



Wickham and Knowle Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the above Council held at Wickham Community Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham PO17 5AL on Tuesday 30th July 2024 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: Craig Manuel (Chair), Robert Broad, Sheila Chambers, Kathryn Holladay, Nic Holladay, Loraine Rappé, Malc Burt, Sandy Phillips-Lee, Leah Greenbank

In attendance: District Councillor Angela Clear, District Councillor Neil Cutler, 6 members of the public, Parish Clerk Sophie Thorogood

1. **Apologies for absence:** County Councillor Patricia Stallard

2. **Declarations of interest:** None

8. **Wickham Festival grant application:** Peter Chegwyn was in attendance to discuss the grant application. It costs £1million to put the festival on normally, the budget has been decreased slightly this year. The grant request for £5,000 is in part to pay for a festival bus, the other to give free Sunday entry to all Parish residents. The accounts are produced for March year end, yet the festival is in August; there was a £220,000 deficit for the 2023 festival. Councillors were given the chance to ask questions of Peter.

Cllr N Holladay thanked Peter for all of his effort in running the festival. The accounts publicly available on Companies House website do not show trading accounts. Cllr N Holladay asked how the festival is able to continue if there is such a loss. Peter explained that 1,300 rollover tickets in 2022 led to a disaster, and that early bird tickets purchased this year for the next year's Festival help pay the bills. The good weather for the 2024 event will help.

Cllr Broad asked how many other businesses support the festival. Peter answered that £4,500 - £5,000 grants are given from local businesses.

Cllr K Holladay commented that the timing of the application being just a few days before the event, which is not necessarily fair to other organisations who submit applications in a more timely manner, and asked that next year the grant is requested more in advance. Cllr K Holladay also asked many paid members of staff the festival has; Peter replied there is just 1, an accountant. Peter offered to submit accounts in September to the Council.

Cllr Greenbank suggested that a Facebook post should be made to advertise the free Sunday entry.

RESOLVED: to approve a grant award of £5,000 to Wickham Festival, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr Greenbank and carried.

3. **Public Session:** Cllr Cutler gave an update on changes to waste and recycling rounds beginning 7th October. The publicity will be made in September. Cllr Cutler also reminded everyone to reply to the Wickham Wastewater Treatment works consultation email.

Cllr Clear thanked Cllr Chambers, Cllr Rappé and Cllr Manuel for attending the WCC Scrutiny Committee which was looking at the soundness of The Local Plan Regulation 19. Cllr Clear asked on behalf of the 3 District Councillors to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the Local Plan.

Cllr Cutler added that the announcements today from the new Labour Government regarding housing targets will impact WCC's Local Plan. The previous targets under the old Government were 676 houses a year per District, under the new Government this will

be 1,099 per year. The WCC Local Plan has not yet reached inspection level so will be subject to the new targets. The standard method of calculation has changed.

WCC also has a duty to cooperate with neighbours, including Fareham Borough Council with the Welborne development. The new proposals are not yet law.

4. **2 Councillor vacancies:** the 4 candidates gave a short presentation to the Councillors about their reasons for standing to be co-opted. Councillors were then given the chance to ask any questions of them before they were asked to leave.
7. **Taste of Wickham grant:** The new event manager was present to give an update on the current situation with grant applications. 2 applications had been made for £990 each to both HCC and WCC.
RESOLVED: Subject to the outcome of the 2 applications, it was approved to grant up to the remaining amount of £2,300 earmarked for the Taste of Wickham grant in September, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr N Holladay and carried.
5. **Appoint Cllr Broad to Committees:**
RESOLVED: to appoint Cllr Broad to the Planning & Highways Committee, as proposed by Cllr Rappé, seconded by Cllr Phillips-Lee and carried.
6. **Appoint a representative to the Glebe Working Party:**
RESOLVED: to appoint Cllr Chambers as the Council's representative to the Glebe Working Party, as proposed by Cllr N Holladay, seconded by Cllr K Holladay and carried.
9. **Barbastelle Play Area:**
RESOLVED: to award the tender for the new equipment at Barbastelle Play Area to HAGS, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr Rappé and carried.
10. **Wickham MUGA re-opening arrangements:** The work for new control box for floodlighting has been completed. The Councillors discussed re-opening the MUGA for some public use, not to the free unlocked use as was in place previously.
RESOLVED: to re-open the Wickham MUGA for 15 x 1hr slots for free public use subject to availability, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr N Holladay and carried.
11. **Increase in budget for Architect's costs for Wickham Recreation Pavilion:** Since the last Recreation meeting, it has been discovered that the original £4,000 budget assigned would not cover all the expected Architect's costs.
RESOLVED: to approve an increase in the budget for Axis Architects to draw plans for the Wickham Recreation Pavilion from a maximum of £4,000 to £8,800, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr N Holladay and carried.
12. **Public engagement exercise:** The Planning & Highways Committee had met on 18th July and selected Smart Marketing as their preferred quote to carry out a public engagement exercise regarding a Neighbourhood Plan, at a budget of £1,500, plus cost of printing costs. Cllr K Holladay queried the expected reply rate and that beginning the engagement exercise in the summer holidays was not good timing with residents being on holiday etc. Cllr N Holladay suggested a good sample size should be attempted of 10% and said that Smart Marketing could be asked for their advice on achieving this.
RESOLVED: To receive a recommendation from the Planning & Highways Committee to appoint Smart Marketing to carry out a public engagement exercise, subject to a working party of Cllr Rappé, Cllr N Holladay and Tracey Molloy, Locum Planning Clerk agreeing the content via email delegation, as proposed by Cllr Rappé, seconded by Cllr N Holladay and carried.

All members of public left for the Council to go into a confidential session

13. Motion for confidential session:

RESOLVED: to close the meeting to the public, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr N Holladay and carried.

14. Co-option of 2 new Parish Councillors:

RESOLVED: to co-opt David Evans as a member of Wickham and Knowle Parish Council, as proposed by Cllr Phillips-Lee, seconded by Cllr Rappé.

RESOLVED: to co-opt Ben Sawyers as a member of Wickham and Knowle Parish Council, as proposed by Cllr Burt, seconded by Cllr Greenbank and carried.

15. Meeting with Suella Braverman, MP: Cllr Manuel and Cllr Rappé met with Suella Braverman, MP, and Patricia Stallard (HCC) and Tina Ellis (FBC) to discuss issues surrounding the name change of Knowle Road. Suella Braverman has agreed to help liaise with all parties concerned to see what can be done.

Meeting closed 9:18pm

Signed.....

Date.....