

WEST END PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29th MARCH 2023 AT THE PARISH CENTRE, CHAPEL ROAD, WEST END AT 7.15 PM.

Councillors Present: Councillor C Boulton – Chair of the Parish Council
J Asman, B Coles, J Haylett, A Price, B Tennent, S Turl,
T Weeks

Parish Council Team: Mr S Mockford - Parish Clerk
Miss B Bond - Deputy Clerk
Mrs S Johnson - Admin Officer

In Attendance: Cllr Steven Broomfield, Hampshire County Councillor
Kitty Budden, Local Area Manager

Representatives of the following groups were in attendance:

10 th Itchen North Scouts	Speedwatch
Hatch Grange WI	West End Garden & Allotment Association
Hilldene Community Association	West End Local History Society
New Life Domestic	West End Youth Club
Propbox Youth Theatre	

Members of the Public in attendance: 10

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Councillors Craig, Du-Crow, Goguel, Gomer, and MacDonald.

Councillor Willoughby was absent.

2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30th MARCH 2022

Councillor Boulton presented the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 30th March 2022. These were accepted as a true record of events and signed by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Boulton

Seconded: Cllr Asman

In Favour: Unanimous

3. MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

4. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Boulton commented that there have been lots of activities in the Parish, with lots of volunteers giving up their time. The Parish has a very busy feeling and there is a buzz in the area. She gave a huge thank you to anyone who is part of a volunteer group. She also thanked her fellow Councillors for their on-going support, especially Cllr Turl who has stepped in for her on numerous occasions.

Cllr Boulton reminded the meeting that Councillors are also volunteers. She mentioned that the Parish has some marvellous assets including the halls and library. This has not been brought about by luck, it has come about with hard work and speaking to the right committees.

The Parish has continued to develop a good relationship with the Ageas Bowl which has helped in dealing with issues around parking.

Cllr Boulton thanked the Parish Staff as they always go the extra mile. She hoped everyone liked how the Annual Parish Assembly was arranged this year with display tables and the opportunity to speak to the various groups.

The Parish has held the Community Games and Remembrance Service once again. Also the Summer Tea Dance, the Children's Christmas Party and the Christmas Lights switch on which was very well attended.

Cllr Boulton concluded by saying that this is your Parish and invited people to come to the Full Parish meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. She invited people to come and see what we do and join in if they can.

5. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF HEDGE END, WEST END & BOTLEY LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE (H.E.W.E.B)

Councillor Janice Asman presented the report on behalf of the Chair Councillor Cynthia Garton

Thank you for the opportunity to share some of the successes of the past year with you this evening.

Itchen Valley Country Park:

At this time in 2022, £3.3M funding had been approved for a range of improvements to this popular park and a planning application was to be submitted for elements of this masterplan. A year on, and following the grant of planning permission, the Council has now appointed contractors and is working with them to plan the delivery of the masterplan project which is expected to commence later this year. The improved facilities include, amongst other things, a new building at High Hill Field, upgraded play equipment, improved trails, and enhanced parking.

Berrywood Fields and Deer Park School Community Facilities:

At the beginning of November, Hedge End Rangers were able to play their first games on the three grass community football pitches that have been provided by the Council. These pitches, together with the Artificial Turf Pitch, are now being used by Hedge End Rangers as a home ground, and as the grass pitches establish fully, other community clubs will be able to benefit. The sports hall extension at the school has expanded the opportunity for community use of the sports facilities and Wildern Academy Trust have worked hard to grow this offering which is being well received by residents.

Hatch Farm:

Working closely with West End Parish Council and in consultation with local residents, I'm pleased to say that the wheeled sports area was able to be opened to the public in August 2022. It has been enjoyed by many young, and not so young, residents! Tree planting was recently completed, and we are looking at opportunities to involve residents in more tree planting in the open space over the next couple of years.

The working group involved in the wheeled sports project is now focusing its attention on the public art project for the site which will be funded by financial contributions from the development specifically secured for that purpose.

Boorley Park:

After a tremendous effort by Borough Council and Botley Parish Council staff, it is wonderful that the Parish Council were able to open the community centre and sports pavilion at Boorley Park in January this year. The community centre has started very successfully and is being used for a wide range of clubs and activities. Borough Council staff are continuing to work with the consortium of developers to bring the remaining community facilities up to standard to enable the Council to accept their formal transfer, for the benefit of local residents.

