



DRAFT MINUTES

West Meon Parish Council
16 May 2023; 7.30pm; West Meon Village Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr Trenchard (Chair); Cllr Nicholson; Cllr Waller; & Cllr Edwards (left the room at 8.04pm; returned at 8.06pm)

In Attendance:

Mrs Joanna Tester (Clerk); Cllr Bolton (WCC; arrived 7.57pm; left at 9.07pm); Cllr Lumby (HCC; arrived 8.03pm; left 8.07pm); & two members of the public.

Meeting started at 7.30pm

Item No.	Item	Discussion & Decision	Action
2326	Election of Chair for 2023/24	Resolved: that Cllr Trenchard is elected as Chair of the PC for the year 2023/24. [Cllrs voted unanimously for.]	
2327	Chair's Acceptance of Office Forms	Cllr Trenchard duly signed the Chair's Acceptance of Office Forms.	
2328	Election of Vice-chair for 2023/24	Resolved: that Cllr Edwards is elected as Vice-chair of the PC for the year 2023/24. [Cllrs voted unanimously for.]	
2329	Acknowledgements	Councillors paused and remembered in silence the contributions of all villagers who have passed away since the last meeting.	
2330	Apologies	Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Gedye, Silk & Pett.	
2331	Disclosable pecuniary interests	None received.	
2332	Requests for dispensations	None received.	
2333	Public questions & comments	Standing orders suspended for maximum 10 mins. No questions.	
2334	Resume standing orders	Agreed.	
2335	District councillor's report & questions arising	Report received (Appendix A). Cllr Bolton also gave the following updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flooding research report provided to cllrs Apr 2023. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No serious incident has taken place therefore relevant parties are not going to readily get involved. • Has made contact with the National Flood Forum who will help formulate a plan. • Creation of a Flood Action Group is imperative. • Landowners are responsible for their stretch of the river. Pulling together info on who is responsible for what will create a key document. • Need an expert to advise what needs to happen. • Permits needed from EA for any work done along the river. • Will need to consult a hydrologist. Survey the stretch of the river through the village & create a report. This will form basis of application for a permit. • Financial elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ paying for a consultant – Cllr Bolton has details of some potential consultants; ○ riparian owners will need to pay for work to be done on the river; ○ unlikely to be any available financial assistance. <p>Cllr asked what would happen if a riparian owner refused to take responsibility. [EA would eventually get involved. Insurance cover could be compromised.]</p> <p>Speed cameras – see item 2364.</p> <p>Cllrs confirmed that fly-tipping has now been cleared.</p> <p>Cllr commented that there appears to be an outside serving area (a shack) at Loomies Café. [Been there since the start of Covid.]</p>	
2336	County councillor's report & questions arising	<p>Report received (Appendix B). Cllr Lumby also commented on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pot holes – repair work is starting on main roads, & will then progress to side roads, then finally to the lanes. 	
2337	Police/PCSO report	Not received.	
2338	Mins of previous meetings (04/04/23)	Agreed as a true record.	
2339	Delegation arrangements to committees, sub-committees, staff & other local authorities	Resolved: that no amendments are made to current arrangements.	
2340	Terms of reference for working groups	Resolved: that no amendments are made to the terms of reference for working groups.	
2341	Election of members to existing committees/working groups	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves the appointment of the following cllrs to existing working groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning – Cllrs Waller, Trenchard & Silk • Community, Housing & Recreation – Cllrs Waller & Edwards • Finance and Administration – Cllrs Nicholson & Edwards 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways & Transport - Cllrs Waller & Edwards • Environment – Cllrs Waller, Edwards, Silk & Gedye • Communications – Cllrs Waller, Nicholson & Trenchard <p>Full details are available in Appendix C.</p> <p>Cllr Nicholson to update the website with the above details.</p>	Cllr Nicholson
2342	Flood Action Group	<p>Resolved: that the PC forms a Flood Action Group (FAG) working group, consisting of the following members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Robin Gedye (confirmed) • Mr David Butcher (confirmed) • Riparian owners (to be invited) <p>Cllrs asked for Mr Butcher to take this forward over the next few weeks in Cllr Gedye’s absence.</p>	
2343	Arrangements with other local authorities	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves the Lengthsman Scheme contract with Soberton PC (Lead Parish) for the period 01/04/23 to 31/03/24. Clerk to sign & return contract.</p>	Clerk
2344	Representation on external bodies	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves the following cllrs to represent the PC on external bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Meon Village Hall Committee – Cllr Edwards • West Meon & Warnford Sports Club – Cllrs Waller & Edwards • Rifle Club – Cllr Edwards • Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) – Cllr Trenchard 	
2345	Community Liaison Representatives	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves the following cllrs to act as community liaison reps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touchet Trust – Cllr Edwards • Footpaths and Rights of Way – Cllr Silk & Simon Telford • Village Shop Committee – Cllr Trenchard • Bob Russell Trust – Cllrs Trenchard • Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Gedye 	
2346	General Power of Competence	<p>Resolved: that the Clerk will endeavour to complete the CiLCA qualification this financial year (cost to be split between WMPC and Hambledon PC).</p>	Clerk
2347	Arrangements for ordinary meetings & next annual meeting	<p>Resolved: that the ordinary meetings of the PC will be held on the first Tuesday of the month, with the exception of August 2023 (no meeting held in August). The annual meeting of the PC will be held on the first Tuesday of May 2024.</p>	

