



**Meeting of the Parish Council  
Held at East Meon Village Hall on  
Monday 24 January 2022**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Steven Ridgeon (Vice Chair), Charles Ritchie, Matt Atkinson, David Cooke, Andrew Hales, Sarah Round.

Sam Marchant (PC), Cllr Rob Mocatta.

Clive Tillbrook but no other members of the public attended.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received via email from Cllr Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake and Cllr Sharon Sillence.

**1. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest Forms**

Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake had declared in previous meetings that he had submitted a Planning Application. Cllr Hales declared plans for his wind tower as he is currently in discussion with South Downs National Park about this.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Chair asked the Councillors to consider whether they felt the Minutes were a true record of the meeting held on 15 November 2021. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were, and they were approved as read. Proposed by Cllr Cooke and seconded by Cllr Ridgeon and duly signed as a true and correct record.

**1. Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting on 15 November 2021**

**a. Third Defibrillator Update (SD/CT)**

The chair reminded Councillors that at the last meeting they had been concerned that placing the third defibrillator at The Forge might not be the optimum location and had requested that a proper analysis of the village be carried out.

She thanked Clive Tillbrook for coming to update the council. Mr Tillbrook stated that if the 2 developments at Coombe Road had been completed, he would definitely be recommending that the 3rd defibrillator was placed somewhere in the southern site. As this was some way off, he recommended that the defibrillator be located just inside the Recreation Ground where it would still be within the field of vision of The Forge's CCTV and could easily be connected to The Forge's electricity supply. Councillors approved the Recreation Ground as a suitable site for the 3rd defibrillator. Mr Tillbrook went on to urge councillors to press the developer of the

Coombe Road site to install a defibrillator there at its expense. Cllr Ridgeon confirmed that this has already been included in items for discussion sent to the developer. He confirmed they still had over £1000 to fund repairs and maintenance of the defibrillators and that the Guardianship Agreements had been signed up for the two defibrillators already in operation. Mr Tillbrook added that he and his team were planning a series of training sessions in the coming months.

**b. Speed Reduction Sign Update (MA)**

Cllr Atkinson reported that he had drafted the grant application form and would submit this once the current price had been confirmed.

He will find out if a training session can be given on how best to use the sign.

**MA**

**c. BOATS Update (SD)**

The Chair reported that she had arranged a meeting in February with a representative of the TRF (Trail Riders Fellowship) and Cllr Debbie Luff of Langrish Parish Council to express the 2 councils concerns over trail bikes using the BOATs in the 2 parishes.

**SD**

**d. EMNG/Environmental Update SR**

Cllr Ridgeon reported that the SDNP monitoring group was delighted that water voles in the river were doing well and were now in Frogmore. EMNG will be supporting efforts to designate the River Meon as an SSSI. Cllr Ridgeon also stated that the Tree Working Group (TWIG) had visited and prioritised the Local Green Spaces in the village for their suitability as sites for tree and/or hedge planting. When choosing these sites both the costs of planting and of maintaining the trees and hedges will be considered. The group will report its conclusions and recommendations to the Parish Council at a future meeting.

**SR**

**e. Lengthsman DC**

Cllr Cooke informed Cllrs there are currently 13.5 hours left until the year end in April, he said he had given the Lengthsman two tasks so far for January. He asked Cllrs to let him know if there were any other tasks they felt needed to be done. One suggestion was clearing undergrowth at the triangle by the allotments. The hedge in this location had been referred to Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake.

**DC**

**f. Noticeboard for Car Park users Update CR**

Cllr Ritchie confirmed the notice board had arrived and would be installed when Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake could help with the concreting. It will be positioned to be seen by visitors as they drive into the Workhouse Lane carpark on the left-hand side on Parish Council land.

**CR/TTD**

**g. Litter/Waste Bins (SS)**

The Chair informed Cllrs that Cllr Sillence had reported to her prior to the meeting. She was having problems getting through to Petersfield Town Council

re bin emptying. Cllr Mocatta suggested contacting Neil Hitch from PTC for his assistance with this. It was felt that we needed bigger bins for the play area next to the Village Hall and in Frogmore. Cllr Sillence also plans to put one on the South Downs Way at Coombe Cross.

