

Minutes

Meeting (Annual) of Ampfield Parish Council: Monday 13 May 2024

Held at Ampfield Village Hall, 7:00pm to 8:20pm

Present

Members of Ampfield Parish Council:

Chairman Bryan Nanson
Vice Chairman Chris Ling
Cllr Martin Hatley
Cllr Julian Jones
Cllr Graham Roads
Cllr Julie Trotter

Others

Kate Orange, Clerk/RFO
Test Valley Borough Councillor Sally Yalden
One member of public, from 7:30pm

Election of Chairman

4369. *It was proposed to elect Cllr Bryan Nanson as the Chairman. (Proposed by Cllr Roads; seconded by Cllr Hatley)*
RESOLVED

Election of Vice Chairman

4370. *It was proposed to elect Cllr Chris Ling as the Vice Chairman. (Proposed by Cllr Nanson; seconded by Cllr Hatley)*
RESOLVED

Apologies

4371. Apologies were received from Cllr Kate McCallum and Cllr Jason Reeves.

Previous Meeting

4372. The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 08 April 2024 were agreed, and a copy was signed by the Chairman.

Declarations of Interest in Business on the Agenda for the Meeting

4373. Members present at the meeting confirmed that they had reviewed their Register of Pecuniary interest forms. Cllr Julie Trotter had an amendment to make; all other Councillors present had no amendments.
4374. No Councillor had any interest to declare in any of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

Minutes of the Planning Committee

4375. *The Minutes of the Planning Committee dated 04 March 2024 were noted*
RESOLVED

Borough Councillor’s report

4376. Borough Councillor Sally Yalden reported:
- Of three Planning Inspectorate decisions for the borough, two were given consent (new barn at Sherfield English; static caravans at Branches Lane, Romsey) and the removal of a TPO-protected tree in Rownhams Lane was not permitted;
 - At full council, Cllr Yalden questioned the condition of roads and potholes. Residents are advised to continue to report each pothole and other road problems using Hampshire County Council’s website (linked on Ampfield Parish Council’s ‘Report it’ page).
 - In the light of fines and enforcement orders against Southern Water, Cllr Yalden asked questions about lack of trust and confidence at a meeting with the Environment Agency and Southern Water.
 - For 2023-24, TVBC had the lowest rate in Hampshire of contamination of recycling waste.
 - Lead had been stolen from the roof of St Marks recently. There had also been house burglaries in Braishfield. If a crime is in progress, the police should be contacted on 999; otherwise, the report could be made online or to 111.
 - Via the Hampshire Alert website, <https://www.hampshirealert.co.uk/> residents may contact their own neighbourhood policing officer, and sign up for a newsletter.
 - TVBC were encouraging ‘Urban Meadows’ through deferring mowing until September at a number of sites, which surveyed to identify plant species. This year’s Urban Meadows can be found on the website <https://testvalley.gov.uk> (search ‘Urban Meadows’).
4377. Cllr Hatley noted that DEFRA had edicted that collections of black bins must be at least fortnightly, and food waste at least weekly. Cllr Yalden would look into this.

Financial Matters

4378. *The Council received the bank reconciliation to the end of April 2024.*
RESOLVED
4379. Chairman Bryan Nanson noted the ‘working capital’ available would be higher when the transfer had been made of 2023-24 expenditure Morleys Green from the commuted fund to the bank account.
4380. *The Council received the calculation of working capital to the end of April 2024.*
RESOLVED
4381. *It was agreed that the following payments should be made:*

	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
	<i>Cllr Ling, refund of expenses incurred: parts for refurbishment of telephone kiosk</i>	69.89
	<i>Pavilion window cleaning</i>	30.00
	<i>Printing of Spring Newsletter</i>	425.00
	<i>VAS (speed sign) maintenance</i>	293.58
	<i>Staff costs</i>	962.61
	<i>Clerk, refund of expenses</i>	29.60
	Total (including VAT)	£1,810.68
RESOLVED		

4382. *It was noted that the following payments had been made between Meetings:*

	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
<i>Direct debits and direct transfers to 30 April</i>		
	<i>Test Valley Borough Council grounds maintenance</i>	334.91
	<i>HALC & NALC affiliation fees</i>	609.00
	<i>Lead test kit for telephone kiosk</i>	11.99
	<i>E.On</i>	116.50
	<i>Website</i>	11.99
	<i>Mobile wifi data</i>	8.00
	<i>Staff costs</i>	68.04
	Total	£1,160.43