2348	Clerk's progress report	<p>Parish Lengthsman Agreement - No update available yet regarding timetable for 2023/24.</p> <p>Finance & Administration WG WMPC-WMVH lease – discussions ongoing. To be discussed agenda item 2363.</p> <p>Asset Register Insurance broker advised that they are unable to review the asset register, but asked for confirmation if any changes to the sums insured are required. For insurance purposes, all they require is the total sum insured needed for each category, this should be based on current reinstatement figures. A copy of the PC's current schedule and their list of what items belong where were provided. This highlighted that the PC should be including natural and other surfaces, which has now been done. Thanks to Cllr Edwards for all his assistance with this. Agenda item 2351.</p> <p>Community, Housing & Recreation WG Lengthsman (steps between Marlands Lane & Storeys Meadows) – Cllr Bolton has raised this with WCC (Doug Ross). Clerk has sent location map etc and is awaiting update. No contact made. Chaser e-mails sent 29/03 and 11/05. [UPDATE: land not owned by WCC. Cllr Edwards to check if belongs to a family member. Clerk to contact Hyde Housing if not.]</p> <p>Public questions - Removal of un-working traffic speed signs on A32. Clerk currently trying to find out who owns signs. [UPDATE: Clerk to contact Droxford PC as cameras may be owned by the same company that owns the one in Droxford.]</p>	<p>Cllr Edwards /Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
2349	Bank account	<p>Bank balance - £130,819.74 @ 30/04/23 (Cllrs have been provided with bank statement 152, 01 Apr 2023 to 30 Apr 2023.)</p>	
2350	Grant – Victim Support	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves a grant of £100 to Victim Support for the financial year 2023/24.</p>	Clerk
2351	Asset register	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves the revised asset register which now includes surfacing for play areas etc.</p> <p>Clerk to send to the PC's insurer for assessment against current levels of cover.</p>	Clerk

2352	Payment of accounts	Mrs J C Tester	Clerk's salary & mileage claim (Apr 2023)	£704.01	Clerk
		NEST	Clerk's pension (Apr 2023)	£56.16	
		Mrs J C Tester	Clerk's expenses (travel to WM for APM 27/04/23)	£7.11	
		West Meon Village Hall	Hall hire Apr 2023	£18.00	
		West Meon & Warnford Sports Club	Hall hire & refreshments for APM Apr 2023	£160.00	
		Tim Underwood	VDS - design	£400.00	
		WCC	Playground inspections – Recreation Ground & Meonwara	£103.00	
		WCC	Dog bin emptying Q4 2023-24	£130.00	
		HCC	Lighting maintenance & energy costs	£596.93	
		HALC	HALC affiliation fees 2023/24 & NALC levy 2023/24	£335.60	
		A C Key	Map design for VDS	£240.00	
		Chris Waller	Reimbursement for purchase of x4 snow shovels	£15.80	
		HomeStart Hampshire	Grant 2023/24 (approved Apr 2023)	£325.00	
		HMRC	Clerk's tax & NI to y/e Mar 2023 (Approved Apr 2023; amount at that point unknown.)	£74.75	
2353	Planning applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDNP/23/01758/FUL - The Old Store House, High Street, West Meon, Hampshire, GU32 1LN. Change of use of part of the ground floor of the oak framed building from A1(E) shop and ancillary offices / prep back to ancillary residential. [NO OBJECTION subject to enforcement of the condition requested by the PC in its comments to the Planning Authority regarding the original change of use application, SDNP/20/05585/FUL: the premises must only be used by the owner and not sold, let to a third party, or separated from the main dwelling on the site, the Old Storehouse.] • SDNP/23/01353/FUL & SDNP/23/01965/LIS - West Meon Community Store, High Street, West Meon, Petersfield, 			Clerk