Recently, the Council has been consulting on options for a second play area on open space within the site. This will be installed before the summer holidays for our younger residents to enjoy.

Public Art Projects:

Two public art projects have recently been completed. The West End Heritage Markers and the Hedge End Green Routes Wayfinder projects have both been well received by residents. They make a positive contribution to the appearance of these areas and encourage people to explore our communities on foot.

Community Project Funding:

As a committee, we have continued to support local organisations in the HEWEB area with over £3,700 of grant funding awarded. In addition, the committee has approved the allocation of £11,000 for the coming year towards additional health walks and community fitness classes for older people and people with long term health conditions across the local area.

The Committee has provided new and replacement litter bins following requests from residents, and has funded replacement street name plates, new benches, flower towers in our village and town centres; and Ball Stop netting at Boorley Park MUGA, amongst other items.

As Councillors, we are frequently contacted by residents with regards to parking issues. Each year we have prioritised sites for potential traffic regulation orders, which typically comprise the introduction of double yellow lines. From 1 April 2023, the authority for making TROs will revert to HCC as the highway authority. In January, the committee therefore approved the final TROs that the Borough Council can implement on behalf of HEWEB Local Area Committee, and the lining works should be completed soon.

Partnership Working:

Many of the successes that have been achieved in Hedge End, West End and Botley have been achieved through close working with key partners in the area, particularly Hedge End Town Council, West End Parish Council and Botley Parish Council. We are grateful to everyone involved with these organisations for their hard work and dedication. We as committee, we continue to engage with private and public sector partners to ensure that local residents are properly represented when decisions regarding matters that affect our communities are considered.

Concluding Remarks:

The Local Area Committee enables local decisions to be made at a local level. However, we could not carry out our work without the help of our partners, staff, local organisations, and volunteers – you have the gratitude of the Committee, and we look forward to continuing to work with you this coming year. I would also like to thank the Local Area Manager and Assistant Local Area Manager for the help and support they give to the Chair, Committee, Town and Parish Councils, local groups, organisations and residents.

6. PRESENTATION OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR 2021/22

Councillor and Treasurer Ben Coles presented the audited accounts for 2021/22.

Every year the Audited Accounts are presented to you at the Annual Parish Assembly. They represent the financial activities of West End Parish Council during the financial year ending 31st March 2022.

They show the income and expenditure of the Council and have been subject to scrutiny by our own accountant and auditor, and then presented to independent external auditors for final approval and comment.

Approval was received and the certified accounts subsequently presented to, and approved, by Full Council. They represent the financial activities of this Council throughout the year 2021/2022.

They are prepared by the Parish Clerk who is the Responsible Financial Officer.

The full set of Audited Accounts is available at the Parish Office.

Proposed:	Cllr Coles
Seconded:	Cllr Price
In Favour:	Unanimous

7. REPORT FROM HAMPSHIRE POLICE REPRESENTATIVE

PCSOs Mica and Rachel were in attendance prior to the meeting but could not stay for the meeting.

8. REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS WITHIN WEST END PARISH**10th Itchen North Scouts**

Our Scouting year was absolutely rocked by the death of our Cub Leader Zoe Andrews in February 2022. Zoe had been unwell for many years following double kidney failure but had taken a short leave of absence to undergo surgery to assist with her quality of life. Zoe was busy making plans to return to the Cub Pack and could not wait to return; and so, her death was unexpected.

In making the announcements to our members, it was very clear to see the high regard she was held in, and her death was a massive blow. We still miss her dearly, but her legacy lives on.

We are unveiling and lighting a commemorative fire bowl in our grounds on Good Friday to a small private gathering. All who knew Zoe are very welcome to drop in afterwards anytime between 19.30 and 20.30 to see it lit and share memories. Those that wish can raise a glass of something chilled and sparkling, for a small donation to Kidney Research UK.

Notwithstanding the difficult start to the year, our group continues to be a very busy and very full group, with high membership levels in all sections, currently comprising: 26 Beavers, 34 Cubs, 39 Scouts and 15 Explorers; a combined total of 114 youth Members.

In 2014 we launched the Chimera Explorer Scout Unit, a new provision in West End to allow Scouts to continue with their Scouting journey up to age 18 and participate in adventure at the highest levels.

I am now pleased to announce that we have been busy recruiting more Leaders over the last year, and in September we are launching a Squirrels Drey. This will be another new provision for West End, this time allowing children to start their Scouting journey even earlier in their life from age 4.

