

# **Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Hartley Wintney Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 to which Councillors are summoned to attend by video conferencing via Microsoft Teams.**

**Present:** Cllr Chris Farrance (Chair), Cllr Fiona Sutton, Cllr Becky Moss Cllr Diana Harvey, Cllr Steve Airton, Cllr Ian Wilson, Cllr Sarah Craig, Cllr Stuart Elborn, Cllr Dorothy Harvey and Cllr Roger Robertson.

**In attendance:** Karyn Reid (Executive Clerk), Sarah Daly (Deputy Clerk), Julian Martin (Horticulture and Amenities Officer), District Cllrs Anne Crampton and Tim Southern, plus 4 members of the public  
**Public Speakers:** Andrew O'Kelly and David Turver

## **19/20PC 183. OPEN FORUM**

The meeting started at 7.30pm. Cllr Farrance asked the members of the public that had accessed the meeting via telephone or online whether they wished to speak.

David Turver felt it was good that HWPC were taking a proactive approach in seeking opportunities to redevelop the Grey House site but the approach needs to be kept balanced in terms of Parish Councillors personal views. He also requested that in planning for Covid 19 recovery, the Waggon and Horses is allowed to use the land outside near the duck pond in order to trade as they only have a small beer garden. Cllr Farrance noted this point and said that HWPC are currently considering how the High Street is reopened for trade.

Andrew O'Kelly noted a letter that was posted through residents doors from Cllr Dorothy Harvey on behalf of the Over 55s Forum. He felt that the wording 'those who want to support the development should respond via the HDC website' would have been better said as 'support or object'. The dual role of some councillors was queried as a potential conflict of interest. These comments were noted and Andrew O'Kelly was happy to continue the conversation offline. Cllr Farrance asked that items 19/20PC 191 i) and ii) be discussed after item 19/20PC 186. Cllr Robertson stated that the meeting was being recorded.

The Executive Clerk read out a written statement from Mr Manners that had been submitted prior to the meeting; I support the redevelopment of the Grey House site; I also support the principle of a care home being built on the site. I however reiterate my objection to the planning application as submitted.

I put the energising of local residents' concerns down to the fact that very little has changed from the pre-application (indeed more uncertainty has been introduced on a number of issues). The default position of the Parish Council to support a care home application on this site means that it has fallen on local residents to safeguard their wellbeing and property through detailed scrutiny at the outset, concerned that consultation has been concluded behind closed doors. I have found the debate around 'who knows the village best' completely demoralising and divisive - we have a collective experience that should be heard, challenged and celebrated - not shouted down.

If the community is frustrated at further delay to this planning process, then the blame can only be placed on the developer for submitting an ambiguous, conflicting and poor application. Local residents cannot be blamed for spotting loopholes and calling for amendments. Challenge is positive, it is part of a consultation and that should have been placed at the heart of this application due to its size. Does Hartley Wintney need a care home complex with a gym or should it demand one that takes into specific consideration the needs of those in our community suffering from dementia? I understand that the developers of the affordable housing in the vicinity of Hare's Lane will be having a stand at the forthcoming Hartley Wintney Fair. Has the care home developer been invited to do the same, or does the Parish Council view the opportunity for consultation closed?

I listened into the planning meeting on 21 May and was impressed by the forensic nature and consideration that went into the review of planning applications. My only request is that the same critical and stringent approach is taken to the review of the Grey House development. When

reviewing the Hare's Lane affordable housing site, the challenge was set by the Parish Planning Committee to ensure it was futureproof and sustainable: that electric charging points for vehicles should be installed. This is commendable. The same ambition, principle and thought must be applied to the care home application. The Parish Council's default position of supporting an application for a care home cannot water-down the scrutiny, challenge and vision in order to rush something through - even if it is already many years late. Specifically I strongly request consideration that an approved application must:

1. Ensure that vehicle traffic be managed to turn right on Mount Pleasant out onto Fleet Road - not just assumed it will be directed as such because indicative lines are drawn on the developer's plan.
2. Ensure that easy pedestrian access to/from the site is not assumed because pavements exist, but recognise that the path along the Fleet Road is narrow and on a blind bend with no passing places for mobility scooters; and that the path along Mount Pleasant is in poor condition meaning that people use the road to walk instead.
3. Make allowance for the reliance of twenty households on Mildmay Terrace on available parking on Mount Pleasant and that this disruption would force my family and others to park around the Cricket Green routinely. If parking is so plentiful on the new development - could arrangements be made for Mildmay residents to park there?
4. Ensure that places at the care home are affordable and available for local residents, rather than set an unrealistic expectation for our community on the provision of future care.
5. Remove the noise, displaced water, flooding, overlook effects and risks of the current design on immediate neighbours to the site

I commend the Council to put these challenges to the application and the developer alongside planning regulations, to ensure that the care home meets the needs of Hartley Wintney as a whole as well as enhancing the community within the Causeway Conservation Area.

Yours faithfully

Colin Manners  
All comments were noted.

