



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 5th March 2024 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: Councillor Manuel, Robert Broad (Vice-Chair), Sheila Chambers, Kathryn Holladay, Nic Holladay, Loraine Rappe, Malc Burt, Sandy Phillips-Lee

In attendance: County Councillor Patricia Stallard, District Councillor Angela Clear, 5 members of the public, Locum Parish Clerk Tracey Molloy

1. **Apologies for absence:** Councillor Greenbank
2. **Declarations of interest:** Councillor Burt, Agenda Item 8.1
3. **Public Session:** District Councillor Angela Clear asked questions regarding agenda item 8.1 during the public session, raising concerns about the increase in traffic on Mill Lane from the development and the need for traffic analysis surveys before decisions are made, as well as requesting more information on what consultation has been done to reach the decision to level the site. The Chair noted that HCC has advised before any traffic surveys can take place, what the site will finally look like needs to be agreed. The levelling of the site was discussed later in the agenda.

A resident flagged several concerns regarding the Mill Lane project. Highlighting Mill Lane as not safe and no feasibility studies have been conducted on using Mill Lane for the sports site. The resident questioned the decision to level the site and whether it would be a waste of money to do so.

The Chair responded that there will be opportunity to further comment on the levelling of the site and related decision at the next Recreation Committee on the 21st March.

4. **Report from County Councillor:** County Councillor Patricia Stallard was in attendance giving an update on the County Council's budget for the next financial year, which has been approved. The budget covers £2.6 billion of public spending on the ongoing delivery of important local services to Hampshire's 1.4 million residents. From 1 April 2024, Hampshire County Council's portion of council tax will increase by a total of 4.99%, of which 2% will go specifically towards adults' social care and supporting the county's higher numbers of older people and adults with complex needs and disabilities – in line with Government policy. This equates to an annual charge of £1,533.24 for a Band D property – an increase of £72.99 per year or approximately £1.40 a week.

Councillor Stallard also reminded the meeting about the ongoing consultation on the County Council's future services. Seeking Hampshire residents' views on proposals to change and reduce some local services and help the Authority address a £132 million budget shortfall faced by April 2025. Closing date is the end of March.

Councillor Robert Broad took the opportunity to highlight Parish Council concerns about a number of areas in the village where parked cars are causing considerable damage to verges. Councillor Broad to follow up in an email to Councillor Stallard.

5. **Reports from District Councillors:** District Councillor Angela Clear updated on Winchester City Council's budget which is balanced and stable. Parish Councillors took the opportunity to ask questions regarding property investment, the empty shop in Knowle and property investment.

6. **Chairman's announcements:**

New Business Manager, Victoria Glenister is in post and looking at increasing revenue across the facilities the Council hire out.

A job offer has been made to a new Clerk/RFO which has been accepted. The new clerk will be on a NALC Model Contract of employment with LGPS.

The Parish Council is supporting local campaigns to save hedgerows in Knowle from being removed as part of the Welborne Development, as well as Wickham Surgery who are also concerned about the impact of the Welborne Development due to their catchment boundary.

The first round of Grant applications will be reviewed in April. The Council request that applicants attend the Finance Committee on the 18th April to support their applications.

Those organisations who received grants this year should attend the Parish Assembly and update on the how the money was spent.

The Council has received an email from Winchester City Council who would like to arrange a meeting with the Parish Council to discuss housing numbers. A draft agenda has been requested before the Parish Council proceed with a meeting.

The email regarding housing numbers means that the Parish Council will not progress the Ravenswood S106 negotiations until its clear what Winchester City Council are requesting. The 200 homes were to go towards the Parish Council housing allocations.

Parish Assembly, 16th May reminder

Website: It is not possible to link the website to the Sharepoint that was handed over to us, Minutes of meeting are now being uploaded directly to the website.

Full Council Dates – Wickham Community Centre now have availability on a Thursday, calendar to be revised, moving Full Council from Tuesdays to Thursdays.

7. **Minutes of Full Council held 25th January 2024**

RESOLVED: Minutes approved and signed as true record

8. **Recreation Committee (Cllr N Holladay)**

8.1. Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held 8th February 2024: Received and noted

8.1.1. **RESOLVED:** The following recommendations, subject to financial viability and related investigations were approved:

8.1.1.1. The Recreation Ground pitch including drainage, and Pavilion to be upgraded, and the site decluttered.

Proposed Councillor N Holladay

Seconded Councillor C Manuel

All in favour

8.1.1.2. The Mill Lane site levelled, grassed and car park built.

Proposed Councillor N Holladay

Seconded Councillor S Phillips-Lee

All in favour

8.1.1.3. Once these items have been formally costed and remaining budget identified, the Parish Council can look at what sports assets can be installed at Mill Lane within budget and will consult with residents on these options.

Proposed Councillor N Holladay
All in favour

Seconded Councillor R Broad

8.2. CCTV in Knowle Village Hall

RESOLVED: Quote of £4244.76 from Loguin Ltd approved.

Proposed Councillor N Holladay
All in favour

Seconded Councillor S Phillips-Lee

9. HR Committee Terms of Reference: Extraordinary Meeting of the Council to be called to finalise.

10. Hall Committee Terms of Reference: Extraordinary Meeting of the Council to be called to finalise.

Meeting closed 20.23pm

Signed.....

Date.....