We do still sadly have a waiting list and continue to accommodate as many members as possible. Our waiting list includes 21 children who are of the right age for Squirrels. This time next year, our membership could exceed 150.

After the Covid years, it has been great to return to a much more normal year of Scouts, including a full programme of camping throughout the seasons.

Our members have enjoyed a huge range of activities, from regular evening activities to weekend expeditions and a weeklong summer camp for the Scouts. From winter camps to survival camps and everything in between, including... Archery, bowling, bushcraft, canoeing, climbing, cooking, craft, crate stacking, day trips, DIY, fire lighting, fire safety, first aid, geocaching, GoApe, hiking, movie nights, NinjaWarrior, parliament week, pioneering and tomahawk throwing... the list really could go on.

In June we were delighted to be invited to build and light the Beacon for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. It was a pleasure to see representatives from all of our Sections light the beacon, and wow, it burned well. Phew, that was a relief, because there were quite a few people watching!

In November, we joined the Parish Act of Remembrance, and we are, as ever, very grateful to the Parish Council, St. James Church and all involved for their efforts in hosting this important event.

In December our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts took part in the Christmas Tree Festival, and it is safe to say that the level of craft ability and enthusiasm peaked with our Cubs, and the Scouts' tree was a little sparse. The Scouts are clearly better at cutting than decorating trees.

We are pleased that so many of our members have achieved top awards, including their Chief Scout's Award, a handful of Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze and Silver Awards, one Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award and one Queen's Scout Award. It has been over 20 years since the last Queen's Scout Award was awarded in West End – it is the highest award that a young person can earn.

None of what we do would be possible without the huge team of volunteers who make it happen. I am so grateful to have such a big team of Leaders, a growing team of Young Leaders and a highly supportive Executive Committee to oversee and support us.

My particular thanks this year go to Keith James, whom many of you will know. Keith moved through the ranks and led our group for a considerable period up until October 2019 just before the pandemic, impeccable timing! Since this time Keith has attended Beavers each week, still passing on his wealth of skills and knowledge. So, after an incredible 33 years of volunteering, Keith is retiring, and leaves us for a well-earned rest. His incredible stint just goes to show how enjoyable and rewarding volunteering is. We wish Keith all the best in his retirement.

In 1941, in his final message to all Scouts across the world, our founder Lord Robert Baden Powell said, “try to leave this world a little better than you found it”. Keith has certainly done that, as has Zoe.

Looking ahead, our group will be 95 years old on 29th March 2024 and we are planning another bumper year of adventures to commemorate this massive milestone.

Onwards and upwards.

Hilldene Community Association

Hello and good evening, my name is Nick, and I am representing the Hilldene Community Centre Management Committee. We are a group of volunteers, who with the support of the Parish staff, run the centre for the benefit of our local community.

I expect most of us here know where Hilldene is and I hope many “West Enders” visit the centre for the many and varied activities that are on offer, from preschool to retirement there is something for everyone.

Over the last year, we have made many improvements, from new curtains in the main hall to planting from seed an array of summer flowers. Any money we receive from a grant tonight will be used for external landscaping to further improve the centre for all.

Looking to the Coronation, we are hoping to install a flagpole at the front of the building to proudly fly the Union Flag on the day.

Later in the year we will also be welcoming all for refreshments following the Remembrance Service.

Finally, I would like to give thanks to all the Parish Staff and Councillors who are always there for their help and support.

Friends of West End Copse

Since we started as a group back in 2014, we have achieved quite a lot.

We have a great group of volunteers that turn up come rain or shine, ready to get their hands dirty.

In our first year, the worst problem was the amount of rubbish dumped in the Copse.

I'm pleased to say that on the whole we are on top of that now, where, at one time we were collecting around ten or twelve bags of rubbish, that is now down to two or three!

In the nine years we've been active, we have cut back non-native species of plant, controlled the amount of Holly, which in some areas was taking over and opened up a lot of overgrown paths.

We've also built and erected two new information signs and one directional sign. Repaired perimeter fences and this past year replaced at least sixteen steps. We've also planted approximately thirty young trees for the Queens Jubilee. Moving forward, we still have step and path repair work planned so if you'd like to join us, you can find details on our webpage on The West End Parish Council site.

The work is ongoing and thanks to the support of West End Parish Council we are able to carry out these tasks.

