

DROXFORD PARISH COUNCIL – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 9 JUNE 2014 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Pietro Acciarri, Barbara Chandler, Roger Foster, Colin Mathisson, Janet Melson, Jason Toman and Louise Withers.

Also present: Councillor Roger Huxstep and Councillor Caroline Dibden.

Member of the public: Mrs Susie Fletcher

Apologies: Rosemary Hoile – Clerk

- 84.14 It was proposed by Councillor Withers and seconded by Councillor Melson “That Councillor Chandler be elected Chairperson for 2014/15”. This was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.
- 85.14 It was proposed by Councillor Melson and seconded by Councillor Toman “That Councillor Foster be elected Vice-Chairperson for 2014/15”. This was **AGREED UNANIMOUSLY**.
- 86.14 Signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office were received from the Chairperson and Members.
- 87.14 The Annual General Meeting closed at 6.45pm and the Parish Council meeting opened immediately with Councillor Chandler in the chair.
- 88.14 There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest relating to agenda items.
- 89.14 Councillors were appointed to the following groups:
- Finance and Audit** – Councillors Chandler, Mathisson and Withers
 - Planning** - Councillors Acciarri, Foster and Withers
 - Parish Plan Review** – Councillors Acciarri and Melson, Mrs R Hoile (Clerk)
 - Recreation** - Councillors Foster, Melson and Toman
 - Footpaths, Cemetary and Allotments** – Councillors Chandler (Cemetary) and Melson (Footpaths), Mrs R Hoile (Clerk – Allotments)
 - Roads, Transport and Highways** – Councillors Foster and Melson
 - Website** – Councillors Chandler, Foster and Withers, Mrs R Hoile (Clerk) and Mrs S Fletcher (Website Compiler)
- 90.14 Councillor Chandler welcomed Councillors Roger Huxstep (Hampshire County Council) and Caroline Dibden (Winchester City Council) to the meeting and congratulated Cllr Dibden on her election.
- 91.14 Councillor Huxstep gave a brief report and advised that a new Health and Adult Care Select Committee would be created by amalgamating two committees. He advised that broadband was still an issue and a recent update describing the 3 phases planned to December 2014 did not include Droxford. Information on phase 4 had not yet been published and Councillor Huxstep suggested that the Parish Council wrote to Hampshire County Council asking when this would be released and enquiring whether Droxford would be included. Councillor Foster said that superfast broadband was one of the most critical things happening in the next few years, and it was **AGREED** that this item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting when Mr M Peagram would be invited to attend. (Now on July agenda. Write to MP and ask if he would be able to attend Thurs 17th July)

