



## Minutes of the Highclere Parish Council Meeting

### Highclere Village Hall

Tuesday 11 July 2023 at 7.30pm

**Members Present:** Cllr Norton (Chairman), Cllr York, Cllr Stoker, Cllr Easton

**Clerk:** Amy White

**Present:** Cllr Falconer

The Chairman, Brad Norton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1. 28/23 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Leeson has resigned as a councillor. The Council thanks him for his valuable contribution and wishes him well.

**2. 29/23 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

None.

**3. 30/23 To agree Minutes of Meeting held on 13 June 2023**

The Minutes of 13 June 2023 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

**4. 31/23 Matters arising from Meeting held on 13 June 2023**

<b>18/32</b>	Clerk to add a note on website regarding cutting back hedges from pavements etc. <b>Actioned.</b>	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>18/23</b>	Cllr Norton will send an email to the Forestry Commission to open dialogue. <b>Actioned</b> - There is a new contact called Greg Wylde who would like to engage with HPC regarding new plans and timescales for Penwood forest. Ongoing.	<b>Cllr Norton</b>
<b>22/23</b>	Cllr Easton to submit petition to Hampshire Member Services, copying in Cllr Nick Adams-King. <b>Not actioned</b> - this is going to be sent from Cllr Norton as Chairman- see item 10.	<b>Cllr Easton</b>

**5. 32/23 Co-option of new councillor**

Unfortunately the potential new councillor has decided they are not able to join the council. This means HPC has 4 councillors at present.

**Action:** Clerk to advertise for new councillors.

**6. 33/33 Reports from County and Borough Councillors**

Cllr Falconer has been made aware of antisocial behaviour which has been reported at Thorngrove school. The clerk has responded to the person who reported it: advice is to report everything to 101. Cllr Falconer has met with local CSPO Benjamin Esprit to try and get a more concerted effort by authorities to deal with the current issues.

**7. 34/23 Recent Planning Applications (comments in bold):**

Please see [the Basingstoke and Deane portal](#) for full responses from HPC.

- 23/01599/FUL at Land At OS Ref 443405 159682 Andover Road *Decision to be sent: Objection*
- 23/01587/LDEU at Blackford Farm, Seven Stones Lane Highclere *Decision to be sent: No Objection*

**8. 35/23 Neighbourhood Plan update**

Colin Wall provided an update on the NP, at the end of the Minutes. Should it be required, the council will call an extraordinary meeting to confirm any decision to be made on the identified sites.

**9. 36/23 Police- current issues update and new PCSO**

Some of this has been covered by item 6. The new PCSO is Kieron Venn who has promised to make some patrols in the Woolton Hill/Highclere area.

**Action:** Clerk to add information on Facebook and website re reporting antisocial behaviour to 101.

**10. 37/23 Roads and Transport**

**Latest SID Data:** The latest data downloaded was corrupted again. Cllr Easton will persevere with retrieving the data over the summer.

**Action:** Cllr Easton to work on the data retrieval of SID over summer.

**Road resurfacing update:** Cllr Easton has added the wording for the HPC-led petition to be sent to HCC. It was agreed that Cllr Norton will send the email.

**Action:** Cllr Norton to send the petition email to HCC.

**11. 38/23 Footpaths**

**Action:** Cllr Stoker will investigate footpath 741 and whether there is any value in changing the gate or improving the stile.

**12. Westridge project update**

Cllr York, in his role as a Trustee at Westridge, has met with Highclere Tree Works to obtain a quote for tree removal and driveway improvement. The Clerk reminded the council that a grant form will need to be filled in to request money from the council.