Terry Buck Chairman Friends of West End Copse

Hatch Grange WI

We are a WI group who have been meeting in West End for over 50 years.

Following the uncertainties of Covid and a decision to change how and where our meetings are run, we have increased our membership and feel stronger.

We have several groups including Crafts, Darts, Scrabble and Poetry. We have interesting and social monthly meetings, often with guest speakers or demonstrations. We also support the local foodbank with donations. We fund raise within our group (raffles and book sales) to support our meetings.

The money we have requested from the Parish Centre (Council Grant) will go towards a curling set. This will be used for social evenings and as a fun afternoon meeting.

Chris White (sec.)

New Life Domestic

Today I talk to you not as Julie Haylett but as a trustee of New Life Domestic. I never believed that when I first join with the intention of helping this charity that it would grow and grow as it has.

So much of the success has been thanks to the residents of West End and surrounding areas, they have freely donated so much.

We have since Jan 2021 helped nigh on 50 families by supplying furniture and other various items as they moved into their new home to start their New Life. This we have been able to do at no cost to them, Furniture Etc donated to us that we have passed on. No one is on a salary, everyone who helps us do so on a volunteer basis.

We had also been lucky enough to obtain a grant last year from the National Lottery to buy White Goods for the families we help. We are now, after helping over 20 families, nigh on spent all the money. We also obtained a grant from Hampshire County for flooring, some families move into properties with none, just sometimes concrete on the floor. This has enabled us to help them.

The cost we do have to cover is our rental costs, five garages, not ideal with leaky roofs but it's all that we can afford. What we would do for dry storage. We do however have two containers which helps.

The other cost is transport, we need to be able to collect items donated as well as deliver to the families we help.

So hence you will find us holding different events with the aim of raising money to cover our costs. We are always grateful for anything that helps towards the costs.

West End Garden & Allotment Association

Secretary's report year ending February 2023. The purpose of this report is to briefly summarise the last 12 months of this Association's activities.

- Your committee met on 4 occasions in the last 12 months.
- We have enjoyed two coffee mornings thanks to Maureen Cook and Jenny Lawley.
- Our annual BBQ and Summer Show took place in August and was very much enjoyed by those attending. Our thanks go to Ernie and Maureen plus our committee and helpers without whom the event could not take place.
- We issued 8 email newsletters as well as routine information regarding seed orders and the like.
- We have supported the Best Kept Allotment competition run by the Parish Council.
- In October our Harvest Supper was regrettably cancelled due to lack of interest. Maybe this was due to the aftereffects of the Pandemic, but the Committee will not reinstate the event until there is demand from members. Indeed the Committee would be pleased to receive suggestions for any events that members feel might have general appeal and we will see what can be arranged.
- We managed to stage a Heaviest Pumpkin Competition and Heaviest Marrow Competition in October and the photographs of winning entries are on display tonight.
- Following the cancellation of the Harvest Supper we arranged to present prizes from this year's various competitions at our Coffee Morning on 27 November and were delighted that Councillor Rick MacDonald was able to attend and present them.
- We have looked at the numbers attending the AGM in person for the years 2020 back to 2009 and found that on average 24 members attended, and we can assume that almost half of these would be Committee Members, this is out of a membership of over 100 in those years. The Committee feels that given the cost of Hall hire and the fact we can reach many more members by giving our reports by email for the time being "physical" AGM's will be discontinued. The Committee will keep this matter under review on a yearly basis and should the need arise in the future we will arrange an AGM.
- We are grateful for the support received from West End Parish Council which has enabled us over the years to renew various sheds, gazebos, and similar equipment for the benefit of our members. We are presently seeking estimates for repairs to the Trading Hut which we suspect may be costly.
- Our Committee have agreed to stand for a further year, and they are as follows. Please feel free to speak to any of them if you wish to raise any issues.

Chairman Joy Clements
Vice Chairman Roy Denny
Treasurer Peter Lawley
Secretary John Clements
Trading Secretary Ernie Deadman
Committee: - Joe Chalk Maureen Cook Brian Howard Jenny Lawley

West End Local History Society

The Society has produced a complete programme of interesting talks by well-known local speakers for the year 2022-23. The group in spite of covid has 55 members paid up with a few more still to renew their membership. Our monthly meetings have on average 55 plus people including visitors attending our meetings with a wide range of talks on historic subjects. The Museum in the Old Fire Station is open to the public on Saturdays from 10am to 4pm and is manned by volunteers from our membership in attendance.