#### **19/20PC 184. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Tony Woods and Peter Gee, plus County Councillor David Simpson and District Councillor Spencer Farmer

#### **19/20PC 185. DISPENSATIONS UNDER S33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT (2011)**

To consider the granting of a dispensation to enable members to participate in and vote on an item of business on the agenda where they would otherwise have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and to confirm how long this dispensation may have effect.

**No dispensations were made.**

#### **19/20PC 186. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations made by members of any personal, prejudicial or non-prejudicial interests of any agenda item. Members with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, unless a dispensation has been granted, will be required to withdraw when Council discusses & votes on the matter.

**No interests were declared.**

Items 19/20PC 191 i) and ii) were discussed next.

#### **19/20PC 187. WARD MEMBERS REPORT**

This was discussed after item 19/20PC 191.

District Cllr Crampton reported on the following issues:

**Emergency Planning** – staff have been moved around at HDC so there is no direct contact.

Everything has to go via the Election Team so response time is currently slower.

**Business grants** – £12.1 million has been distributed of the £14.1 million from government. Discretionary grants are available to those that are not eligible for a business grant. There is £70,000 to allocate. HDC have a framework to assess eligibility and this is on the HDC website. The framework is quite restrictive and lots of businesses are falling outside of this.

**COVID-19 Recovery Board** – took place on Thursday. District Cllr Crampton has requested a recovery plan report when this is available. High Street parking bays will close on the Costa side of the High Street to get ready for trading. This will allow a wider pavement space for social distancing and queuing. Many local businesses have complained about the bay closure and an update has been requested from Phil Shepherd. Calthorpe inpatients have been moved to Farnham Hospital as they can't socially distance. HWPC have put recommendations forward to HDC regarding a COVID ready High Street.

District Cllr Southern reported on the following issues:

**Shoulder of Mutton** – is an asset of community value and can only be used as a pub if someone takes it over. Bramshill Parish Council put in the application to make it an asset. The building itself is not in good condition.

**Green Lane** – works were agreed pre-Covid so there have been delays. However, the works will take place in due course. Residents were consulted in October/November last year.

#### **19/20PC 188. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Item 19/20PC 177 ii) – the action below had been transferred to the Executive Clerk and completed. ACTION: HAO to send details to County Cllr Simpson to confirm who to contact regarding mounting to existing signage.

Item 19/20PC 177 ii) – Parish insurance renewal

The Executive Clerk confirmed that currently the equipment bought for the Cricket Club is listed on the HWPC Asset Register as they have nowhere secure to store it. Once the equipment is handed over it will be the responsibility of the Cricket Club to insure it

Cllr Wilson proposed approval of the minutes of the Full Council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020; seconded by Cllr Diana Harvey and **AGREED** by all. Chairman to sign minutes when appropriate to do so.

#### **19/20PC 189. ACTIONS LOG & CLERK'S / PARISH OFFICE SUMMARY REPORT**

Item 19/20PC 137 - The damaged boardwalks are a work in progress.

The Executive Clerk reported that the Parish Office will not open to the public until September 2020 at the earliest, in line with Victoria Hall, although staff remain contactable via the office number and emails.

The Deputy Clerk summarised the burial ground mapping project. Cllr Robertson expressed an interest in attending any training regarding the new software and queried whether HWPC should charge a fee for searching records. Cllr Craig and Elborn requested an online discussion with the Deputy Clerk regarding the mapping project and how this links with the new website.

**19/20PC 190. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE** – review & approval of following:

i) Income & expenditure, cashbooks & bank reconciliations for April 2020 & associated bank balances

Cllr Robertson proposed approval of the income & expenditure, cashbooks & bank reconciliations for April 2020 & associated bank balances; seconded by Cllr Elborn and **AGREED** by all.

ii) To review and approve additional spend

### **Burial Grounds Monitoring Costs – Revisited**

This was felt to be a financial risk and should be dealt with by Full Council or Finance Committee. Cllr Airtton proposed a discussion at the next E&A meeting to making a recommendation; seconded by Cllr Farrance.

**ACTION:** Deputy Clerk to add to the E&A Agenda for a recommendation to be agreed.

### **Cost of Bowser for use at SMP Sports Ground and Orchard**

The St Marys Park Working Group have put forward the proposal for a large vessel to be purchased, primarily for watering the cricket pitch. This would also be a useful resource for the orchard and High Street planters. The HAO has researched some suitable products and details of these were circulated prior to the meeting. A recommendation will come forward for approval once the requirements have been defined.

### **Immediate repair to Hall Foyer roof split with VHC would be in region of £2200.**

The repair is needed to the small area of roof in the entrance lobby due to an ongoing gulley problem. The cost is not budgeted for but it is termed an emergency response repair. There was agreement in principle for this impending cost.

#### iii) To discuss and approve requested budget for Specialist Communications Advisor of £3000

The Specialist Communications Adviser would be key in the launch of the new website and in advising on best use of social media. The cost is for 90 hours and this would come out of the special projects budget.

