicles leaving Wellhouse Lane can't see traffic due to the topography of the road, and drivers do not appreciate that approaching vehicles can be driving at speeds of up to 50mph. It was also felt the risk of accidents was increased due to a lack of signage, and the central reservation rights of way being misunderstood. Cllr Horrill agreed to raise the issue with Cllr Warwick.

Cllr K Learney reported that the city council is moving forward with the employer consultant for the Sir John Moore Barracks, the hospital and the prison.

Cllr P Cunningham was pleased to report that the public section of the city council offices have now been refurbished, and includes automated tills and improved facilities. The office was officially opened earlier in the day (14th January) and the plan is that the Citizens Advice bureau will also move in. He stated that by the end of 2019 all services will be able to be done on line.

18-147 **Sub-Committees and Other Reports**

a) **Finance:** The latest payments and receipts list for December was presented for consideration; Mrs L Fielding reported that the monthly payments list total was unusually large due to the previously approved payments for the work in the overflow car park. She also reported that the John Lewis vouchers that were given to the Parish volunteers were very well received, and that all the volunteers asked the clerk to thank the Parish Council at the next meeting. It was noted that a new mower for the bowling green was listed on the payments sheet for which a large contribution had already been received from the Bowling club. The payments list was then accepted. **It was therefore proposed by Mr D Fountain, seconded by Mrs A Neilson and RESOLVED – That payments totalling £25,258.87 on the December payments schedule should be paid.** Mrs L Fielding reported that the internal auditor has offered to setup up a preparation meeting with her to review what is required for the end of year accounts. Mr J Biddlecombe reported that following a meeting with Steve Postle, he is working

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on an updated grounds maintenance schedule of work. There is no increase to any unit cost, however there are a number of items that are done every year and it would make sense to put this in the work schedule so that when the grounds maintenance contract goes up for tender the full extent of the work is known. The new work schedule increases the grounds maintenance for the year, starting in April, to £10,601.25 (paid monthly), and will mean there are less one off costs that are charged separately. The schedule will have an impact on the Sports Club, and a meeting is planned on 15th Jan to review the details of the schedule, and the contract with the club which was last signed on 1st Jan 1999.

b) Environment: Mr D Fountain noted that the issues with the kerb stones at Priors Dean Rd near Woodgreen Rd have now been outstanding for over a year; it was original reported on 12 Jan 2018 with CSC 1771947. Mrs L Fielding was asked to investigate. Additionally there are a number of other issues near the Harestock shops which Mrs Fielding was asked to collate and forward to Cllr K Learney. Mrs Fielding reported that she had used the WCC online reporting system to notify of a pot hole in The Hall Way, and a dirty sign covered in green algae leading up to the Three Maids Hill roundabout. LF

c) Playgrounds: Mrs A Neilson reported that we are now getting timely reports on the playground inspections, and it is the intention to ask for quarterly bills instead of the current half yearly ones. It is planned to jet wash the Littleton surfaces in March. Mrs A Neilson is also putting a proposal in place to send to Cllr Warwick for funding for teenager play equipment. Mrs H Saunders noted that the playground strategy was to encourage social interaction and allow different types of play with more than one child. Mr D Fountain was concerned that the bark chippings near the adult exercise equipment will encourage rats and that if it is not going to be used imminently then it should be disposed of. Mrs L Fielding to follow up. Mr J Biddlecombe reported that he had good feedback from a local physiotherapist on the quality of the adult exercise equipment. LF

d) Millennium Memorial Hall: A meeting is planned for next month.

e) Pavilion, Sports Club & Recreation Ground: Mr D Fountain has been approached by the chairman of Sparsholt junior cricket club with regard to their junior team could using the Littleton facilities for away matches. In principle the Parish Council had no issues with this but would need to get agreement from the Sports Club and also to be wary of any insurance issues. Mr D Fountain agreed to contact the Sports Club/Cricket Club. Mr J Biddlecombe hi-lighted the changes that needed to be made to the Sports Club agreement with the Parish Council in particular related to exclusive use of the Pavilion and subletting to other parties. Mrs L Fielding was asked to contact Vivienne Aspin on the progress of the updated key holders list for the Pavilion keys. It is expected that Jim Shea will make his final report in two months and then leave the football club. LF

f) Transport, Traffic & Civil Engineering: Mr P Cunningham reported on a meeting with the Hampshire Flood Risk Team and the residents of Pitter Close, minutes of which had been emailed to the Parish Councillors by Mrs L Fielding. It was hoped that the identified actions would allow good progress to be made towards a design document. It was noted that traffic lights were now in place at the junction of Priors Dean Rd and Harestock Rd continuing the gas mains work in Harestock.

g) Pond/island opposite: Nothing to report.

18-148 **Items for noting, AOB or for inclusion on next month's agenda**

Mr R Warren noted that there were still a few Parish Councillors who were not using the Parish Council email address, and also that there was a specific Parish Clerk email address available which Mrs L Fielding was not aware of. Mrs L Fielding to forward the set up details to the specific individuals. LF

18-149 **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 11th February 2019 in the Millennium Memorial Hall, Littleton at 7.00pm.