

**WEST END PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 13th MARCH 2024 AT 7.15 PM**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: **S Turl (Chair), B Coles (Vice Chair),
J Asman, D Berry, C Boulton, T Craig, B Du-Crow,
J Goguel, J Haylett, G Lloyd, R MacDonald,
R Prince-Wright, B Tennent**

IN ATTENDANCE: **S Mockford, Parish Clerk
S Johnson, Admin Officer**

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: **9 members of the public in attendance**

124/24/PC OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

A member of the public asked the Councillors if they had any knowledge of the ownership and responsibility situation with the Hatch Farm development.

Following an explanation of the situation from Councillor Tennent and the conclusion that the land ownership issues still have not been resolved, the Council suggested to the residents that they form a Residents Group and contact Eastleigh Borough council and the Developers to open a communication channel.

Another member of the public commented on the depth and number of potholes along Moorgreen Road. The Clerk will report these to Hampshire Highways.

125/24/PC APOLOGIES FROM COUNCILLORS

Apologies were received and accepted from County Councillor Broomfield.

Councillor Burton was absent.

126/24/PC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Du-Crow declared an interest in agenda item 128/24/PC as he is an employee of Hildene Community Centre.

127/24/PC POLICE REPORT

No report received.

128/24/PC HILLDENE COMMUNITY CENTRE ENERGY AUDIT

The energy audit has now been completed and shared with Councillors. The Hildene Community Association have also obtained 3 quotes to replace the existing gas boilers on a like for like basis.

Quote 1 - £9,600.00 + VAT

Quote 2 - £7,130.13 + VAT

Quote 3 - £9,730.85

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the replacement heating options for the building including comments on the report & from the Chair of the Hildene Community Association.

RESOLVED: Councillor Coles proposed, and Councillor MacDonald seconded that we move forward with the option of replacement gas boilers with hydrogen capability. The Hildene Community Association will arrange the installation of these, and the Parish Council will fund half the costs as requested. Councillors voted 11 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstained

129/24/PC **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FUTURE SERVICES CONSULTATION**

The consultation is asking for residents' views on the future of some of the local services Hampshire County Council provide in order to help the Authority meet a £132 million budget shortfall by April 2025. Residents can comment up until the 31st March 2024.

Councillors were encouraged to give individual responses as residents and also send responses to the Clerk by Wednesday 20th March. These will be compiled and given as a response from the Parish Council.

130/24/PC **REVIEW OF CHARGES FOR 2024/25**

Due to February's Recreation & Environment Committee not being quorate, a review of the Allotments, Cemetery and Football charges for 2024/25 were discussed. A copy of the Review of Charges can be found in **Appendix 1**.

RESOLVED: Councillor MacDonald proposed, and Councillor Berry seconded that the charges be increased by 4% rounding up or down to the nearest pound as appropriate. Councillors agreed unanimously.

131/24/PC **MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2024**

Councillor Turl presented the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 14th February 2024. These were accepted as a true record of events and signed by the Chair.

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

Matters Arising: None

132/24/PC **TO RECEIVE MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Planning & Highways Committee Meeting

Councillor Asman presented the minutes of the Planning and Highways Committee meeting held on 6th February 2024 and asked the Council to accept the recommendations contained therein.

Proposed: Councillor Asman
Seconded: Councillor Haylett
In favour: Unanimous

Matters Arising: None

Personnel Committee Meeting

No meeting in February.

Recreation & Environment Committee Meeting

No minutes to approve as the meeting was not quorate.

Policy & Resources Committee Meeting

Councillor Tennent presented the minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 28th February 2024 and asked the Council to accept the recommendations contained therein.

Proposed: Councillor Tennent
Seconded: Councillor MacDonald
In favour: Unanimous

Matters Arising: None

133/24/PC

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Transport Representative - Councillor Goguel

Cllr Goguel reported hearsay that the times on bus route 14 will change from every 20 minutes to every 25 minutes. Six new buses have been ordered. Eight new buses are in the Empress Road depot, but it is not known when they will be put into service.

Hilldene Community Association - Councillor Goguel

An update was given by the Chair of the Hilldene Community Association as Councillor Goguel has not been able to attend meetings. They have lots of bookings however they decided to decline a request to use the hall for roller skating. They are looking at concreting the rear area and erecting a new shed. Drainage issues are also being corrected.

Airport Consultative – Councillors Asman & MacDonald

Councillor MacDonald reported that the next meeting is on 21st June 2024 at the Holiday Inn, Eastleigh. Councillor Asman is attending the first meeting of the new Noise Forum on 10th April 2024.

Friends of West End Copse – Councillor Berry

Councillor Berry reported that an Action Morning was held on Saturday 2nd March 2024. However, work was restricted by the bad weather. It was noted that a fence had fallen down and was reported to the Parish. Thanks were passed to the Ground Staff for their prompt response in repairing this.