Some of our projects last year have included having Captain Rostron's grave in the Old Burial Ground professionally cleaned and refurbished. Replacing two signs in the Museum Garden (the Tying Plate and the Botley Turnpike milestone) in a design and style of the other official signs used by the Parish Council around the village. Most Wednesday mornings 3 members of WELHS have been continuing the task of cataloguing and archiving the society archives as well as carefully storing them in archive quality acid free material storage boxes.

The Society have hosted visits to the Museum by local groups including Brendon Care Social Group and providing refreshments of tea and cakes. We were able to assist St. James' School Year 4 team with information for a project they planned for the coming year, and also loaned them some display material about the Moorgreen Workhouse etc. We were involved in Queen's Jubilee celebrations arranged by West End Parish Council ("Picnic in the Park" on Hatch Grange, providing and manning a "Coconut Shy" – we plan to do the same again for the Parish Councils Coronation Celebration on Hatch Grange in May. We have participated in St. James' Church Christmas Tree Festival and assisted with information where we could with enquiries via our website. Earlier we also helped a couple of Brownies preparing for their local history badges.

All in all a busy but good year. Our thanks to Sheridan and his team for all their help and support.

YoutHouse

We have had our first full year back at the youth centre with no shutdowns or restriction due to covid. We have returned to doing all our trips and activities and our numbers are back higher than before covid.

Trips/Activities

In the Easter Holidays in April 2022, we enjoyed a pamper session in which we had a company come and paint nails, glitter tattoos, apply face masks and foot treatments. This was enjoyed by 10 of our young people. We also took 20 young people for a tour of St Mary's football stadium.

The youth club staff were all involved in the Jubilee picnic held at Hatch Grange. This event was a great event for all members of the community. We sold items from the tuck shop as well as doing races for all ages.

Summer holidays were busy like normal! We opened the centres for 2/3 sessions a week, plus we had 4 trips including, Romsey Rapids, Woodmill Activity Centre Canoeing, Marwell Zoo, and Marwell Tree Top Adventure. These were all very well attended by the young people.

We held our annual Community Games event at Cutbush Lane Football Pavilion. This was very successful with lots of people attending.

Unfortunately, during the summer months, we had issues with a group of young people around the West End area with anti-social behaviour. We increased our detached patrols and would speak to the young people if we were informed that they were causing problems. However, in September we had our outside notice board smashed by the same group. As a result of this our relationship with the local PCSO improved. We were disappointed that nothing came of the young person damaging our property. However, the group has moved on. We have since purchased and installed a new notice board.

In October we took a group of 20 young people to Thorpe Park for fright night as it was a Wildern School inset day. We also took a group of 18 young people to Romsey rapids.

In November we opened the club to watch the Ageas Bowl fireworks this was well attended by lots of local families and the Friday night project from hedge end.

In December we took part in St James church, Christmas tree festival, we decorated two trees this year, one for the Townhill toddler group and one for the youth club. We also took a group of 76 young people to the mayflower theatre to watch Goldilocks.

In January we started to plan events and trips for 2023 with the help of the young people.

In February half term we took a group of 16 young people bowling and then Macdonald's for lunch.

We are now busy planning easter trips and events.

Chartwell Youth Centre

Due to darker evenings and lack of lighting we felt it was unsafe, for the young people and staff, to keep the centre open during the winter months. Therefore, the centre closed on the 28th November, and we are hoping to reopen after the Easter holidays. We have decided that the centre will only be open April-October.

Training

Safeguarding Children Awareness -	All Staff
Safeguarding Lead -	Nikki and Hannah
Health and Safety Awareness -	All Staff
Organising Trips and Visits in Education -	Nikki and Hannah
Equality and Diversity -	All Staff
Fire Extinguisher Handling -	All Staff
Fire Awareness and Warden Duties -	All Staff
Manual Handling Awareness -	All Staff
Understanding Autism Level 2 -	Hannah
DBS Checks for all staff	

Parent and Toddler Group

We are running two parent and toddler sessions every week at Townhill farm community centre, the sessions run from 10.00-12.00 pm on Tuesday and Thursdays, they are very well attended by parents and children.

Staff

We have had a few changes with the staff in the last year

Lily May Martin and James Chase have left.

Tamsin Fitt and Laurie Walker have joined the team.

