

## DROXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting of Droxford Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Thursday 20 November 2014 at Droxford Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Pietro Acciarri, Barbara Chandler – Chair, Roger Foster – Vice Chair, Colin Matthissen, Janet Melson, Louise Withers

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Rosemary Hoile – Clerk

**ALSO PRESENT:** County Cllr Roger Huxstep, District Cllr Caroline Dibden,

**165.14 Apologies for Absence: Colin Matthissen**

**166.14 Declarations of Interest regarding Agenda items:**

Cllr Acciarri declared his interest in any matter relating to Townsend.

**167.14 Public participation:**

No members of the public were present

**168.14 County and District Councillors' Reports:**

168.14.1 • Cllr Dibden reported on two matters of great public concern and comment. Firstly the Silver Hill regeneration scheme. Stage Coach will not pay for a new bus station but will provide bus services from Friarsgate instead. Secondly the ongoing River Park Leisure Centre debate to repair the existing facility or to replace it in a different location at Bar End. Both matters are of interest to Droxford because of impact on Council Tax.

168.14.2 Cllr Huxstep said a full council meeting had not been held since before the previous meeting: He reported:

- The annual winter road maintenance program has started, which is determined by a daily forecast to assess the need to prioritise gritting on A roads, emergency services and bus routes, then B roads and single road access to villages and community services.
- Consultation on recycling centres. None are to be closed, but charges will be levied on some materials e.g. asbestos, plasterboard etc. Concern that this would increase fly tipping had been countered by reports of a return to normal levels after an initial rise.
- Ofsted inspect all local authority Children's Services Department on an approximate 4 year cycle. Hampshire had last been inspected in June 2011 and found to be "good" or "outstanding" against all 22 criteria. Because a new "tougher" inspection regime was introduced in November 2013, Ofsted revisited HCC again in February/March 2014. The results were overall "good" with "outstanding" in Adoption Performance and Leadership, Management and Governance. Ofsted had then carried out 31 inspections and the result for Hampshire was the best achieved by any Authority.

He assured Cllr Melson that the Highways Agency will check all the grit bins to ensure grit is usable.

**169.14 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 16th October 2014: APPROVED**

**170.14 Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting not elsewhere on the agenda:**

- Defibrillator: Cllr Foster said the South Central Ambulance Service (CSAS) has found that the polycarbonate cabinet containing the defibrillator device is failing. An alternative cabinet has been specified. CSAS NHS Trust has appointed WEL Medical to supply direct. Cllr Foster will liaise with the Clerk to place the order.
- Noise infringement: A response from the Police and Crime Commissioner to Cllr Gary Evans, Chairman of Winchester District Association of Local Councils has still not been received. Cllr Sue Walker Chair of Corhampton & Meonstoke Parish Council is taking the matter up with WDALC, having initially spearheaded the campaign on behalf of parishes along the Meon Valley.
- New notice board: Cllrs had looked at the notice board offered by Droxford antiques. It was considered the notice board might be too small for the number of official and statutory notices requiring display on some occasions. Cllr Toman said he will pass details to the Clerk as to who might quote to refurbish the existing notice board.
- Status of Village Tree Warden: The WCC Tree officer has offered to meet with Alan Hibbert if it helps; he had not been able to meet with his manager due to current workloads. Cllr Withers reinforced her opinion that the PC is entitled to an answer to last year's enquiry regarding TPO status of the Lime tree in the Park. The Clerk should write and request resolution.

**171.14 Rolling Action Plan:**

The Chair proposed, and it was agreed to move this item to the end of the agenda.

**172.14 Planning :**

172.14.1 **Applications:** There were no new applications to be considered this month.

Cllr Withers had received an email from Eider Developments confirming:

- Intention to set up a management company to manage the open space and road.
- Need to protect the open space against future development will be enforced by an appropriate legal agreement in due course. If it was in the form of a covenant the developer has no objection to the parish council being legally included subject to there being no legal reason why this cannot happen

172.14.2 **Planning Decisions – Appendix B: NOTED**

SDNP/14/00884/FUL Townsend: Cllr Withers reported that the status of the Townsend application on the SDNP website had changed from 'Pending Decision' to 'Approval'. Since the SDNP Planning Committee had met on 25<sup>th</sup> September and it was now November, she considered it likely that the approval and condition letter had been issued although not yet published. She would continue to monitor the website.

172.14.3 **Planning Appeals:**

There were no new Appeals. Appeals in progress are listed in Appendix B.

Appeals Inspectorate Ref: APP/Y9507/A/2222707Swanmore Farm Barn: Cllr Acciarri advised that the Planning Inspectorate had overturned the decision by SDNP and determined to approve erection of the large barn.

**NOTED**

172.14.4 **Planning Enforcement**

Cllr Acciarri reported that David Townsend, the new WCC enforcement officer took the post up on 27<sup>th</sup> October, but was on holiday for two weeks. Therefore there has been no further progress. **ACTION Cllr**

**Acciarri to request up to date list of open cases.**

172.14.5 Uplands Park: WCC New Homes Delivery Team propose to increase the number of affordable units from 7 to 8 which takes the affordable to market housing ratio 40%. No mention has been made of an offset in market housing.

Double bedrooms in the maisonette are designed for flexible living, and can be subdivided into two rooms for a carer or baby.

172.14.6 SDNP Parishes meetings:

SDNP Strategic Planning Team met with Cllrs Acciarri, Melson and Withers on 27<sup>th</sup> October to discuss input into the SDNP Local Plan. Councillors agreed to review the SDNP Settlement Hierarchy Study prior to the SDNP Planning Workshop on 13<sup>th</sup> November.