**SS**

**h. The Queens Platinum Jubilee June 2022 and PC Donation Towards Costs of Celebrations (SD)**

The Chair reported that the Jubilee Committee had already organised events for 3 of the 4 days over the festival weekend including on the Thursday a music evening and beacon lighting, a concert in the Church on the Saturday and on the Sunday a tea party to be held on the High Street with games on The Green and a duck race and music.

The Committee was planning on selling commemorative mugs and tea towels. She confirmed that the PC was applying for closure of the High Street on the afternoon of 5th June and was arranging all necessary third-party liability insurance. She stated that she had been asked if the Parish Council would be willing to make a contribution towards the not inconsiderable costs of the weekend's celebrations. Councillors agreed that £500 should be donated.

**SD**

**1. Parish Matters**

**a. EMCC Report (AH)**

Cllr Hales reported he had spoken with Mr Will Atkinson regarding the annual payment from EMCC which is paid to the Parish Council in March. This payment covers all utilities. Cllr Hales requested an invoice to be issued for the cost of £650.

**AH/SM**

**b. Hedge Cutting Review for 2022 (CR/MA/TTD)**

The Chair informed Cllrs that she had agreed with Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake that the Workhouse Lane Car Park hedge would be cut the next day provided there were no parked cars in the way. Cllr Atkinson and the Tyrwhitt-Drakes would be cutting the Glebe Hedge soon. Cllr Ridgeon asked whether a list could be made of all the hedges of which the Parish Council are responsible as this would help with environmental planning.

**SD/TTD**

**c. Grass Cutting Review for 2022 (TTD)**

The Chair reported on behalf of Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake that Petersfield Town Council were keen to renew their contract to cut the PC's grass. Last year we had 18 cuts at £200 + VAT p cut. PTC have increased their price by 2.5% to £205 + VAT per cut which everyone considered reasonable. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake felt that if we had extra cuts because of wetter weather and the Jubilee we might need a max of 25 and had recommended a budget figure of £4,200. There would be a saving with no summer cuts of the football field since this is now Harvest's responsibility all year round. In previous years these have been additional to the contracted cuts.

**TTD**

**d. Platinum Jubilee Tree to go on the Recreation Ground (SD)**

Councillors approved the idea of a Jubilee Tree to be planted in the autumn on The Recreation Ground. The Chair said she would consult our Tree Warden - John Mackinlay, on what type of tree would be best and would also look into a stone plaque and who should plant the tree.

**SD**

**e. CIL Monies Projects and £2,500 CIL available to Spend Now (SD)**

The Chair outlined how CIL payments worked and said the Parish Council could expect to receive 25% of the CIL payments made on open market housing in the village- averaging £5,000 per house. The Chair asked Councillors to think about projects that could benefit the village. For example, an extension of the Village Hall, a new bus shelter or benches. Cllr Mocatta pointed out that South Downs National Park would also be receiving monies from the developments and would be looking for projects to support. He advised that there is a 5 year timetable on spending these monies however receiving funds can be delayed until a suitable project has been decided on. Suggestions included a visitors' centre, a footpath to be built along Coombe Road and a retail outlet at the Village Hall.

The Chair asked Councillors to create a short list for possible projects.

**SD**

**f. Potential Grants (SarahR)**

Cllr Round presented a list of grants available and suggested a number of projects which might be eligible for funding.

She reported she had investigated the Sporting England Grant in connection with repairs to the Sports Pavilion and would complete an application form for this.

Cllr Mocatta suggested Cllr Round contact Kirsty Cope at EHDC, he would confirm contact details.

The Chair added the Parish Council had been advised by the company who treat the Tennis Court that it will need resurfacing soon and asked whether there could be a grant for this, Cllr Round agreed to investigate.

Cllr Round also said she would discuss with the Jubilee Committee Jubilee grants available.

Finally, she outlined the Sustainable Community Fund and South Downs Trust which could be used to pay for the repair of the steps on Frogmore Lane.