Telegraph Woods Nature Recovery Group – Councillors Prince-Wright & Du-Crow

The Chair invited Councillors Prince-Wright and Du-Crow to introduce the group. Councillor Prince-Wright firstly clarified that the area is not owned or maintained by West End Parish Council, ownership and responsibility remains with Eastleigh Borough Council. By working closely with Eastleigh Borough Council and the local Countryside Manager, the group has been set up in line with the Government's Local Nature Recovery Strategy to protect green spaces.

The group have received funding for the initial set up from Chestnut Funding and Crowd Funding for insurance costs. They now have a core of 8 members with 23 volunteers in total. The group have bi-weekly meetings and are currently working on heathland restoration, pond clearance, removing log bridges so wild fowl can return and litter picking. This will include a Telegraph Road litter pick. Brush hedges have also been constructed to keep dog walkers off the heathland.

The group are also working with Southampton University on a Dormouse survey using footprint tunnels and holding species surveys using the I-Naturalist phone app. The group will have a stall at the West End Summer Fete to promote awareness of the group and recruit more volunteers. They also have a Facebook page.

The Chair thanked Councillors Prince-Wright and Du-Crow for the work put into the formation of the group.

One Horton Heath Local Development Forum – Councillors Asman & Tennent

Councillor Asman had nothing to report other than to advise that the next meeting will take place on the 18th March 2024.

134/24/PC TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY/BOROUGH

County Councillor Craig

Councillor Craig had nothing to report other than to reiterate for all to make comments on the Hampshire County Council Future Services Consultation.

County Councillor Broomfield

A report provided by Councillor Broomfield prior to the meeting was read out:

Apologies for my non-attendance again. Unfortunately, I have another diary clash for which I can only apologise.

I attended the stakeholder meeting at the Utilita Bowl recently, to discuss parking and other issues. I'm sure others will report more fully but suffice to say that there appears to be some challenges on the horizon. I will obviously be keeping involved and working with all parties to minimise impacts around the village.

The recent rains have exacerbated the flooding on Moorgreen Road adjacent to the allotments. I've been in touch with Highways, who have explained that the problem has been identified but some legal issues of land ownership are delaying resolution. In the meantime, silt and mud has been removed from a conduit running under the road, which has created a short-term fix. Highways will continue to explore the land ownership issue.

Jacksons Farm is still awaiting further information around work which had started there. Everything is on hold pending additional details.

West End High Street improvements – details of updates on the Hampshire County Council website have been passed to, and circulated by, Highways.

Borough Councillor Asman

Councillor Asman reported that she had attended the Utilita Bowl Operations Review Meeting on 27th February 2024. The Local Area Manager explained that the purpose of the meeting was for the different agencies to work collectively and in partnership around events at the Utilita Bowl going forwards. There will be 3 meetings at the start, mid and end of the season (prior to the resident's annual meeting) to discuss how the approaches are and have been.

The Utilita Bowl Operations Director & Head of Customer Experience explained that plans for the coming season were in place or being formed. These include the fixture list, a communication plan with residents, travel, and coning. They also explained the arrangements for parking enforcements, the coning plan, park, and ride and easing traffic congestion plans. There will be a strong approach on this for the first few games and a clear point of contact for residents will be provided.

The next meeting will be on 18th June 2024 at the Utilita Bowl.

Councillor Asman had also attended the Policy and Performance Scrutiny Panel meeting where the plan for grass verge cutting was explained. The schedule is available on Eastleigh Borough Council's website. She also reported that Councillor Gomer gave an update on the Graffiti Task and Finish Group.

Borough Councillor Du-Crow

Nothing further to report.

Borough Councillor Gomer

No report received.

Borough Councillor Tennent

Infrastructure

1. The current M27 New Emergency Area Retrofit programme will start work between junction 9 and 10 in July 2024, and will be completed in December 2024. The location of the new EAs (one eastbound, and another westbound) will be between Whiteley Lane, and Fontley Road, to the east of M27 junction 9.
2. With regards to Charles Watts Way, it's a Hampshire County Council scheme, rather than a National Highways one. With regards to timeframes, One Network suggests a completion date of April 2024.

Environmental

3. Hampshire County Council is actively involved in promoting energy efficiency and taking steps to combat climate change. Here are some of their initiatives:
 - I. Energy Efficiency Campaign:
 - Hampshire County Council recognizes the importance of energy efficiency alongside renewable energy generation.
 - They encourage residents to adopt energy-efficient practices, such as changing habits and sharing knowledge.
 - Retrofitting homes with insulation (like adding insulation) is a significant action that can help reduce energy consumption.
 - The Greening Campaign is a grassroots effort that reaches out to all communities in Hampshire, encouraging positive climate action.
 - A freephone advice line provides straightforward advice about climate change and sustainability.
 - The Residential Retrofit program aims to develop a long-term, partnership-based scheme to lower residential emissions and energy bills.
 - Collaborating with the University of Southampton, they are working on understanding the current energy situation in Hampshire and developing an energy strategy for the next 25 years¹.
 - II. Investment in Carbon Savings:
 - Hampshire County Council has allocated £26.9 million to reduce carbon emissions.
 - This investment includes:
 - Installing solar panels on school buildings and certain council buildings (£6.7 million).
 - Improving insulation in schools and council buildings, with a focus on replacing old, single-glazed windows with energy-saving double glazing (£20.2 million).