Implementation of the new CIL to replace Section 106 from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 had been postponed to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 after which the new charge will be applied. Parishes are to be encouraged to consider possible improvements to infrastructure to be funded from CIL. SDNP will draw up an infrastructure plan based on information received. If there is insufficient CIL, funding can be topped up by grants, or if really worthwhile, considered on merit.

SDNP Planning Workshop 13<sup>th</sup> November: SDNP officers presented draft Local Plan to date. Attended by Cllr Withers and Cllr Acciarri. Tim Slaney gave a presentation on Dark Skies which Cllr Withers recommended as a topic for the Annual Parish Meeting.

**173.14 Finance:**

173.14.1 **Finance Statement - Appendix A: APPROVED**

173.14.2 **Statement of Internal Control for year ending 31 March 2015. RESOLVED - to approve**

173.14.3 **Parish Council Budget 2015-2016:**

The clerk circulated the first draft of the budget. Capital projects to be discussed by the Strategic Planning Working Group (SPWG) were added. It was proposed that Cllr Matthissen and the Clerk go through the draft prior to the next SPWG meeting. **ACTION – Cllr Matthissen and the Clerk**

173.14.4 **Meon Valley Community Bus Association request for a grant:** The future of the No 17 Bishops Waltham to Petersfield route bus service is uncertain. The community bus is replaced on a 5 year cycle and is looking for a capital grant of £500 in line with Soberton to replace the existing bus. **RESOLVED – to approve a grant of £500 in the current financial year. ACTION – the Clerk to notify MVCBA**

**174.14 Play Area, Recreation Ground and Cemetery and Allotments**

174.14.1 **Zip Wire:** Barrons Structural Engineers inspected the zip wire on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October and gave verbal approval of the installation. A formal letter to confirm has been requested by the clerk. **ACTION – Clerk to follow up**

174.14.2 **Play Area:** To receive the Play Area Inspection Report: Cllr Toman had given the Clerk the weekly inspection

report. Cllr Chandler requires a quotation to remove broken play equipment.

**ACTION - the Clerk**

174.14.3 **Community First funding Event – HPFA grants:** the Clerk circulated a report. Attendance was primarily to hear the Sport England speaker who was unable to attend. Sport England offer larger grants. However HPFA also offer free play area annual inspections to subscribers as well as giving advice on sports facilities. The clerk recommended subscribing from 1 April 2015 at a cost of £40.00

**175.14 Roads, Transport and Highways:**

175.14.1 HCC Economy, Transport & Environment Department on-line consultation. Cllr Melson responded using evidence collected for the Parish Plan.

175.14.2 Winchester Passenger Forum: Cllr Melson reported on:

- Solent Go Card – good for areas served by public transport to Southampton and Portsmouth.
- Plan to replace Winchester bus station facility.
- Need for more volunteers to sign up as community drivers
- Safer driving - to assist the elderly to drive safely for longer

Changes to bus services from January – Cllr Melson has emailed the take-up of the No 17 Bishops Waltham to Petersfield bus route, and spoken to the councillor from West Meon about collaboration should the Saturday service be dropped.

**179.14 Footpaths**

Matters Arising: Landowners are responsible for repairs to stiles on their land. **ACTION – Clerk to contact landowners**

**180.14 Parish Matters**

180.14.1 Droxford Church Community and Heritage Project HLF grant award:

To confirm support for the Community Project. **RESOLVED** - to defer the matter until an understanding of how the village hall committee and the PCC steering group plan to work together has been reached...

180.14.2 To discuss Droxford Station replica on Parish land in Churchyard. **ACTION** – the Clerk to give notice to remove before 6<sup>th</sup> December.

180.14.3 Strategic Planning Working Group: Cllr Chandler said the group had met twice. Estimates for projects to benefit the community were being put forward for consideration in the budget for a 3-5 year rolling plan.

**ACTION - SPWG**

**181.14 Consultations, Meetings and Training**

181.14.1 **Broadband:** House of Commons Select Committee Inquiry into rural broadband and digital only services. Deadline for submissions Wed 19 November 2014: The Clerk was unable to confirm at time of the meeting.

**Post Meeting Note:** *Information was received from Michael Peagram following the meeting: 'It will be known if Droxford has been included in the second round of superfast upgrades from 90% - 95% coverage for 2015 - 2017, after signing by HCC on 21st November.'* Michael Peagram expects to be informed by Glenn Peacey in early December. If it has not been included, BT has said that it will provide a full costing for a community funded upgrade.

181.14.2 **WDALC AGM** Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Nov – restructuring Hampshire Constabulary briefing: **Invitation declined.** Councillors not available to attend.

181.14.3 **WACA AGM** Tues 25<sup>th</sup> November: **Invitation declined.** Councillors not available to attend.

**182.14 Rolling Action Plan** – Cllr Chandler reviewed and updated.

**183.14. Correspondence:**

183.14.1 WCC New Homes Project Manager – **for information**

183.14.2 Parishioner: Letter of complaint regarding Trick or Treat activity on Halloween **ACTION** – The Clerk

183.14.3 Selbourne Parish Council – lobby letter, motor cycles. **NO ACTION REQUIRED**

183.14.4 HCC – Working together to make Hampshire More Resilient 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 3.30 -6.0 pm.

Invitation to parish and town councils. **NO ACTION**

183.14.5 WCC – Invitation to Parish Council Budget 2015/16 briefing 6pm Wed 10 Dec. **Councillors not available to attend.**

183.14.6 Nicky Oliver WDALC - Department of Communities & Local Government (DCLG) fund for devolved local service/project delivery in partnership with WDALC **NOTED**

**184.14 Items for the next agenda:** None

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm

Signed.....Date.....