**SarahR**

**g. All Saints' Church Request for Churchyard Maintenance Contribution (SD)**

The Chair reminded Councillors that each year the PCC requested a donation of £500, towards the maintenance of the churchyard. All Councillors agreed unanimously for a grant of £500 to be paid.

**SD/SM**

**h. Football Pavilion Repairs (CR)**

Cllr Ritchie reported that the electric was now back on, and the leaking pipework fixed. It was decided to request a quote to replace the lagging, which was not in a good state, and to install new outside spotlights.

Cllr Round agreed to investigate grants for repairs.

**CR/SarahR**

**i. Twenty's Plenty for Us Campaign (SD)**

Having had the opportunity to read the email from Sir Charles Cockburn, the E Hants Co-ordinator of the "20's Plenty for Us" Campaign Councillors confirmed that they were 100% behind the initiative and happy to pass the proposed resolution. Accordingly the following motion was put to the Council and passed unanimously.

East Meon Parish Council

- 1) supports the "20's Plenty for Hampshire" Campaign
- 2) calls on Hampshire County Council to implement 20mph in East Meon
- 3) Will write to Hampshire County Council to request that the County;
  - a) makes 20mph the default speed limit on streets throughout Hampshire in places where people live, work, shop, play or learn, leaving 30mph as the exception on those roads, where full consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users allows a higher limit; and
  - b) allocates a ring-fenced amount from public health, sustainability and transport budgets to enable 20mph to be implemented county-wide within 5 years.

The Councillors went on to request that the Chair email our local MP, Damian Hinds, encouraging him to give his support to this campaign.

**SD**

**j. Repair to Eroded Post by the River in the High Street (MA)**

Cllr Atkinson confirmed he had logged this and that he had asked that the bridge be fixed before the Jubilee celebrations.

**MA**

**k. Speaker for APA (SD)**

All Councillors agreed with the Chair's suggestion that Mr Clive Tillbrook and/or Mrs Jennie Ham be asked to give a presentation at the APA in April on the history behind the new defibrillators and also give a training session on how they could be used to save lives.

**SD**

**l. Parish Award Nominations (SD)**

The Chair suggested that this year there should be no Parish Award made unless Councillors could think of a worthy recipient. Councillors agreed.

**SD**

**m. Renovation of War Memorial (SM)**

The Parish Clerk reported she had received two quotations for the cleaning of the war memorial. Cllr Hales and Cllr Ritchie had tried a recommended cleaning agent. Councillors agreed to see if this worked before any more action. The Chair pointed out the lettering would also need repainting in future.

**SD**

**1. County/District Councillor report**

Cllr Mocatta confirmed that EHDC had formally separated operations from Havant Borough Council Hampshire and that EHDC would eventually move from Penn's Place.

Cllr Mocatta reported Highway operations are continuing as normal during the Plan B restrictions and statistics had been published by Hampshire Highways for last November. In that month 406 emergencies were attended, 21,173 square metres of carriageway were resurfaced, 18,436 gullies and other drainage were cleared, and 7,295 potholes were fixed. In addition, they also coped with Storms Arwen and Barra, keeping the roads clear of fallen trees and other vegetation, debris, and excess water.

General road problems should be reported online at:

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems>.

Emergency issues on the highway can be reported outside of office hours by calling 101. In any emergency where there is a danger to life, call 999.

Going forward, Hampshire County Council have agreed to put extra "recurring" funding into highway maintenance, equating to about £7 million per year, from April this year.

Cllr Mocatta highlighted that the county had had some very cold weather and so road gritting is active now. When freezing temperatures are forecast, the Hampshire Highways' fleet of salting lorries focus on the main roads first. You can see the priority salting routes at:

<https://maps.hants.gov.uk/highwaysaltroutes/>

Many roads and lanes are not on the priority routes but residents should be aware of the blue grit bins provided by HCC across the area. These are filled with salt for community use throughout winter. They're particularly useful for smaller roads or

on the pavements. A small amount of salt from these can make a big impact on frozen and icy surfaces. One tablespoon of salt (20 grams) is sufficient to treat one square metre of road or pavement surface.