III. Community Energy Fund:

- The council has launched a revolving community energy fund.
- It will invest up to £25,000 in individual community projects across Hampshire as part of the Community Energy Pathways project, delivered by Community Energy South.

IV. Internal Climate Change Program:

- In July 2021, Hampshire County Council approved £1.2 million in one-off funding for an internal climate change program.
- This program builds on previous successes in reducing carbon emissions and serves as a catalyst for further sustainable change⁴.

V. Energy Bill Savings:

- Residents can explore the government's energy efficiency scheme designed for the least energy-efficient homes throughout Great Britain.
- Eligible homes may qualify for free or cheaper energy-saving measures.

Hampshire County Council's commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability is commendable, and these initiatives play a crucial role in creating a greener future for the region.

To apply for funding from the Community Energy Fund, follow these steps:

1. Eligibility Check:

- Ensure that your project aligns with the fund's objectives. Typically, the fund supports community-led energy initiatives, renewable energy projects, and energy efficiency improvements.
- Confirm that your project is located within Hampshire County.

2. Contact Community Energy South:

- Community Energy South is responsible for administering the fund.
- Reach out to them via their website or contact details to express your interest in applying for funding.

3. Project Proposal:

- Prepare a detailed project proposal. Include information such as:
 - Project description: Clearly outline the purpose, goals, and expected outcomes.
 - Budget: Specify the funding amount you are requesting.
 - Timeline: Provide a project schedule.
 - Community engagement: Explain how your project involves and benefits the local community.

4. Application Submission:

- Submit your project proposal to Community Energy South.
- They will review your application and assess its feasibility, impact, and alignment with the fund's criteria.

5. Evaluation and Decision:

- Community Energy South will evaluate your proposal.
- If approved, you will receive funding for your project.
- If not approved, they may provide feedback or suggest revisions.

Councillor Turl asked what the cause of the subsidence on Charles Watts Way was caused by and Councillor Prince-Wright commented on the extended timescale with the closure increased to June. Councillor Tennent explained that it was probably water and weather conditions that had caused the initial damage to the road and that legal issues had caused the delays.

Borough Councillor Craig

Councillor Craig reported that the resurfacing of the M27 concrete section will include overnight closures for the next 2 years. Some Councillors attended a presentation held at the Parish Centre by representatives of Morgan Sindall. It was suggested that the Clerk compile contacts for residents' enquiries or complaints prior to this work commencing.

135/24/PC

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 7.15 pm

The meeting closed at 8.39pm.

Appendix 1 – Review of Charges

Review of Charges 2024/25 - Allotments, Football and Cemetery

Site	Current Charge Inc VAT 2023/2024	Percentage Increase			Agreed Charge Inc VAT 2024/25
		2%	3%	4%	
Allotments					
Rental - Full Plot	£50.00	£51.00	£51.50	£52.00	£52.00
Rental - Half Plot	£30.00	£30.60	£30.90	£31.20	£31.00
Grazing	£68.00	£69.36	£70.04	£70.72	£70.00
Key Charge	£30.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Deposit	£50.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Football (Per Match)					
Seniors	£80.00	£81.60	£82.40	£83.20	£83.00
Youths	£40.00	£40.80	£41.20	£41.60	£42.00
Juniors	£26.00	£26.52	£26.78	£27.04	£27.00
E.F.C. Evening Training at Cutbush	£80.00	£81.60	£82.40	£83.20	£83.00
Cemetery					
Grave Space	£327.00	£333.54	£336.81	£340.08	£340.00
Larger Grave Space	£398.00	£405.96	£409.94	£413.92	£414.00
Cremation Plot	£154.00	£157.08	£158.62	£160.16	£160.00
Scattering of Ashes	£60.00	£61.20	£61.80	£62.40	£62.00
Interment					
Under 12 Years of Age	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	No Charge
Adults & Children over 12 Years of Age	£202.00	£206.04	£208.06	£210.08	£210.00
Cremation	£160.00	£163.20	£164.80	£166.40	£166.00
Memorials					
Erection of Memorial	£155.00	£158.10	£159.65	£161.20	£161.00
Additional Inscription/ Deed Transfer	£40.00	£40.80	£41.20	£41.60	£42.00
Non Residents Excess Charge for Existing Plot Holders	ALL FEES TREBLED				