

**WEST END PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 11TH JANUARY 2017 AT 6.00 PM IN THE
PARISH CENTRE, CHAPEL ROAD, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON**

PRESENT: **Councillor:** **D Clarke (Chairman)**
 Councillors: **S Turl, J Asman, R Davis,**
 J Goguel, B Tennent, P Brown
 C Boulton (arrived at 7.15 pm)
 A Mortimer (arrived at 7.15 pm)

IN ATTENDANCE: **Mrs L Cooke, Parish Clerk**
 Mr S Mockford, Deputy Clerk
 Mrs K Hartley, Admin Officer

Mr Peter Murphy – Ellis Whittam

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: **Mr & Mrs Clay, Mr Wheeler, Mrs Hamilton**

PRESENTATION OF SERVICES BY ELLIS WHITTAM

Mr Murphy from Ellis Whittam gave a presentation on the services provided to West End Parish Council.

Mr Sheridan Mockford left the meeting at 6.30 pm.

Prior to commencement of the meeting, the Chair announced the sad passing of Mrs Pam Bennett last week. Mrs Bennett had served on the Parish Council in the 1980's and was a very active member of the community. A minutes silence was held in memory of Mrs Bennett.

The Chair notified members that Councillor Bates was currently poorly and wished him a speedy recovery.

The Chair said it was good to see Councillor Mortimer at the meeting.

106/17/PC OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

The Chairman invited questions from members of the public as explained in the document ref. Public Participation at West End Parish Council meetings.

There were no questions.

107/17/PC APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors McCusker, Bates and MacDonald. Councillors Craig and Smith were absent from the meeting.

108/17/PC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare interests in relation to items of business on the agenda. There were no interests to declare.

109/17/PC TO CONSIDER A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS

The following amendment to Standing Order 33 - Procedure for Filling a Casual Vacancy was proposed:

1.2 A casual vacancy will occur when:

- h) Nominees must complete a formal application form**
- i) No nominee can be presented to full Council until two references have been received in support of their application from either an employer or someone of standing in the community**

At the selection meeting which will be the next full Council meeting:

- j) Before a vote is taken on the co-option, the applicant must give a four minute presentation. Councillors may arrange an alternative date to hear an applicant's presentation**

Councillor Brown commented that item i) with regard to two references did not read correctly.

Councillor Davis commented that he felt it would be advisable for anyone thinking of becoming a councillor to attend meetings beforehand.

Councillor Clarke said this would be advisable but cannot be included in Standing Orders. He said personally when taking a vote, he would be looking to see that a keen interest had been shown.

Councillor Tennent said he agreed with Councillor Davis and felt candidates should attend a few meetings to see what they are letting themselves into. He said he had worked hard to try to encourage people to become a parish councillor but very few put themselves up for election. WEPC should not be putting in place any more barriers. A reference does not mean much. He suggested (j) "the applicant must give a four minute presentation" should read 'can', 'could' or 'upto'.

Councillor Boulton commented that she felt a 4 minute presentation is a bit much for someone who may be just coming into the situation.

Councillor Clarke commented that the council do need to apply a fair degree of scrutiny in the event of a co-option.

Councillor Mortimer said she had to give an account of herself to members of four committees when she put herself forward and this lasted longer than 4 minutes. Since 2009, co-opted councillors have had to give a presentation or an account of themselves to a committee.

Councillor Asman said she thought an application form would apply a person's mind and inform the council about themselves in a formatted way.

Councillor Turl said she understood Councillor Boulton’s concerns but hopefully prior to the presentation, the candidate should have met with the Clerk and would be prepared to speak in the public domain.

Councillor Clarke suggested the best practice when receiving an application for co-option would be to provide details of all councillors and office staff to the candidate.

Councillor Brown asked how many councillors present would be able to obtain two references? The majority of councillors said this would be achievable.

Councillor Clarke said it should be noted that all councillors are accountable for people in the community. He said a plan for supporting people when they apply to give them confidence when giving a presentation should be put in place.

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor Mortimer to accept the following amendment to Standing Orders:

1.2 A casual vacancy will occur when:

- h) Nominees must complete a formal application form**
- i) No nominee can be presented to full Council until two references have been received in support of their application from referees who can include a current or ex employer or someone eligible to sign a passport application.**

At the selection meeting which will be the next full Council meeting:

- j) Before a vote is taken on the co-option, the applicant must give a presentation of up to four minutes duration. Councillors may arrange an alternative date to hear an applicant’s presentation**

A vote was taken: 7 in favour, 2 against. Amendment to Standing Orders carried.

110/17/PC TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR 2017/2018 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**Proposed: Councillor J Asman
Seconded: Councillor P Brown
In favour: Unanimous**

111/17/PC TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE THAT WEST END PARISH COUNCIL REQUESTS A PRECEPT FIGURE OF £370,054.00 AND AN ADDITIONAL GRANT OF £23,968.29 FROM EASTLEIGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Proposed: Councillor J Asman
Seconded: Councillor A Mortimer
In favour: Unanimous**

It was noted that there would be a 0% increase in Council Tax for this year.

112/17/PC PCSO/POLICE REPORT

PC Jason Steel gave apologies for not being able to give a report at this meeting but

Parish Council Meeting –11th January 2017

advised there were no major issues in West End.