If residents find grit bins are empty or running low, they should contact Hampshire County Council for replenishing. This can be done either online at:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance>

or by emailing [roads@hants.gov.uk](mailto:roads@hants.gov.uk). Parishes are in any event advised to check these.

Cllr Mocatta also informed Cllrs Hampshire County Council had received £7.124m from the Government's Household Support Fund to support households in need of support for food, energy and water bills, as well as wider essential costs and housing costs. The county proposes to deploy this funding (which must be spent by 31 March 2022) through its "connect4communities" programme.

The programme includes support for free school meals in holidays and half terms, support with utility bills, community pantries giving access to discounted food and community grants, which could be used for example to assist unpaid carers.

Details can be found at [connect4communities.org](https://connect4communities.org) where it is possible to apply for community grants, and at HCC's online directory ([connect4communities | Family Information and Services Hub \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://connect4communities.org/family-information-and-services-hub) which will also be a useful resource for families and individuals in need of food and fuel support.

Residents can also apply for half term support for food and activities at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/connectforcommunities/holidayactivities/holiday-activities-hants>

Cllr Mocatta ended his report with the new 12-week weight management programme which had been funded by Hampshire County Council for residents who want to achieve a healthier weight. Offering free professional support either in-person, through regular online meetings or via a mobile app, [Shapeup4life Hampshire](https://www.shapeup4life.co.uk). This available to anyone with a body mass index (BMI) of 30 or above and combines exercise and food choices to make positive lifestyle changes rather than a prescriptive diet. To find out more, check your BMI and to self-refer, go to [www.shapeup4lifehampshire.co.uk](https://www.shapeup4lifehampshire.co.uk).

## 1. Planning

### a. Report by Chairman of the Planning Committee

Cllr Ridgeon reported there were six planning applications received since the last meeting, four for dwellings, one for a farm building and one for tree works. The Planning Committee submitted no objections to each.

**Neighbourhood Plan Site, South of Coombe Road:** On December 2, the Government Inspector overturned the SDNPAs refusal of the planning application to build 12 dwellings on this Neighbourhood Plan designated site. During the appeal process, the developer submitted more information on drainage and access, upon which the SDNPA withdrew its objections to these parts of the plan. This just left a refusal on landscape grounds, which the Inspector did not feel were significant enough to justify refusal. The Inspector's full report can be found here:

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?caseid=3274207>

The developer has signed a Universal Undertaking, which commits it to, among other things, 50% affordable housing and the landowner taking a parcel of land out of agricultural production to mitigate any impact of increased nutrients in the Solent.

Cllr Ridgeon had been in contact with the developer and asked for a meeting with the Planning Committee plus the Chair in order to set up a working relationship and to address any issues as the development progresses. The developer is keen to do this.

### **Parish Council Response to SDNPA Self Build and Custom Housebuilding Register Consultation.**

Cllr Ridgeon presented details of the SDNPA local connection test for the register of people interested in building their own home. He recommended that we use this test ourselves to address paragraph 4.19 of the Neighbourhood Plan concerning advertising market housing in the new developments to residents of East Meon. The Chair suggested a small change to the definition of 'immediate family'. It was agreed to feed this back to SDNPA and to adopt the test for our own use.

#### **1. Open Forum**

As Mr Tillbrook had already left there were no members of the public present and therefore there were no questions.

#### **1. Finance**

##### **a. Presentation of actual v budget for the current year**

The RFO presented her report of actual cost against the budget for the current year, she reported all areas were within expectation apart from the Allotment water bills which had exceeded the budgeted amount. The RFO agreed to investigate this.

##### **b. Approval of payments of invoices (1<sup>st</sup> November – 31<sup>st</sup> December)**

The RFO reported on all payments between the dates of 1 November to 31 December 2021. Councillors unanimously approved all payments. Proposed by Cllr Ritchie and seconded by Cllr Atkinson.

#### **1. Any other business including correspondence of note**

The Chair pointed out the Frogmore Foot Bridge was in need of refurbishment. She was currently discussing this with Frogmore residents and looking into paint colours with a view to getting a professional to carry out the works.

The Chair asked Cllr Hales in his next article for MM to encourage residents to come to Parish Council meetings.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at **20:55**

Signed:

Date: