



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held via Zoom on
Monday 16 November 2020 at 1830**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Steven Ridgeon (Vice Chair), David Cooke, Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake, Matt Atkinson, Charles Ritchie, Andrew Hales, Marc Atkinson, Sharon Sillence

Suzie Brooker (PC), Cllr Rob Mocatta, Helen Galliano – Head of Speedwatch Campaign.

1. Apologies for Absence

None received

2. To receive any Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

Cllr Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake declared his family had submitted a Planning Application for a development in Coombe Lane

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2020

The Chair asked Councillors to consider whether they felt the minutes were a true record of the meeting. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were and they were approved as read. Proposed by Cllr Steven Ridgeon, seconded by Cllr David Cooke and duly signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the meeting on the 20 July 2020

a) Speed Watch & Automatic Speed Count

The Chair reported that Helen Galliano had volunteered to manage the Speedwatch campaign and thanked her for taking on the role. She went on to inform the Council that Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake would co-ordinate and liaise with HCC on how to reduce the speed in the village either with a reduced 20mph limit or by using traffic calming schemes. Helen Galliano updated the Council saying she hoped that the campaign would start in January and there was a team of 7 volunteers.

Cllr Ridgeon reported on the results of the Automatic Traffic Speed Count through the village between the 2nd – 8th October 2020. He suggested placing an article in Meon Matters to update residents and to report how the Parish Council were taking positive action. The analysis of the count will also be available on the Parish Council website. A lengthy discussion ensued about the results of the survey and suggestions of traffic calming measures. TTD would contact Ian Janes, investigate the options available and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

b) Double yellow lines, Speed Reduction Sign & Sign at The Cross

Cllr Atkinson reported he had spoken to EHDC who had contacted HCC Highways Maintenance Team. They would liaise with MJA to reinstate the double yellow lines by the school.

Cllr Atkinson reported he had contacted John Mackinlay about the increased traffic along The Cross. The residents of The Cross had suggested speed bumps along the road rather than a sign. Cllr Cooke reported that due to the sign at Workhouse Lane, SATNAV was directing vehicles down The Cross. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake suggested a new sign at the end of Workhouse Lane directing vehicles to use the High Street. Cllr Atkinson will look in to this.

Cllr Atkinson reported that the Speed Reduction sign was working, but the battery still needed to be charged on a regular basis. He said he had tried a different battery and had rewired the solar panel, but felt it wasn't getting enough light due to the time of year. He would see what else could be done.

MJA

c) Stiles

Cllr Matt Atkinson reported he had been in contact with Andy Gallick who would provide two oak kissing gates and a self-closing wicket gate free of charge from SDNP. One would be placed at Duncombe Wood, another opposite Lower House Farm and the third at Templars Brow. The gates would be delivered to Cllr Atkinson and he would arrange for them to be installed.

MJA

d) Noticeboard

Cllr Marc Atkinson reported that the noticeboard was ready for collection and it would be taken to a resident who would do the lettering. MA had been recommended that a product called Lexan should be used instead of glass. TTD offered to assist him with the installation.

MA

e) Pavilion

The Chair explained that Clanfield FC had decided for a number of reasons not to renew its agreement with East Meon and that whilst this was a severe blow to the Council's finances it seemed that there was a market for renting out office space in the village. She reported Cllr Ridgeon is applying on the PC's behalf for a partial change of use of the Pavilion and she had asked Cllr Tyrwhitt Drake to look into renting out a room at the Pavilion. Cllr TD explained that minimal alterations would be required and that he proposed advertising the facility locally at the beginning of the new year.

TTD

f) Grass Cutting

Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake reported that the PTC had now finished the grass cutting season. The Chair raised concern about the need to reduce costs of grass cutting for the football pitch and that it should be cut only when absolutely necessary; possibly every two months during the summer. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake would monitor this. The Chair would speak to Cllr Marc Atkinson and request he liaised with EMNG and agree the plans for the nature strip on the Green.

TTD

g) Replacement Tree on Washer's Triangle

The Parish Clerk reported that the tree that had been ordered and paid for but was no longer available. Chris Brooker would try to find an alternative option.

PC

h) Tree on the Green

The Chair reported that the resident who had made the request had decided not to go ahead.

SD

i) Registering our pubs as Assets of Community Value

Cllr Hales reported there was no update

AH

j) Booking system

The Parish Clerk reported the Booking System was now live and a link had been added to the Parish Council website. A notice had also been put up at the Pavilion detailing how to book. Cllr Sillence recommended it was added to Friends of East Meon Facebook page and the Parish Clerk would post it on the site.

PC

k) Dropped Kerb at the bottle banks in Workhouse Lane

Cllr Ritchie reported that the dropped kerb work had been completed and that the bins were being put back in place once emptied.

CR

l) Section 106 monies

The Chair reported that applications had been submitted and hoped to receive funding over £4000. The following items had been applied for:-

- New tennis posts and net for the All Sports Court
- Electronic Scoreboard and trolley for EMCC
- Portable temporary lighting for the Multiple Use Games Area at the School
- Safety grass matting under the base of the see-saw and swings at the Recreation Ground.