		<p>Hampshire, GU32 1LJ. installation of 12 PV solar panels on the south facing lean to roof-single storey at the back of the property, the building is listed, rented for another 13 years and we have the landlords permission. [SUPPORT.]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDNP/23/01850/HOUS - 11 Woodland Cottages, Medlar Cottage, Woodlands, Bramdean, Hampshire, SO24 0HW. Proposed ground floor side extension and link, alterations to floor plans & detached carport outbuilding. [SUPPORT.] 	
2354	Planning apps received after 10/05/23	None received.	Clerk
2355	Planning decisions	<p>All decisions were noted, with the addition of the following:</p> <p>SDNP/23/01046/TPO - Land adjacent to Disused Railway, East End, West Meon, Hampshire. Fell group of ash trees showing signs of ash die-back. APPROVED.</p>	
2356	Planning WG	No written report & no updates.	
2357	Boules court	<p>Resolved: that the PC agrees to proceed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting to be arranged between PC (Chair and Clerk) & Boules Club (Chair & Secretary) to be held at the Sports Pavillion. • In principle, the PC in agreement with the application. Size is the main area of contention. • Also need to discuss Schedule of Works. • Applicant would need to put in to Planning Dept for an amendment. 	Clerk/Cllr Trenchard
2358	Village Design Statement	<p>Resolved: that the PC approves the final draft of the VDS and is content for it to be sent to SDNP for their consultation.</p> <p>Clerk to send minute of approval to SDNP (Chris Patterson). Cllr Waller to ask Paul to send Clerk full details.</p>	Clerk Cllr Waller
2359	Village Map Drawing	<p>Resolved: that the PC consults with the artist of the village map drawing and suggests the following further uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cards, tea towels etc. • Need to seek permission of artist. • For June 2023 mtg. 	
2360	Community, Housing & Recreation WG	<p>No written report. The following updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metis Homes (footpath) – now done. • Girls' Football Club at WM – to be discussed agenda item 2362. • Recreation Ground playground – Cllrs Edwards & Waller recently met with Playsafe – quotes received. For June 2023 meeting. • Sale of gym equipment – info has been sent to prospective purchaser. Waiting to hear if they would like to proceed. • Parish News – Items to be included in the next PC report: 	Clerk Cllr Nicholson

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair's address to Annual Parish Meeting. • Tourist info leaflets have been ordered. • Grounds maintenance - Hilliers have been asked to do some strimming. • Potential parking issue - home games of cricket clashes with drama production. Suggestion that cricketers park on the rec. 	
2361	Annual Play Inspection reports	<p>Resolved: that the following actions are required to address issues raised in the reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllrs Edwards and Waller have read the report and carried out site visits. • Serious issue has been addressed. • Moderate issue to be addressed. 	
2362	WM Sports Club – women's football proposal	<p>Cllrs Waller and Edwards provided further details, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New pitches? – no new pitches. Marking out where play will happen on existing pitches. • Sports Club will mark out pitches. • Sports Club can't sublet but can ask for a contribution from Clanfield FC towards maintenance costs. • Car parking – two games every Saturday; one game Sunday. Car sharing where possible. Shouldn't cause any problems. • Toilets – facilities provided for in Sports Pavilion. • Clanfield FC will have own public liability. • LEA not likely to object but wanted to contact school directly to discuss. Cllr Edwards to let LEA know PC's decision. <p>Resolved: that the PC approves WMSC's proposal for women's football at WM Recreational Ground.</p>	Cllr Edwards
2363	Finance & Administration WG	<p>No written report received. The following updates were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMPC draft leases: • Rifle Club – No further update as on hold until VH situation resolved. • VH – Cllr Edwards to ask PC's solicitor to liaise with VH's solicitor. Clerk to update VH - Mary Dawson (Chair); & Sally Williams (Secretary). 	Cllr Edwards /Clerk
2364	Safety cameras on A32 & A272	<p>Cllr Waller updated cllrs as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No consultation with PC re location of safety cameras on A32 & A272. <p>Cllr Bolton commented that not aware of what happened re consultation, but is content with the locations.</p> <p>Resolved: that the PC does not write to the Police & Crime Commissioner, but pressure should be put on going forward to increase the number of cameras etc.</p>	
2365	Reports & Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Jerry Pett (Liberal Democrats) has stepped forward to replace Mr Hugh Lumby (Conservative) as Councillor for Upper Meon Valley. 	
2366	Date/time of next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues 6th June 2023 at West Meon VH (Small Hall); 7.30pm. 	Clerk

