



Wickham and Knowle Parish Council

General Purposes Committee

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held at Knowle Village Hall, Thursday 10th October 2024 at 7:50pm

Committee members present: Cllr Phillips-Lee (Chair), Cllr Chambers, Cllr Evans, Cllr Greenbank, Cllr K Holladay, Cllr N Holladay, Cllr Manuel, Cllr Sawyers

In Attendance: Sophie Thorogood, Parish Clerk & RFO

Members of Public: none

- 1. Apologies for absence:** None
- 2. Declarations of interest on agenda items:** Cllr Sawyers declared an interest in item 7 as a member of the Chamber of Trade. Cllr Greenbank declared an interest in item 7 as a member of Team Wickham.
- 3. Public Session:** no comments or questions
- 4. Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th June 2024**
RESOLVED: Minutes of the meeting having been circulated were approved and signed by the Chair, as proposed by Cllr N Holladay, seconded by Cllr Manuel and carried.
- 5. Update from Clerk**
The Clerk's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Report noted.
- 6. Red telephone box in Wickham Square:** Cllr K Holladay gave an update on this project which she has been working on for more than a year. The Council was notified end of September that BT are happy to consider selling the telephone box to the Parish Council for the price of £1 inc. VAT.

WCC want to be notified when the adoption goes through, and the Parish Council would also have to notify emergency services there is no longer a telephone inside.

Electrical connections to the light and the telephone box need to be checked if the Parish Council wishes to continue to have a light inside the box.

Cllr Manuel and Cllr Phillips-Lee to sign the contract once the Parish Council receives the legal advice.

ACTION: The Clerk to seek legal advice from Hampshire Legal Services for reviewing the BT contract before it is signed.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council to adopt the red telephone box in Wickham Square and turn into a book & game swap once the renovation completed, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr N Holladay and carried.



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7. Christmas plans in both villages

Wickham Christmas Cracker plans for the light switch on for 16th November are progressing well. The grant of a maximum £5,500 was agreed by Full Council in September. The Chamber of Trade are granting £1,000 to the event too and small businesses are sponsoring parts of the event.

Knowle carol service is planned for 8th December and is being organised by the Knowle Resident's Association, with the Parish Council arranging the Christmas tree and lights in South Square. There is a budget of £3,000 for Knowle Christmas event.

Through a contact in Wickham, a quote for 2 Christmas trees for both villages had been provided for £1,000 inc. VAT and delivery. The quote for trees from the company used in previous years was much higher. Discussions were held between the Committee whether it is worth risking a new supplier for quality of trees.

RESOLVED: To approve a quote from Burcot Farm Christmas trees for £1,000 inc VAT and delivery for 2 Christmas trees, as proposed by N Holladay, seconded by Cllr Evans and carried with Cllr Manuel voting against.

8. **Knowle History Boards:** The organiser was unable to attend the meeting but had given a verbal update to the Clerk to pass on. The original £5,000 budget approved for the history boards is sufficient. The first board is in progress and is being reviewed. The organiser confirmed that no support is needed from the Parish Council other than financial support for the project.

9. **VE80 event 8th May 2025:** The information booklet from the official site had been circulated with the document pack. Cllr Phillips-Lee feels the Council should be part of the celebrations, the most important part being the flag raising at 9am on the day itself. A suggestion was made to combine the Parish Assembly and the VE 80 event on 8th May but it was decided this would not work with timings.

Cllr Phillips-Lee and Cllr Evans volunteered to be part of a working party. ACTION: Clerk to set up a dedicated email address to help organise the working party.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council to support the VE80 event on 8th May 2025 and allocate a budget of £5,000 towards the costs, as proposed by Cllr N Holladay, seconded by Cllr Phillips-Lee and carried.

10. **New noticeboards in Mayles Lane, Knowle:** 3 quotes for a 2 door oak noticeboard had been circulated with the document pack

Fitzpatrick Woolmer – £2,131 ex VAT

Greenbarnes - £1,987 ex VAT

Parish Noticeboards – £1,890 ex VAT

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council to purchase a 2 door noticeboard from Parish Noticeboards at a cost of £1,890

ACTION: Clerk to place order after Full Council approval in December and seek quotes for installation costs.



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11. Wickham Shell roundabout: Now it has been confirmed that HCC will not allow the Parish Council to adopt the roundabout, only to apply for a licence to maintain, the Council needs to proceed with this option, should the GP Committee discussions support this.

The Council had been approached by an Estates and Will Planning company to offer sponsorship on the roundabout. The Committee discussed this proposal and preferred to instead offer sponsorship to a garden centre.

RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council to apply to HCC for a licence to maintain the Shell roundabout, as proposed by Cllr N Holladay, seconded by Cllr K Holladay and carried.

ACTION: Clerk to seek other sponsorship opportunities such as Park Place Farm and Nursery.

12. Review of arrangements for planting in both villages: The Committee were happy to continue with previous arrangements with Park Place Farm and Nursery.

13. Wickham Emergency Plan

Cllr K Holladay will be attending a NALC Mastering Emergency Planning event on 23rd October. The Knowle Emergency Plan has been shared as a basis on which to start working on the Wickham plan. Updates to be provided at a future Committee meeting.

14. Future Committee meeting dates: It was agreed not to hold the scheduled November GP Committee meeting and wait until January with the new meeting schedule.

15. Arrangements for the Wickham Parish Magazine articles: Cllr K Holladay to continue to write the draft article, for the Clerk and Cllr Manuel to edit and submit. This arrangement has been working well.

16. Wickham in Bloom: The Council would like to support this organisation but until they are a properly constituted group, it will be difficult to decide how best to support them.

17. Remembrance Sunday arrangements: On 2nd November there is a service to lay crosses at the bed opposite St Nicolas Church. On 10th November, Cllr Manuel will lay a Parish Council wreath at the Knowle service, Cllr K Holladay will lay a Parish Council wreath at the Wickham Service.

18. Relevant Correspondence/Meetings

18.1 - The Clerk has received complaints about the bin placed at Barbastelle Walk play area as it is being used by another resident to throw away their takeaway rubbish from their car. The bin also opens out into the car park which means when cars parked, it can often not be emptied. **ACTION:** Clerk to ask Grounds Contractor to turn bin 180 degrees initially to see if more regular bin emptying will help the issue.

18.2 – request for benches in Wickham Square – this is WCC responsibility so the request would have to be sent to them to consider.

Meeting Closed, 9:30pm

Signed.....

Date.....