Cllr Diana Harvey proposed approval of the requested budget for Specialist Communications Advisor of £3000; seconded by Cllr Airtton and **AGREED** by all.

#### iv) Payments listings

Cllr Robertson proposed approval of the payments listing; seconded by Cllr Elborn and **AGREED** by all.

### **19/20PC 191. PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS**

i) Planning Committee Delegation – Request Full Council approval for Planning Committee to review all documentation for Planning Application REF: 20/00330/FUL and make a recommendation for Council Consideration on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

This was discussed after item 19/20PC 186.

The Executive Clerk put in the request for Planning Committee delegation in order to hold as many online meetings as needed to review the submissions regarding the Grey House planning applications. The resulting recommendation will go to Full Council for a full open discussion. All councillors **AGREED**.

ii) Planning Committee Terms of Reference – to consider ‘impartiality clause’ for Planning Committee Members.

It was recommended for the Planning Committee Terms of Reference to include an ‘impartiality clause’ applicable to all planning committee members which would advise against publicly declaring a personal opinion on planning applications impacting the Parish.

Cllr Dorothy Harvey queried whether this is relevant for other committees such as Environment and Amenities. The Executive Clerk agreed that it would be best practice to insert this clause into the Terms of Reference for other committees. Cllr Craig asked for clarification of the wording of the clause. This will be agreed at the next Planning Committee so councillors were only asked for an agreement in principle.

Councillors voted 9 **FOR**, 1 **AGAINST**

Item 19/20 187 was discussed next.

iii) C19 Community Recovery Plan

Cllr Dorothy Harvey presented some ideas regarding how HWPC can use this experience to build a better community. Councillors were asked for feedback on the suggestions in principle and ideas for how to take this forward in order to keep the momentum going. The plan is to work with all groups and businesses for the benefit of the village. Cllr Sutton flagged up loneliness as a big issue and a gap in supporting teenagers. Residents have really valued the initiatives put into place. Cllr Dorothy Harvey suggested seeing what the ongoing needs are and then assess whether any of these could be HWPC initiatives. Cllrs Sutton, Elborn, Craig and Farrance expressed an interest in being involved. The next step is to put together a questionnaire to go out to the community, businesses and groups. Cllr Dorothy Harvey asked for any questions to be sent to her by the end of the week with a view to sending out a questionnaire by the end of the month. A letter will also be sent out to all of the volunteers asking if they want to continue their involvement.

Cllr Farrance thanked Cllr Dorothy Harvey for her work on this.

**19/20PC 192. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH COUNCILLOR MATTERS & TRAINING FEEDBACK**

Cllr Farrance thanked Cllr Diana Harvey for chairing the open meeting regarding the Grey House planning application.

**19/20PC 193. COMMITTEE MINUTES & UPDATE INC. WORKING GROUPS**

Verbal update on any matters discussed in Committees (incl. associated working parties) and to receive the draft minutes, where available;

i) Verbal Update on Website Working Group Progress (Cllr Elborn)

Cllr Elborn indicated that the work on the website was progressing well and we would be looking at a 'go live' date in the middle of August 2020 which is ahead of the deadline for 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

ii) Verbal Update on Community Bus Progress (Cllr Craig)

Discussions have taken place with HCC regarding how the bus service could be resumed and how HWPC can move towards a sustainable and safe model. Concessionary Fares funding is secured until the end of June 2020.

iii) Planning Committee – to receive minutes from meetings 27<sup>th</sup> April, draft minutes of online discussion 14<sup>th</sup> May, draft minutes 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

The minutes were received. Cllr Farrance noted that the minutes of the Grey House open meeting were on the website and thanked the Deputy Clerk for producing these.

**19/20PC 194. CORRESPONDENCE**

A plot holder has contacted HWPC regarding 4 trees on Vicarage Hill allotments that have been left unattended and are now causing problems including shading, seeds falling onto plots and the roots sapping moisture. The trees are Field Maples, located in the hedge boundary on Church Lane. They do not have TPO's (Tree Preservation Orders) on them but they are part of the Conservation Area. The Council has received a quote of approximately £650.00 to reduce the trees to hedge level. HDC need to be contacted first to see if they would allow the works. If they respond in time the matter can be taken to the next E&A meeting.

**ACTION:** Contact HDC re; trees and make recommendation to E&A Committee.

HCC will be putting up social distancing signage at the main bus stops. The template has been sent to HWPC for use.

**19/20PC 195. DATES OF MEETINGS**

A summary of suggested meetings to take place in June via video conferencing were circulated prior to the meeting.

Planning & Infrastructure Committee – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm

E&A Committee – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at 7.00pm

Finance Committee – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.37pm**

.....Chairman

.....Date

Appendices

- Actions log
- Executive Clerk's / Parish Office report
- Monthly finance documents

*Abbreviations used in these minutes: Cllr ~ Councillor      HCC ~Hampshire County Council  
HDC ~ Hart District Council    HWPC ~ Hartley Wintney Parish Council    NHP ~ Neighbourhood  
Plan    HAO ~ Horticulture and Amenities Officer*