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss next meeting – VDS; picture for VDS (marketing ideas); WMRC lease; WMVH lease; play equipment; gym equipment; women’s football; Christmas lighting. 	
2367	Confidential matters	No members of the public/press were present.	

The meeting closed at 9.54pm

Signed:

Clr Trenchard (Chair)

Dated:

Signed:

Joanna Tester (Clerk)

Dated:

APPENDIX A

Winchester City Councillor report May 2023

Election results

Following the local elections on Thursday 4 May, the political makeup of Winchester City Council stands at:

- 30 seats for the Liberal Democrat Party
- 12 seats for the Conservative Party
- 2 seats for the Green Party
- 1 seat for Independent

The Liberal Democrats have increased their number of seats by 2, the Conservatives have lost 2 and the Greens have gained another seat compared to the last political year.

The results in our ward, the Upper Meon Valley were as follows:

- HODGKINSON Cameron, Labour Party 50
- HURLOCK Astrea, The Conservative Party Candidate 922
- PERRY Polly Carol, Green Party 352
- PETT Jerry, Liberal Democrats 932 (E)

Average speed cameras

I am pleased to report that the average speed cameras are now in place on the A272 and A32 as many of you will be aware. Time will tell if this improves the speeding particularly of bikes and the noise associated with this or pushes it to areas outside the camera zones. It is my understanding that

the Police and Crime Commissioner still intends to trial the acoustic cameras but as yet, I have no further information as to when that will likely be.

Broadband update

As many of you know, I have campaigned hard with our MP, Flick Drummond, to bring full fibre broadband to as much of our ward as possible and in particular to highlight those areas on the edge of developments in danger of being left behind. I was particularly delighted to finally get confirmation that BD UK had released the broadband vouchers for North End Cheriton and that this area on the edge of the main Cheriton/Kilmeston scheme will not be left behind. It is also my understanding from Flick, that BD UK will be imminently progressing the, long awaited, procurement process for other areas, such as Woodlands, which were paused last year. I will continue to do what I can to ensure a speedy rollout of full fibre broadband to the rest of our ward still in need of better connectivity.

Councillor Neil Bolton, Upper Meon Valley ward Nbolton@winchester.gov.uk

APPENDIX B

Hampshire County Councillor report May 2023

Parents in Hampshire who applied on time for a school place for children starting school in September 2023 – either in Reception Year or in Year 3 in a junior school – have been sent the outcome of their application by Hampshire County Council. Over 98 per cent (98.77 per cent) of parents have been offered a reception year place for their child in one of their three preferred choice schools, with more than 93 per cent (93.02 per cent) allocated a place at their first choice of school. Of pupils transferring from infant school to junior school (Year 3), more than 99 per cent (99.29 per cent) received a place at one of their three choices, and over 97 per cent (97.88 per cent) obtained a place at their first choice of school. Parents are being encouraged at this time to consider how their child will travel to and from school, and whether they may need transport assistance. School transport is available for children who meet specific eligibility criteria, after they reach compulsory school age (five years old). The deadline to submit transport applications is 31 July 2023. For more information about school transport assistance, please visit the [County Council's](#) website.