RESOLVED

4383. *It was noted that the Council had received the following income:*

	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
	<i>ANBCC rent</i>	541.87
	<i>Hire of Pavilion - private party</i>	125.00
	<i>Hire of Pavilion - use of carpark</i>	40.00
	<i>Precept</i>	22384.51
	<i>Interest</i>	86.73
	<i>Inspired Villages donation for upkeep of defibrillator</i>	850.00
	<i>Burial fee</i>	348.00
	Total (including VAT)	£24,376.11

RESOLVED

4384. *The Council noted receipt of the generous donation of £850 from Inspired Villages, for the maintenance of the defibrillator located at the entrance of Wheelhouse Park / Ampfield Meadows.*

RESOLVED

4385. *The Council received the report of expenditure against budget to the end of April 2024.*

RESOLVED

4386. It was noted that the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) model Financial Regulations had been revised. In the light of this, the Clerk and Chairman would review the Council's own, adopted, financial regulations, and report to the Meeting in July.

Planning Committee

4387. *It was proposed that the Planning Committee would comprise all Members of Ampfield Parish Council.*

RESOLVED

Confirmation of the Time and Place of Ordinary Meetings

4388. *Ordinary Meetings would take place in Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on the following dates:*
 10 June 2024 4389. 14 October 2024 4392. 10 February 2025 4395. 12 May 2025
 8 July 2024 4390. 11 November 2024 4393. 10 March 2025 (Annual)
 9 September 2024 4391. 13 January 2025 4394. 14 April 2025
 RESOLVED

Review of Council policies, subscriptions and agreements

4396. *The Council noted the list of Council policies, subscriptions and agreements dated 13 May 2024.*
 RESOLVED

Appointment of portfolio holders

4397. *Councillors and volunteers were appointed to the following roles:*
- *Chairman Bryan Nanson - Planning, Finance, Woodland, Recreation Ground, Test Valley, Association of Town and Parish Councils*
 - *Vice Chairman Chris Ling – Planning, Transport & Highways, Lengthsman, Resilience, Website*
 - *Cllr Martin Hatley – Planning, Ampfield Countryside Heritage Area;*
 - *Cllr Julian Jones – Planning, Website*
 - *Cllr Kate McCallum – Planning*
 - *Cllr Jason Reeves – Planning, Communications*
 - *Cllr Graham Roads – Planning, Chapel Wood & Friends of Chapel Wood, Ampfield Countryside Heritage Area*
 - *Cllr Julie Trotter – Planning, Village Hall, Defibrillators*
 - *ARG inspections – Bryan Nanson, Chris Ling, Doreen Matthews*
- RESOLVED

Review of Arrangements for Annual Assembly

4398. *The arrangements for the Annual Parish Assembly were confirmed. The meeting was to be at 7:30pm on Monday 20 May 2024 in Ampfield Village Hall. This had been publicised in the Newsletter, and the Agenda had been published on noticeboards and website. Cllr Roads would present information on Chapel Wood, and Cllr Ling would present information on Highways. Borough Councillor Sally Yalden, and County Councillor Alan Dowden would attend.*

Recreation Ground and Pavilion

4399. *Chairman Bryan Nanson reported on matters at the recreation ground and pavilion:*
- *Electricity was now connected to the container.*
 - *The electronic scoreboard was operational.*
 - *ANBCC’s application for a CAF grant had been successful.*
 - *The White Horse pub had written about plumbing problems, and the Clerk had responded.*

Chapel Wood

4400. *Cllr Graham Roads reported on Chapel Wood.*
- *The working party of Friends of Chapel Wood the previous weekend had been productive. Land at the western end of the Church had been cleared.*
 - *Richard Clifton had installed a bench in memory of his late uncle.*
 - *Fly tipping had taken place that day. Cllr Roads would report it to the police and Test Valley Borough Council.*
4401. *It was proposed to allow the St Mark’s Church Fete to use the Chapel Wood glade for stalls and entertainment on 8 June 2024.*
 RESOLVED

4402. *It was proposed that Cllr Roads would obtain quotations for shredding of wood and arisings in Chapel Wood.*
RESOLVED

Burial Ground

4403. Cllr Graham Roads reported on the Burial Ground.
- CBA Trees had been instructed to undertake the Health and Safety inspection of trees in the Burial Ground.
 - We awaited a quotation for removal of rubbish from the northern area.
 - We had a quote to review and consider for protective fencing of the (as yet, unplanted) cruciform hedge. The plan was to replant the hedge in September when the ground conditions were best.
 - This week the split tree and two others would be removed and their roots grubbed out.
 - Cllr Roads met with a contractor who would quote for removal of rubbish, uncovered from the undergrowth. Once the rubbish was gone, J N Landscapes could complete the clearance and landscaping.
 - We awaited improvement in ground conditions before the cruciform hedge could be replanted.
 - JN Landscapes would quote for providing posts and netting to protect the hedge once planted.
 - The survey of the trees in the burial ground would take place soon.
4404. *It was proposed to permit the reservation of a grave space adjacent to the grave of Ben Owen Browning, for his mother Helen Browning.*
RESOLVED