Future events

Easter holidays we have a trip to the quays and a Chocolate making workshop. Alongside opening the centre and running the toddler sessions.

May half term we have the coronation event.

Summer holidays we have our 10-year anniversary of the community games, which will be held at hatch grange this august.

A 2-day residential weekend for our young members

Weekly trips to be confirmed including Romsey rapids trip.

We will also be opening 2 evenings and doing detached youth work throughout west end.

Thorpe Park trip in October, Firework evening in November and Pantomime in December.

REPORT FROM COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Broomfield

Cllr Broomfield started by saying that it was good to be back and good to see some old faces and some new faces too.

He reported that the Westwood UPVc recycling facility by the Ageas Bowl has now submitted a formal planning application. This application will be overseen by the Regulatory Committee at Hampshire County Council, of which he is a member. .

Cllr Broomfield reported that he is on many committees including the Culture and Communities, Building Land and Procurement and the Regulatory Committee. He will also now be joining the Audit Committee.

The Chicken Hall Lane Waste Transfer Station application has been passed. He commented that he voted against it, however it is good idea, but the location was incorrect. Although it will mean an increase in traffic, it does mean that there will be lots more recycling by Eastleigh Borough Council.

The issue of introducing 20 mph speed limits has been discussed at a recent meeting of the Central Road Safety Council at Hampshire County Council and a presentation was given about the consultation. It was obvious that views for and against sometimes contained the same argument. Eastleigh Borough Council may be given the authority to introduce 20 mph speed limits where they see fit to do so. The final outcome is still awaited.

Cllr Broomfield reported that annually he has access to grants of up to £1,000. This year he has awarded a grant to Mountbatten Hospice Hampshire which he recently visited. He found it very pleasing to see how caring and professional the staff are there. He has also supported Dementia Care Hampshire & IOW. They are a small, recently set up charity who run events including a drop in café at The Point, Eastleigh. Cllr Broomfield visited and saw dementia sufferers and their carers enjoying the facility.

Cllr Broomfield reported that he was recently approached by a concerned local resident regarding the awful state of the wall outside the Asda building following the fatal accident in December 2022. He encountered many issues with trying to find out who owns the wall. It is the property of the owners of the building; however, the broken railings are the responsibility of Hampshire County Council. He hopes the Borough will be ensuring the scene is cleared and repaired. He has also continued to report potholes and flooding in Moorgreen Road.

In conclusion, Cllr Broomfield reported that he regularly attends West End Parish Council meetings. He commented that he likes West End Parish Council as they get things done.

County Councillor Craig

Apologies received

Borough Councillor Asman

No report

Borough Councillor Gomer

Apologies received

Borough Councillor Tennent

Cllr Tennent reported that it has been a difficult few years for all Councillors with the on-going lack of funding. However, he is proud to be a Borough Councillor.

30 years ago the Borough Council wanted to be less reliant on Government funding. Therefore, they have been acquiring land as assets. He announced that Eastleigh Borough Council has a desire to build more affordable housing. They are looking for around 70% of the properties to be rented with an option to purchase if residents wish to. This is a new, forward-thinking venture.

Due to previous issues of nitrate run-off into the Solent, house building was stopped. The solution was to build up land as Nitrate Credits as a use of former agricultural land. One area of land up for consultation at the moment is Stoke Park Farm. The consultation period finishes on Friday 31st March if anyone wishes to comment.

Eastleigh Borough Council has kept Council tax below inflation for the 7th year running, with their assets bringing in £18million whereas Council Tax brings in £6million annually.

9. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions from members of the public.

10. COMMUNITY GRANT – ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATIONS

135 voting slips were received. Councillor Boulton presented each cheque, to the groups that were in attendance, as follows:

Group/Organisation	Amount Awarded
2 nd West End Brownies	£190
Brendoncare	£227
Friends of West End Copse	£226
Hatch Grange WI	£225
Hilldene Community Centre	£219
New Life Domestic	£205
Propbox Youth Theatre	£200
Speedwatch	£154
St James Church	£80
St James Primary School	£221
St James School Association	£183
Wednesday Conservation Volunteers	£216
West End Garden & Allotment Association	£202
West End Local History Group	£218
West End Pre School	£234
TOTAL	£3000

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Boulton announced to the meeting that Councillor Julie Haylett has been invited to the King's Coronation in May.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.07pm.