2. Average speed cameras and 20mph

Just in time for the next motorbike season, the average speeds cameras on the A32 and the A272 are here. The cameras are centred around the West Meon Hut, covering the A32 from West Meon to East Tisted and on the A272 from Bramdean to Langrish. We also expect to see a greater police presence in the wider area. The hope is that this will all deter antisocial bikers from coming to the area. But remember, average speed cameras do not discriminate between locals and visitors, so do remember to stick to the speed limit. And on the subject of speed limits, Hampshire's new policy allowing the reduction in permitted speeds is due to be approved in September. This will include the possibility of 20mph limits, although not on strategic roads like the A32.

3. Pot holes

Potholes and other road defects are one of our biggest issues locally so I thought I would talk a bit about what is being done about them. As I've said before, the weather this winter had the worst possible combination of prolonged heavy rain and sub-zero temperatures. Potholes can form in a number of ways. Aside from general wear and tear, the freeze-thaw action of water when it gets into cracks can rapidly weaken and break open road surfaces, and this is in addition to the hydraulic effect of vehicle tyres constantly going over standing water in cracks and other small surface defects that can also create potholes. This explains why, even though we are moving into summer, potholes are continuing to develop and why some of the temporary fixes are beginning to break down. Given the high number of potholes that have formed this winter, particularly after each of the spells of freezing weather, HCC's Highways team took the decision to carry out more emergency

temporary infill repairs to keep roads safe and serviceable - in the time taken to undertake a permanent fix between 4 and 7 temporary infills can be completed. As a result, over 40,000 of these potholes were filled in the three months from December to February. The Government has allocated just under £6million to Hampshire for additional pothole repairs. We anticipate this money being used to fill approximately 39,000 additional potholes over the summer.

4. The Big Fix

The Big Fix is a national campaign to promote the growing number of Repair Cafés across the UK, run by volunteers who teach residents how to fix items at home so that fewer items end up as waste.

With 'The Big Fix' campaign running throughout May, Hampshire residents are being encouraged to give old items, gathering dust or potentially destined for the bin, a new lease of life by visiting their local Repair Café, helping themselves to save money and reduce waste. There are 17 members of the County Council's Hampshire Repair Café network which offers training and general advice. Since May last year, the network has collectively run over 90 events restoring over 1,000 items to usable order. The initiative is supported through HCC's waste prevention community grant programme. Locally, we have the wonderful Meon Valley Repair Cafe in Waltham Chase. This is a neighbourhood initiative that promotes repair as an alternative to tossing things out. The initiators organise a Repair Café on the first Saturday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon at Waltham Chase Methodist Church.

5. God save the King!

Its the coronation weekend as I write and what a fabulous occasion it has been, its wonderful to see the communities coming together in celebration. For me, it has also been a great opportunity to see the benefits of some of the grants I have given this year. The new Shedfield pavilion is really tremendous and there was a great party to celebrate its opening - it will be a great asset to the area and I was pleased to give support to it. Whiteley had another wonderful gathering - the queue for the face painting I had supported was very pleasing. And the fabulous bellringers in Droxford with their new grant funded ropes were an inspiration to all that heard them. The new season for HCC grants opens in June, do let me know if there are any good community projects in need of support. Over the last year I have supported projects up and down the division, from village cross cleaning in West Meon to the playground in Hambledon and the youth group in Waltham Chase, not forgetting new loos in Swanmore village hall.

Councillor Hugh Lumby, Meon Valley Division

APPENDIX C

West Meon Parish Council Working Groups 2023-24

Finance & Administration

- Finance – Cllrs Nicholson, Edwards
- Budget/Future Expenditure/Grants – Cllrs Nicholson, Edwards
- Clerk HR - Cllr Trenchard

Planning

- Planning Applications - Cllrs Waller, Trenchard
- Strategic Planning/SDNP – Cllr Silk
- VDS Enhancement - Cllrs Trenchard, Waller

Highways and Transport

- Cllrs Waller, Edwards

Environment

- Recreation Ground - Cllrs Waller, Edwards
- Rights of Way/Footpaths – Cllrs Silk, Edwards
- Meon Valley Trail – Cllrs Silk, Gedye
- River - Flooding – Cllrs Silk, Gedye

Community

- Local Authority Housing – Cllr Waller
- Disabled and Elderly – Cllr Waller

Communications

- Parish News – Cllr Nicholson
- Website – Cllr Nicholson
- Walks Leaflets – Cllr Waller
- Facebook We are West Meon - Cllr Trenchard