

Minutes

Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council (Extraordinary): Monday 19 August 2024

Held at Ampfield Village Hall, 7:00pm to 8:05pm

Present

Members of Ampfield Parish Council:

Chairman Bryan Nanson
Vice Chairman Chris Ling
Cllr Martin Hatley
Cllr Jason Reeves
Cllr Graham Roads
Cllr Julie Trotter

Others

Kate Orange, Clerk/RFO

Apologies

4485. Apologies were received from Cllr Julian Jones.

Previous Meeting

4486. The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 08 July 2024 were agreed, and a copy was signed by the Chairman.

4487. Any matters arising from the previous meeting would be covered in the next Ordinary Meeting.

Declarations of Interest in Business on the Agenda for the Meeting

4488. No Councillor had any interest to declare in any of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

Burial Ground

4489. *It was proposed to accept the quotation from J N Landscapes Ltd for preparation and re-seeding of cleared grassed areas at the Burial Ground, £4,996 excluding VAT and welfare facility.*

4490. Cllr Graham Roads would manage the Burial Ground re-seeding project and would enquire as to whether the toilet at the church could be used by the contractor.

Pavilion PV electricity scheme

4491. Chairman Bryan Nanson introduced the scheme for PV electricity at the pavilion. The project was being considered in response to the opportunity to apply for an SSE grant to improve community resilience. The scope was for solar PV panels on the roof, to supply electricity directly and also to batteries for use later. Surplus electricity would be sold back to the network.

Vice Chairman Chris Ling clarified some points:

- The risk of cricket balls hitting a solar panel was low, as to date none had hit any of the windows or caused any damage to the pavilion.
- Two quotations were for all-black panels; we were not yet sure of the design of the panels on the third quotation.
- Since the panels were on an elevation facing away from the road, Conservation Area consent was not required.
- Contractors had been provided with details of the roof design, which they should have accounted for in their design.
- The project was intended to generate sustainable energy and also as part of the community resilience, providing electricity independent of the grid in case of power failure in the parish.

Four contractors visited the site and provided designs and quotations. These varied in the details and scope. Considerations included the following:

- Make and quantity of panels;
- Make, quantity and capacity of batteries;
- Whether to have a separate inverter;
- Whether Ampfield Parish Council would part-fund the project;
- Supplier of mains electricity / contract for export of electricity;
- Cost of maintenance and electrical testing;
- Whether SSE would permit a single phase system to be installed onto the existing 3-phase cable/meter.

4492. *It was proposed to proceed with an application to SSE for a grant to fund the installation of PV electricity at the pavilion.*
RESOLVED

4493. *It was proposed that, subject to being awarded a grant for the installation of a PV electricity system at the pavilion, the Council would provide £5,000 for associated costs. The details would be subject to a subsequent resolution.*
RESOLVED

4494. *For the application for a grant from SSE for PV electricity at the pavilion, it was proposed to delegate the selection of a suitable contractor and design, and the submission of the application, to the Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chairman.*
RESOLVED

Comment on Planning Application 24/01732/HRWS

4495. *For planning application 24/01732/HRWS; Application for Hedgerow Removal Notice for the removal of 525m of hedgerow to allow for the installation of critical public infrastructure; Rownhams Water Service Reservoir, Upper Toothill Road, Rownhams, it was proposed to comment as follows:*

- *No ecological data was available for two of the hedgerows;*
- *The EIA screening had not been completed therefore insufficient information was available for the planning authority to make a decision;*
- *Hedgerow removal should take place outside the bird nesting season;*
- *In order to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain, the reinstatement must result in either improved diversity of species, or greater quantity of habitat. This could not be gauged with incomplete EIA screening.*

RESOLVED

Date of Next Meeting

4496. The next ordinary meeting would be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 09 September 2024.

Chairman

Date