Councillors asked the Clerk to contact the police to ensure a representative attended the February meeting.

Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public

There were no questions.

113/17/PC TO AUTHORISE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2016

There were no comments from members of the public.

The minutes of the Full Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, 14th December 2016 were accepted as a true record of events and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Councillor D Clarke
Seconded: Councillor J Goguel
In favour: Unanimous

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

114/16/PC TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Planning & Highways Committee Meetings of 6th & 20th December 2016

There were no comments from members of the public.

Councillor Asman presented the minutes of the Planning & Highways Committee Meetings held on 6th and 20th December 2016 and asked the Council to accept the recommendations contained therein.

Proposed: Councillor J Asman
Seconded: Councillor P Brown
In favour: Unanimous

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Recreation & Environment Committee Meeting – No meeting

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Policy & Resources Committee Meeting of 4th January 2017

There were no comments from members of the public.

Councillor Asman presented the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 4th January 2017 and asked the Council to accept the recommendations contained therein with the following amendment:

Page 2, 221/16/PR Draft Budget 2017/2018 , paragraph 3 should read:

“Although it is necessary to have the recommended level of reserves it is not necessary to go above this level”.

Proposed: Councillor J Asman
Seconded: Councillor S Turl
In favour: Unanimous

Matters Arising

Parish Centre Working Party – the Chair asked if any councillors not serving on the Policy & Resources Committee would like to be a member of this group? It was noted that the Working Party currently consists of Councillors Asman, Mortimer, Clarke and Brown. Councillor Goguel said he would like to join the group.

Personnel Committee Meeting of 7th December 2016

There were no comments from members of the public.

Councillor Turl presented the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 7th December 2016 and asked the Council to accept the recommendations contained therein.

Proposed: Councillor S Turl
Seconded: Councillor R Davis
In favour: Unanimous

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

115/17/PC

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Transport Representative’s Report– Councillor Goguel

Councillor Goguel said he has not yet visited Southampton Central Station to ask if British Rail are able to put pressure on Hampshire County Council to install traffic lights on the railway bridge in Allington Lane.

Hildene Community Association – Councillor P Brown

Minutes of meeting held on 9th January 2017 circulated to all Councillors.

Councillor Brown attended meeting. Main points to note:

- Bookings are increasing.
- Skittles Evening – 25th February 2017 – tickets now available.

Airport Consultative – Councillor J Asman

Next meeting – February 2017.

West End Carnival – Councillor R MacDonald – apologies received

Clerk confirmed date of this year’s Carnival as Saturday, 17th June.

Friends of Hatch Grange – Councillor R MacDonald – apologies received

No report.

Friends of West End Copse – Councillor D Clarke

No meeting.

Wildern Management – Councillor D Clarke

No meeting.

HEWEB Youth Partnership – Councillor D Clarke

Next meeting – 14th February 2017. AGM – 16th March 2017.

QEII Activity Management Committee – Councillor A Mortimer

Councillor Mortimer asked for this item to be removed from the agenda as she is unable to attend meetings due to her current health issues.

EDALC

No representative appointed.

116/17/PC TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY/BOROUGH:

County Councillor B Tennent - reported on the following:

- **Government Initiative on Infrastructure in Market Villages:** 14 villages throughout country; emphasis on cycleways, doctor's surgeries and fitness centres. Two in Hampshire: Welborne north of Fareham and Whitehill & Bordon.
- **Autism Scheme:** Autism Ambassador asking for volunteers to help promote awareness of adults and young people with autism. Currently 10,000 adults and 3000 children in Hampshire with autism. 150 ambassadors in Hampshire.
- **Grit Bins:** Enforce message on WEPC's website for residents to check grit bins are filled.

Borough Councillor reports:

Borough Councillor D Clarke – reported on the following:

- The gym at Wildern Leisure Centre now completely refurbished. Equipment supplied by Life Fitness. Officially opened on 6th January.
- New play areas in Carpathia and Townhill due to open soon.
- Boorley Green Working Group – next meeting Tuesday, 17th January.
- Southern Water – EBC keen to move forward with play area in Mill Gardens. Meeting with residents to discuss improved plans to be arranged. £50,000 developers' contributions to be enhanced by funds from Southern Water.
- The Box, Hedge End – central point for Youth Services for HEWEB – discussing new programme with Wildern School and Hedge End Town Council. New programme for young carers and police cadets. To be re-named HEWEB Community Hub.
- Planning Appeals: 34 Orchards Way and Midlands Estate (2 bungalows).

Borough Councillor B Tennent – attended Fitness Week at Wildern.

Borough Councillor J Asman – attended Full Council meeting at EBC.

Bishopstoke - EBC have NOT made a decision to build 6000 dwellings in Bishopstoke. Further investigations to be carried out by Officers.

Parish Council Meeting –11th January 2017

Solvay Site, Gaters Hill – permission for 80 bedroom nursing home now granted.

Borough Councillor C Boulton – nothing to report.

There were no questions from members of the public.

117/17/PC **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 8th February 2017 at 7.15 pm

118/17/PC **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

See separate report on Exempt Business: Standards Panel and Personnel Issues.

119/17/PC **CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 7.58 p.m.

Draft