Highways

4405. Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported on highways matters.
- For several years a series of reasons had been given by Hampshire County Council for not proceeding to install a pedestrian island near Green Pond Lane on the A3090, and each one had been refuted by Ampfield Parish Council. Cllr Ling had set out the details in a paper which he had given to Borough Councillor Sally Yalden. Funding through traffic calming was available from s106 money.
 - Bus routes had changed and there would no longer be a service along the Straight Mile.
 - The new Speedwatch equipment had been used for the first time by Cllrs Ling and Nanson. In 30 minutes of testing the highest speed measured was 46mph and 17 cars were travelling in excess of 35mph. This was on Baddesley Road. In accordance with the scheme, the registered owners would be sent a letter by the police, as the first step.
 - A tablet or laptop was needed to link with the Speedwatch equipment and record the data.
 - Pound Lane was closed that day for a duration of 3 days during highways improvement work.
4406. *It was proposed to purchase a laptop or tablet for the recording of Speedwatch data.*
RESOLVED
4407. The speed limit on A3090 between Ampfield and Hursley was discussed in the light of two recent fatal car accidents. Cllr Ling had circulated his paper to councillors, which noted the details of the history of accidents, and also with the high incidence of collisions with deer and sightings of deer. We hoped that the road could be noted as a deer hotspot by Hampshire County Council (HCC). Cllr Sally Yalden was communicating with HCC's Patrick Blogg.
4408. *It was proposed to amend our policy on speed limits in the parish, with the lower speed limit of 40mph requested for A3090 from Ampfield village to the parish boundary in the Hursley direction, and on Hook Road between Potters Heron and the rest of Hook Road. The Policy would be re-drafted.*
RESOLVED

4409. Hursley Parish Council had taken on the administration of our cluster of parishes for the Lengthsman scheme. It was therefore likely to continue, albeit with a slightly delayed start. Councillors could suggest work items to Cllr Ling.

4410. *It was proposed to delegate to Cllr Ling the decision on whether to appoint the Lengthsman for the additional hours. The standard hours were three visits of 10 hours funded by HCC, with an indicative additional cost of £440 for a total of four visits of 12 hours.*

RESOLVED

Freehold at Morleys Green

4411. Vice Chairman Chris Ling updated the Council on the freehold matter at Morleys Green. The solicitors of Mr Michalik had written to the Clerk, who had confirmed the position of the Council: it needed an indemnity for the cost of legal advice as to whether and at what value the freehold could be transferred, and to whom. We awaited their reply.

Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

4412. Katrina Andrews, manager for Ampfield Meadows, had telephoned Cllr Martin Hatley. 10 to 16 June would be loneliness awareness week. She was interested in sponsoring something to combat loneliness within the parish. Nine apartments were ready for occupation, and she may invite Councillors to visit a completed apartment. Cllr Hatley had mentioned to her that Test Valley Borough Council sought a fixed place for a polling station in the south of the parish; which she said she would consider as it would enable more residents to vote in person.

4413. Cllr Julie Trotter reported that the telephone kiosk had been pressure washed. The paint inside and out was lead-based. We had a contact, via Mark Hughes, who had a soda-blaster which may be suitable for preparing the paint. Romsey Men's Shed were progressing well with glazing and preparing the new door.

Correspondence and Communications

4414. Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported that our website provider, Hugo Fox, were close to being approved to register .gov.uk domains. If we used one, we think it would remove the security warning that given with our current web domain, due to the lack of a certificate. The domain would be with Hugo Fox. Emails would be handled separately. We awaited further details.

4415. *It was proposed to delegate to Cllr Ling the decision on whether to take up a .gov.uk domain via Hugo Fox.*

RESOLVED

4416. Cllr Graham Roads was in touch with the Forestry Commission, establishing what needed to be done in order to put the new permissive path into use and to record it.

4417. *It was proposed to permit Ampfield and North Baddesley Cricket Club to use the parish council's wifi at the pavilion for their card-reader.*

RESOLVED

Date of Next Meeting

4418. The next ordinary meeting would be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 10 June 2024.
The Annual Parish Assembly would be on 20 May 2024 at 7:30pm.
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Chairman

Date