- 92.14 Councillor Dibden said that she had been appointed to the WCC Standards Committee and the Licensing and Regulation Committee. Leader of the Council was Councillor Rob Humby. She advised a conference had been held on fracking (oil not gas) in Hampshire, but only the western edge of the county would be affected.
- 93.14 Before leaving the meeting, Councillor Huxstep congratulated the community of Droxford on the D-Day commemorative events that had taken place in the village. This was endorsed by Councillor Dibden.
- 94.14 **Members of the Public** - In response to a query, it was **AGREED** that the Clerk should write to Winchester City Council regarding the possible appearance of Japanese knotweed in the village.
- 95.14 **Approval of minutes** - The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2014 were **APPROVED** and signed.
- 96.14 **Matters arising**
- 96.1.14 **Zip wire** – Councillor Toman advised the end of July had been set as the provisional date to erect the wire. It was **AGREED** that a decision on how to proceed would be taken at the next meeting.
- 96.2.14 **Broadband** – This matter had been discussed earlier in the meeting.
- 96.3.14 **Parish Notice Board** – Councillor Chandler reported that a small grant application had been submitted and a decision was awaited.
- 97.14 **Planning**
- 97.1.14 **New Applications**
- 97.2.14 **SDNP/14/02345/FUL – Hill View, Mill Lane, Droxford, SO32 3QS.** Application for construction of a 2 bedroom dwelling and change of use from private allotment to dwelling. Following discussion, the Council decided **BY MAJORITY** to object to the application on the grounds that the plans were not in keeping with a rural setting.
- 97.3.14 **SDNP/14/02356/FUL – The Court House, Police Station Lane, Droxford, SO32 3RF.** Application for change of use from a Health Club (D1) to residential dwelling (C3). The Council raised no objections to this application.
- 97.4.14 **Townsend** – Councillor Acciarri advised that Kebbell Homes had submitted another revised layout for the Townsend site leaving the entrance and exit on the A32 but including more screening and a footpath going towards Meringtons. This would not be considered by SDNP Planning Committee until 10 July to allow time for the Parish Council to be consulted.
- 98.14 **Enforcement** – Concern was expressed at the lack of action by the Winchester City Council Enforcement team, particularly in relation to Four Acres. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk should be requested to keep pressing the Parish Council's concerns; Councillor Dibden advised that she would also try to find out more about the matter.
- 99.14 Councillor Mathissen gave apologies and left the meeting at 8.55 pm.
- 100.14 **Finance**
- 100.1.14 **Income and Expenditure June 2014.** The Finance Statement was **NOTED** and payments **APPROVED**.
- 100.3.14 **Financial Regulations** – The revised Financial Regulations were **APPROVED**.
- 100.4.14 **Revised Standing Orders** – These were deferred until the next meeting.
- 101.14 **Recreation Ground, Cemetery and Allotments**
- 101.1.14 **Play Area Routine Inspection Report** - Councillor Toman said he would provide this to the Clerk. The Annual Play Area Inspection Report was passed to Councillor Toman to read.(Contact Jason re Play Area Inspection Report)
- 101.2.14 **Lengthsmen** – The Chairperson requested the Clerk pass on the thanks of the Council to the lengthsmen for the recent work undertaken in the village.

102.14 **Roads, Transport and Highways**

102.1.14**Speedwatch** – An email had been received from PC Vollandine advising that Droxford could have a speed watch and giving details of how to proceed. A pool of volunteers and co-ordinator would be required and it was known that some people had expressed an interest through the Parish Plan. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk should find out exactly what was involved and contact potential volunteers to see if this matter could be moved forward.

103.14 **Footpaths and Rights of Way**

103.1.14**Paths to Partnership, Report on Workshops** – Councillor Foster reported that he had attended this workshop called by Hampshire Countryside Service. A small grants scheme was open to parish councils and landowners offering 50% of the cost of a project up to a maximum of £5,000. Discussion took place on whether or not it was the responsibility of the landowner to maintain footpaths and it was **AGREED** that (a) clarification should be sought from the Countryside Service, (b) a list of the footpaths in the parish compiled and (c) the names of the relevant landowners. Councillor Melson to action.

104.14 **Parish Matters**

104.1.14**Health and Safety Policy** – Deferred until next meeting. Hambledon Health and Safety Policy to be reviewed.

104.2.14**Droxford Fair and 70th Anniversary of DD Commemorative Events** – The Parish Council congratulated the Country Fair Committee, Friends of Droxford Church and children of Droxford School for the professional staging and huge success of all the events surrounding this unique occasion.

105.14 **Correspondence received** – None.

106.14 **Any Other Business**

106.1.14**No Parking Notices** – Councillor Toman advised it had been drawn to his attention that 3 ‘No Parking’ notices had placed in Park Lane. **NOTED.**

106.2.14**Footpath between The Baker’s Arms and Antique Shop** – Councillor Toman had received a complaint regarding the overgrown state of this path. Action to be reviewed under 103.1.14

106.3.14**Old Court House** – Councillor Toman advised that a plastic sign had been placed over the original Court House. **NOTED.**

106.4.14**Traffic on Police Station and Union Lane** – Councillor Acciarri requested an update. Following discussion, it was considered that this matter should be revisited in September and in the meantime, Councillor Foster would request Councillor Huxstep to provide the name of a contact in the Highways Department in order to arrange a meeting. Any action should be co-ordinated with the outcome of the Parish Plan.

106.5.14**Mill Footpath** – Councillor Acciarri expressed concern regarding the tree debris and overgrown state of the footpath edge bordering the river by The Mill. This was **NOTED.**

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

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