

Minutes

Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council: Monday 09 September 2024

Held at Ampfield Village Hall, 7:00pm to 7:45pm

Present

Members of Ampfield Parish Council:

Chairman Bryan Nanson
Vice Chairman Chris Ling
Cllr Graham Roads
Cllr Julie Trotter

Others

Kate Orange, Clerk/RFO

Apologies

4497. Apologies were received from Cllrs Martin Hatley, Julian Jones, and Jason Reeves; and Borough Cllr Sally Yalden.

Previous Meeting

4498. The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 19 August 2024 were agreed, and a copy was signed by the Chairman.

Declarations of Interest in Business on the Agenda for the Meeting

4499. No Councillor had any interest to declare in any of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

Planning Committee

4500. *The Minutes of the Planning Committee of 17 June and 5 August 2024 were noted.*
RESOLVED

Report from Test Valley Borough Council

4501. The report from Borough Councillor Sally Yalden was noted and is attached to these Minutes.

Financial Matters

4502. *The Council received the bank reconciliations to the end of July and August 2024.*
RESOLVED
4503. *The Council received the calculation of working capital to the end of August 2024.*
RESOLVED

4504. It was agreed that the following payments should be made:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
Water, ARG/Pavilion	196.04
Cllr Roads, refund of expenses for burial ground	263.95
Window cleaning at pavilion	30.00
SLCC recruitment advertisement	370.80
Churches fire safety inspection	28.56
Clerk, refund of expenses incurred on behalf of the Council	55.60
Staff costs	962.61
Total (including VAT)	£1,907.56

RESOLVED

4505. 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 31 July</i>	
Pavilion supplies	118.27
TVBC grounds maintenance	334.91
E.On	162.33
Website	11.99
Mobile wifi data	8.00
Staff costs	68.04
<i>Direct debits and direct transfers to 31 August</i>	
Pavilion supplies	11.75
Jim Cook, repair of toilet roof	40.00
Playground inspection	99.00
External auditor, BDO	378.00
VAS management, Simon Nightingale	293.58
Calor	17.99
TVBC grounds maintenance	334.91
E.On	160.37
Website	11.99
Mobile wifi data	8.00
Staff costs	1030.65
Total (including VAT)	£3,089.78

RESOLVED

4506. *It was noted that the Council had received the following income during July and August 2024:*

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount, £</u>
Interest	202.91
VAT refund	4789.38
Rent: ANBCC	541.87
Total	£5,534.16

RESOLVED

4507. *The Council received the report of expenditure against budget to the end of August 2024.*

RESOLVED

4508. *It was proposed to withdraw the cost of the electricity cable connection works from the recreation ground contingency.*

RESOLVED

Vacancy for a Councillor

4509. Test Valley Borough Council had advised that the latest vacancy should be filled by co-option. Chairman Bryan Nanson described the process for co-option of Councillors, whereby applicants may be nominated and elected onto the council by members present and voting. There were a total of two vacant seats.

4510. *It was proposed to advertise in noticeboards for applications to fill the vacant seats on the council, with applications due by 10 October.*

RESOLVED

Recruitment of Clerk/RFO

4511. Chairman Bryan Nanson reported that Kate Orange had resigned with effect from 20 September 2024. The vacancy was advertised by Hampshire Association of Local Councils, Society of Local Council Clerks, on parish noticeboards, and on the website of the parish council. Applications were invited by 4 October, with interviews to take place on 14 October 2024.

4512. *It was proposed to appoint Kate Orange as Locum Clerk/RFO from 21 September, as a contractor, for 5 hours per week to deal with Council financial matters.*

RESOLVED

Pollinator Pledge

4513. The report on the Pollinator Pledge was deferred, due to the absence of Cllr Jason Reeves.

Recreation Ground and Pavilion

4514. Chairman Bryan Nanson reported on the recreation ground and pavilion:

- Cllrs Nanson and Ling had re-marked some of the white lines in the carpark, providing more delineated spaces.
- During the coming week, Test Valley Borough Council would re-bed the loose gate post, which had been dislodged by their mowing team.
- The new practise nets had been installed by Ampfield and North Baddesley Cricket Club. Their new artificial wicket would soon be installed.

4515. Chairman Bryan Nanson reported on the path project.

- Cllr Nanson had met officers from TVBC regarding applying for grant funding. We needed to confirm the preferred bidder now in order to meet the deadline.

- Two quotations had been received. A further quotation, for an enhanced specification, had been received.

4516. *It was proposed, subject to obtaining grant funding, to accept the lowest tender for the proposed paths at the pavilion. The grant application would be completed include this.*

RESOLVED

4517. Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported on the PV electricity grant application. It has been submitted and we await the decision, which should be given in October.

4518. *It was proposed to enter into a 12 months fixed rate contract from E.On for electricity supply at the pavilion.*

RESOLVED

Chapel Wood

4519. Cllr Graham Roads reported on Chapel Wood.

- The Friends of Chapel Wood annual meeting was on 27 August and draft minutes had been issued.
- The Friends were mainly focused on getting the existing projects completed:
 - Planting around the path
 - Maintenance of the pond

4520. *It was proposed to reimburse the cost of two pond clearance nets to the Chairman of Friends of Chapel Wood, Richard Burton.*

RESOLVED

Burial Ground

4521. Cllr Graham Roads would meet with J N Landscapes on 11 September and go through the details of the cruciform hedge and grass seeding work. The Clerk would provide a key for their use.

Morleys Green

4522. Chairman Bryan Nanson reported that Cllr Julian Jones' contact, Jim Cook, had repaired the roof of the toilet at Morleys Green allotments, and had done a good job.

4523. Cllr Julie Trotter raised the question of whether the council could arrange for the re-siting of the climbing frame from the former Ampfield Primary School site, as a facility for the public. Considerations included its current ownership, insurance, safety inspections and the cost of re-positioning it.

4524. *It was proposed to investigate whether we could purchase the former Ampfield Primary School climbing frame.*

RESOLVED

4525. It was noted that DEFRA had notified that there were nests of Oak Processionary Moths in an oak tree at Morleys Green. TVBC's tree officer had explained the situation with dead nests such as these, which had been sprayed earlier in the season. Dead nests pose no risk of spreading the OPM moth. Also they only pose a risk to people if they are touched. Given that the tree and the area beneath its canopy were not accessible, the parish council left the nests in situ.

Telephone kiosk

4526. Cllr Julie Trotter reported that she and Cllr Ling would strip off the paint from the windows and exterior of the former telephone kiosk. She was seeking a contractor who could sandblast the interior with the kiosk in situ. Cllr Trotter would ask a contractor for an estimate of his day-rate.

Highways

- 4527. There was nothing to report on highway matters, as we had not had any communication from Hampshire County Council recently.

Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

- 4528. Vice Chairman Chris Ling reported that the next visit from the Lengthsman would be in October. The footway at Pound Lane and also the path across Smiths Meadow would be cleared.

Correspondence and Communications

- 4529. A resident had contacted the council about the usage and condition of a footpath in Ampfield Wood. They had reported it to Hampshire County Council, and noted that the same matter was still logged as outstanding, having been reported four years earlier.

Date of Next Meeting

- 4530. The next ordinary meeting would be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 14 October 2024.
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Chairman

Date