**13. 24/23 Finance update**

The Clerk presented the following items for payment for July:

Date				
Invoiced	Budget Line	Explanation	Amount	
27-Jun-23	Payroll	Red76 Payroll Inv 6392	£	16.00
27-Jun-23	VAT	Red76 Payroll Inv 6392	£	3.20

31-May-23	Neighbourhood Plan	Planet Invoice 1264	£ 1,094.00
31-May-23	VAT	Planet Invoice 1264	£ 218.80
23-Jun-23	Other	Materials for lengthsman work	£ 25.00
23-Jun-23	VAT	Materials for lengthsman work	£ 5.00
28-Jun-23	IT/Website Admin incl Ionos	Ionos invoice 203036907865 (Direct Debit)	£ 6.00
28-Jun-23	VAT		£ 1.20
27-Jul-23	Litter Warden Salary		£ 536.80
27-Jul-23	Clerk's Salary		£ 711.28
27-Jul-23	PAYE	HMRC Month 4	£ 317.37
6-Jul-23	Neighbourhood Plan	Royal Mail Boundary match and leaflet delivery extra invoice	£ 47.21
6-Jul-23	VAT	Royal Mail Boundary match and leaflet delivery extra invoice	£ 9.44
27-Jul-23	Pension contribution	Nest (Direct Debit)	£ 72.96
			<b>£ 3,064.26</b>

**Bank Balance at 30 June 2023:**  
**Community Acc: £3048.28**  
**Business Acc: £47716.65**

14. **26/23 Items to take forward to subsequent meeting**  
Westridge project update, add police to standard items?
15. **27/23 Date of next Meeting Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September, Highclere Village Hall 7:30pm.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Actions from 11 July 2023 Meeting

Number	Action	Person
32/23	Clerk to advertise for new councillors.	Clerk
36/23	Clerk to add information on Facebook and website re reporting antisocial behaviour to 101.	Clerk
37/23	Cllr Easton to work on the data retrieval of SID over summer.	Cllr Easton
38/23	Cllr Stoker will investigate footpath 741 and whether there is any value in changing the gate or improving the stile.	Cllr Stoker

## Highclere Neighbourhood Plan – Progress update – July 11<sup>th</sup> 2023

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### Plan document

PlanET have reviewed and commented on our latest Plan (v.5). We await David Skyrme's review.

### Site Selection

As signposted last month a meeting was held on Thursday June 15<sup>th</sup> for the Steering Group to begin the process of combining :

- the Navigus assessment,
- the assessment against our objectives done by John Stoker and Mike York,
- the survey results themselves, and
- parish comments on the survey for all sites.

Before the meeting Colin Wall conducted a variety of analyses and what-if modelling to the survey results, using techniques similar to forced pairs analysis and single transferable vote modelling. None of these assessments produced a materially different result.

However, it was clear at the meeting that there was significant discomfort with a number of the assessments made in both of the first two items above. The most concern was with the Navigus work, so we went through it line by line at the meeting. We were disappointed to find ourselves disagreeing or not understanding about 20% of the assessments and it was clear that this put significant doubt on its overall validity in supporting (or not) any of the five surveyed sites.

We had hoped to conclude the process in a single meeting but this was now clearly untenable. Two strands of work were therefore initiated : David Skyrme to review the assessment against objectives, and Nick White to summarise our concerns with the Navigus work. Both of these pieces of work are complete and we are in process of arranging a meeting with Navigus to deal with the issues.

### Next Steps

When that meeting/s is concluded we will then meet to combine the four sources and make our decision. We would hope that this would be in August and we could publish the result on the PC website with signposting on noticeboards, Nextdoor, and in the Society newsletter. If the PC would wish to confirm the decision before it is published we would hope some mechanism for doing that could be found which did not involve waiting until September 12<sup>th</sup>.

### Finance

It appears that Locality have yet to receive the authorisation for this year's NP funding across the country so we are unable to access any of our remaining Grant. While this is worrying, no-one we can find thinks this will not be forthcoming. So we fully expect to be in Grant funds again soon. However, should this not transpire it would reflect a *volte-face* by the Government from their previously unswerving commitment to NPs. We await developments.