SD

5. Parish Matters

- a) East Meon Parish Council's response to the Government White Paper on Planning**
Cllr Ridgeon reported the Government had issued for consultation a White Paper called Planning for the Future. It contained proposals that would change the way in which planning for new homes would be carried out. The proposals move away from local involvement in planning decisions suggesting that it slows the process down. The Planning Committee held a public meeting and would submit their response which would be available on the Parish Council website. **SR**

- b) Consultation response to SDNPA draft Planning Document; Guidance on Parking for Residential and Non-Residential Development**
Cllr Ridgeon outlined the Parish Council's response to the SDNP draft planning document which had been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting. All Councillors were in favour of the response and this would be submitted to SDNP and placed on the Parish Council website. **SR**

- c) Remembrance Sunday**
The Chair confirmed that the Act of Remembrance went ahead on Sunday 8 November and was well attended. She was pleased to report that over £560.00 was raised for the Royal British Legion. She thanked the Cllrs for their help on the day. **SD**

- d) Play Areas & RoSPA Report**
Cllr Ritchie reported that the majority of work had been completed at the Recreation Ground play area and that there was one job remaining at the Village Hall play area which he would complete himself. **CR**

e) Village Electric Car Charging Points

Cllr Marc Atkinson reported that following an enquiry from a resident about public car charging points he had researched the possibility and there were several components: -

Grant Scheme – The Parish Council would have to apply for a grant through EHDC

Equipment – A Fast Charger would be required

Infrastructure – currently not enough infrastructure in place

Location – Parish Council land only

In summary in his view there is not currently enough support in place for a small rural community to commit to providing an electric car charging point and therefore there was no clear path forward until more support becomes available for small parishes.

MA

f) Hedge Cutting

Cllr Ritchie requested that the hedges were cut on the Glebe strip and Car Park. Cllr Matt Atkinson said he would arrange for this to be carried out when it was not so wet. **MJA**

g) Coronavirus update

The Chair reported that one of the classes at East Meon Primary School was closed and there was also a couple of cases in the village. **SD**

7. County / District Councillor Report

Cllr Mocatta had issued a report that would be circulated to Cllrs. He confirmed he had at the Chair's request been in touch with Southern Water about last winter's sewage leak but with no success. He recommended bombarding the company with requests to get the repairs done.

8. Planning

Cllr Ridgeon reported there had been 12 planning applications: 11 dwellings and one tree application. Cllr Ridgeon confirmed there had been 10 no objections; one application was in progress; and one objection which had subsequently been refused by the planning dept. The number of applications was tracking above the number of applications for last year.

Westbury House – ongoing, no update to report.

Coombe Road South –ongoing – latest activity is with regard to a nitrates impact study and a transport study

North of Coombe Road – development of the land had been considered at a pre-application and more work was needed.

9. Open Forum

There were no residents present

10. Finance

Report on the Financial Position to date for the year to 31st March 2020

Councillors were provided with a summary for the year to date showing the actual position against the year's budget. For comparison, the Councillors were also provided with a summary of the same period last year. Points of note were: -

- Donations – The only donation made had been for the Rosemary Foundation. In previous years, donations had been made to the CAB and for Churchyard maintenance. The PC requested that this be discussed at the January meeting.
- Water – The water bills would be reviewed as the costs were high and concern was raised at how much water was used at the Workhouse Lane allotments. This is to be looked into by Cllrs Matt Atkinson and Charles Ritchie.

- Income – with the exception of the loss of the Clanfield FC annual payment, income was as expected and allotment rent had started to be received.

The bank balance on the 22nd October 2020 was £27,789.06

The Parish Clerk reported that between 12 September – 22 October 2020, 22 payments totalling £7,594.12 had been made. All Councillors present approved the payments.

Budget for 2021/22 and setting of Precept

The PC presented the proposed budget for the year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 and advised that it had been prepared using figures submitted from Councillors and using the current year as a guide. The work required on the Pavilion, Traffic Management measures, Speedwatch and the installation of kissing gates would be projected expenditure of £4500, a saving of £2000 on capital items and improvements on the current year. The loss of Clanfield Football Club would mean increased expenditure for grass cutting.

Income from allotments and car parking fees were assumed to remain the same, but there would be a loss of income from the football club. The projected income from the new partial use of the Pavilion would be £2700.

The PC recommended that following guidance from the internal auditor and the uncertainty of the Pavilion income there should be an increase in precept of 2.5%. All Councillors were in agreement and the Precept of £28,149 (Twenty eight thousand one hundred and forty nine pounds) was proposed by Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake and seconded by Cllr Ridgeon and duly approved.

11. Any other business including correspondence of note

- Cllr Sillence reported that the Tyrwhitt-Drake family were very kindly providing a Christmas Tree for Washer's Triangle this year, that local residents had offered to fund new decorations and that she had bought new outdoor lights.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.04pm

Signed:

Date: