

# **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SOPLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> September 2013 AT 7.30P.M.  
IN SOPLEY PARISH HALL, PRIEST'S LANE, SOPLEY.**

**Attendees:** Parish Councillors Shutler (Chairman), Paul, Pease, Eccles, District Councillor Woodfield and County Cllr Rippon-Swaine.

Parish Clerk K Hughes and 16 Parishioners.

**Apologies for absence:** Parish Councillor Rawstron and Westmacott.

The Parish Clerk confirmed that the meeting was quorate. There were no declarations of interest from Members present in respect of any of the agenda items.

## **1) Review of the Minutes of the Meeting of SPC held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013 and Matters Arising.**

The minutes of the July meeting were reviewed and approved and circulated to the Parishioners present. There were no matters arising. These were **Proposed by Cllr Eccles and Seconded by Cllr. Pease.**

## **2) Public Participation**

### **Tree in brook**

Norman Hiscock brought up the fact that there was a tree in the brook at Fish Street, Cllr Shutler agreed to notify Lord Manners.

### **Van Sales and workshop Ringwood Road.**

Mr Emmel brought up the van sales in Ringwood Road and stated that they have been blocking the footpaths all through the summer. Mr Emmel then requested an update from planning. Cllr Woodfield informed Mr Emmel that she would chase up Nikki Whitehead. Mr Emmel also stated that he taken some photos of vehicles in the Cemetery entrance which were parked there and had checked that they were not the property of people visiting the cemetery. Cllr Eccles stated that this was an ongoing complaint that had been brought up in 2004, Cllr Woodfield confirmed she would check how long this business has been trading and it was stated that if it was more than 10 years then the was not a lot that anyone could do. Also Cllr Woodfield said that she would be checking the business rates and VAT implications.

### **School Transport**

Mr Emmel raised the point of his children's transport to Highcliffe School and wished to know if Ringwood School would have the same policies in place regarding transport. Cllr. Rippon Swaine said he would look into the matter of paying for one child and not another child in the same family. Mr Emmel expressed his concern that these fees would dramatically affect the rural communities.

### **B3347 – Refuge Island**

Mrs Ramm attended the meeting and gave her objections to the Refuge Island. She commented that it was supposed to be a temporary fixture and wanted to know what the following course of action would be. This was noted and to be passed to Cllr Rawstron due to his absence at the meeting. Mrs Dunn again brought up the issue of a proposed new footpath outside her property (Smugglers). Again this was noted and that there was a meeting scheduled for Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> September at 10am and it was suggested that Mrs Dunn meet with Cllr Rawstron and Richard Bastow from Highways. Cllr Rippon-Swaine commented that the proposed footpath was for public safety. Mrs Dunn said that she understood the footpath but wanted to reduce urbanisation in the village. Mrs D Liberty-Spark and Mrs T Liberty-Spark also attended the meeting and wanted answers regarding the closure of the road for the roadwork's and commented that they were not contacted by Highways and notified of any closures, they had problems with access to the pub for beer deliveries etc although signs had gone up stating that the Woolpack was open as normal. Again this will be addressed at the meeting tomorrow morning with Richard Bastow (Highways), Mrs Dunn and Cllr. Rawstron.

It was also mentioned that road markings had been removed and Mr Emmel had been helping cars to go around the roadwork's correctly, Cllr Shutler agreed to contact Richard Bastow and see how long the lack of road markings and access would be going on for.

PARISH CLERK'S REPORT:

**Sopley Parish Council Payments and Receipts 2013/2014**

<b>Treasurers Account - Current a/c</b>	<b>08.08.13</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>£18,801.77</b>	
<b>Payments</b>	Date	Chq no	Amount	Cleared?
Mr Macknamara - Locum wages	18.07.13	949	£701.76	yes
Do the Numbers	18.07.13	950	£235.00	yes
Hampshire Probation	18.07.13	951	£150.00	yes
SLCC	18.07.13	952	£63.00	yes
Expenses Gerald Lewis (fuel and black bags)	24.07.13	953	£16.48	yes
Miss Hiscock	24.07.13	954	£11.85	no
Letters & Logos	24.07.13	955	£208.03	yes
Clerk wages - Katie for July	05.08.13	956	£540.75	yes
HMRC	05.08.13	957	£254.47	yes
Centrewire (kissing gates)	05.08.13	958	£2,054.00	
Aviva Annual Insurance	05.08.13	959	£1,438.36	
Total:			<b>£5,673.70</b>	
<b>Payments to be made (invoices received)</b>				
Norman Hiscock - Shirley Green	960		£25.00	
Mr Gerald Lewis - HMRC Overpayment	961		£254.48	
Hampshire Probation Trust	10000002799		£150.00	
Hampshire Probation Trust	10000002889		£150.00	
Centrewire	958		£410.80	
Total to be paid:			<b>£990.28</b>	
<b>Receipts</b>	15.08.13		£40.00	
<b>Bus Interest Access - Deposit a/c</b>	<b>09.08.13</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>£20,675.35</b>	
Transfer in Interest	09.08.13		£0.88	
<b>Allotments Charitable Trust</b>	<b>09.08.13</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>£5,096.34</b>	
Interest	09.08.13		£0.18	

## **Parish Clerk's Report – Planning**

The only planning application received was for Sopley Mill lift and this has been granted with conditions regarding the landscaping outside.

## **Parish Clerk's Report – Correspondence received. (Verbally, by letter and email).**

Letter received from Mr & Mrs Gill regarding damage in cemetery. It was confirmed that Mrs Hughes and the Probation team had taken a look at the damage and that it was in fact years old.

Received cheque from Cllr Eccles for Pamela Barker internment.

Update received regarding Merryfield, information circulated to Councillors and Parishioners.

Contracts regarding Lengthsman Scheme have been received and signed.

Verbal complaint received from Olivia Harrison regarding broken fence in cemetery. See Burial Board Report below. The Clerk confirmed that she had been in contact with Dennis of Sopley Forge and he had kindly mended the broken gates to the cemetery for no cost to the Council.

Also the Clerk confirmed that a complaint had been reported to her about the ditch at Shirley Green and that she had instructed Mr Norman Hiscock to redig, this has now been done and all sorted.

Mrs Hughes also confirmed that we are still awaiting confirmation from Lloyds re the change of signatories but all necessary paperwork had been signed and submitted to the bank.

Also Mr Jim Hatton has kindly been doing maintenance on all the Parish Boards including mending the lock on the board at Letterbox Cottage.

## **Burial Board**

Further to the complaint received regarding the fencing in the cemetery on Mrs Olivia Harrison's boundary, Cllr Shutler has agreed to go and have a look at the fence and let the Clerk have a price for the works. Cllr Eccles also said he was more than happy to sort the posts and communicate with Cllr Shutler regarding the timing for the job to be completed. Also Cllr Eccles reported that there had been an Internment of ashes and burial today. Maintenance visits are still being completed on a fortnightly basis to a very good standard.

## **Parish Hall Report**

Cllr Eccles reported that the Sopley Village festival held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2013, was a fabulous day weather wise and attendance was great, at this stage it is know that £4,000 plus was raised. (Actual figure to follow). He announced that Mr Peter Dunn had resigned from the Parish Hall Committee he took the opportunity to thank him for all he has done for the Parish hall.

The Bank balance as at today's date £7,117.39. There is currently £2200 to pay out.

Forthcoming events are Curryoke next Friday which Moorlands students have offered to help with there is a skittles evening on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Christmas party on 20<sup>th</sup> December and also a quiz night is planned for 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

## **Parish Footpaths & Rights of Way Issues.**

Cllr Westmacott reported that the Kissing gates should be sorted in late October, early November. Also Footpath 12 Bridge in Fish Street will be sorted in the same timescale. It was brought up that the ditches should have been sorted by NFDC during the summer after last Christmas' flooding this was given to Cllr Shutler to action and he said that he will contact Lord Manners. Cllr Shutler also took this time to mention that he now has the Council's trimmer.

## **Highways & Traffic Management**

As this matter had been discussed in length under the open Parishioners comments and due to Cllr Rawstron unfortunately being absent at the meeting that it would be discussed at the meeting tomorrow with Highways and reported upon in due course. There was no report available at this point.

## District Councillor's Report

Cllr Woodfield circulated the following report:

The Local Enforcement Plan sets out the proposed policies for planning enforcement in the New Forest district. Priorities for the way cases are dealt with will depend on the degree of harm and there will be targets for progressing cases and complaints.

The plan explains the various courses of action open to the council. All cases will be investigated but they do not always constitute breaches of planning control and it may not always be possible to take action. In some cases the degree of harm may be low and although there may be a breach, it would not be appropriate to take action. Enforcement action is discretionary and the expediency of taking action has to be considered.

All cases will be dealt with promptly and formal action will be taken where it is needed to prevent serious harm to the environment or to amenity or to adjoining neighbours.

The plan also addresses the tricky area of 'retrospective planning applications'. It explains the significant risk people take when they rely on the granting of retrospective permission. Starting development without permission is also likely to upset neighbours and other members of the local community.

An important part of the planning enforcement process is keeping people informed of progress. This includes parish and town councils as well as complainants and those being complained about. The intention is to improve the planning enforcement area of the council's website, making it more user-friendly and easier for people to find information.

### **Allocation of Developers Contribution**

#### **Bransgore**

The Existing open space Developers Contribution allocation was is project list B for a MUGA at Bransgore. The allocation was in the sum of £32305.53 However the Parish Council contacted NFDC to upgrade the play area and Pavilion instead. The cost of upgrade to the play area will be £21078 and the drainage works to the Pavilion will cost £17593. Due to lack of drainage the land is currently unusable. Once the works have been completed during 2013/14 it will improve the facilities for Youth Football Cricket and Croquet. The shortfall will be met by Bransgore Parish Council

## County Councillors Report

Cllr Rippon Swaine circulated the following report:

### **Section 1.01 HCC HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME SCHEMES 2013-14 Integrated Transport Programme – Minor Works 2013/14 (Sub programme)**

- B3347 provide a new surfaced footway on NE side of Sopley one-way system from Priest Lane junction to Derritt Lane junction.
- Provide a new rural finished surface across Priest Lane 'grass triangle'.
- Estimated completion by December 2013.

### **Section 1.02 HCC HIGHWAYS SCHEDULES –July 2013 County Traffic Management Programme 2013/14**

- **Sopley** – B3347 review of trial traffic management measures – assessment of whether trial pedestrian refuge island on B3347 and kerb build out at Derritt Lane junction should be made permanent. Brought forward from 2012/13 Programme

### Section 1.03 HCC & THE CARE BILL 2013

- From April 2016, £72,000 cap on individual's contribution to care costs over lifetime; thereafter HCC financial support.
- Cap of zero for those entering adulthood under care and support needs.
- Means-test for those going into residential care when property included in financial assessment from £23,250 to £118,000 (residential nursing care).
- Each person will have a Care Account logging care costs excluding 'hotel costs'.
- New, more generous eligibility threshold for carers (133,000 Carers in Hampshire).
- New responsibility for social care in prisons.
- In consultation till 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

### Section 1.04 HCC & THE VILLAGE AGENT PROJECT

- Volunteer-based service, first in England.
- Support people to remain independent longer and enhance quality of life.
- HCC funds Age Concern to recruit, train and support the volunteers.
- Village Agents are local, rurally-based volunteers pro-actively helping older people (55 yrs or self-defining as old) to find information and support, make referrals to other agencies including Home Fire Safety visits.
- Volunteers contact HCC Head of Older People's Well-Being Team, Ms Alex Burn (e-mail: alex.burn@hants.gov.uk).

### Section 1.05 HCC LABOUR MARKET AUGUST 2013

- Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) claimants down 466.
- 18-24 yrs down 40, 25-49yrs down 305 & 50-64yrs down 65.

### Section 1.06 HC COUNCILLOR MEETINGS – July & September 2013.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Forest Forge Board Meeting.
- 9<sup>th</sup> July – HCC Conservative Group Meeting.
- 17<sup>th</sup> July – New Forest Passenger Transport Forum Meeting.
- 17<sup>th</sup> July – HCC Tour of Colchester Roman Town Excavations.
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – HCC DBR Check at Winchester.
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – HCC Full Council Meeting.
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – HCC Environment, Transport & Economy Minor Highway Works Priority meeting.
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – Sopley Parish Council Meeting.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept. – HCC Highways West workshop
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. – CFNF Board of Trustees Meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. – HCC Conservative Group Meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> Sept. – HCC Health & Social Care Briefing
- 18<sup>th</sup> Sept. – HCC Full Council Meeting

1. DATE OF NEXT MEETING : Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013.  
Finance Committee Meeting Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

Meeting closed 20.40.