

PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

MINUTES OF THE HIGHWAYS AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH JULY 2023 AT NEWLANDS COMMUNITY HALL, NEWLANDS AVENUE, WATERLOOVILLE, HAMPSHIRE, PO7 3BX COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm

Members: Cllr A Berry (Chairman) (P) Cllr P Bennett (P)
Cllr A Kirby Cllr L Price (P)

Also, present Cllr David Crichton – Chairman of the Parish Council and Karen Seear - Clerk to the Council and one member of the public.

- 013/24H Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Kirby.
- 014/24H Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.
- 015/24H Minutes: The minutes from the Highways and General Purposes meeting held 1st June 2023 were received. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED by the councillors who were present at the previous meeting that the minutes of the Council meeting be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**
- 016/24H Public Session: One member of the public was in attendance of transcript of what transpired is appended to these minutes.
- 017/24H Outstanding Matters and Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.
- 018/24H Adoption Update: Cllr Crichton reported that the main update he had was regarding the on-going work to the entrance of Sickle Way. The road is currently closed while they finish the work. The Premier shop car park remains open, the owner had some concerns regarding losing customers during the closure. Taylor Wimpey is due to install bollards, due to this being outlined in the original planning application in 2005. Cllr Crichton encouraged everyone who has concerns regarding the closure to pass this information on to the clerk, who will collect and pass on comments to the relevant authority. **NOTED.** The correct socket for the bollards needs to be identified. It was suggested a key to the bollards remains in the parish office. Further updates will be reported to the council. **NOTED.** The Spine Road adoption is almost ready. A legal matter requires finalizing with WCC over the section 104 agreement. The work to the lampposts is still required, this has been outstanding for a number of years. Cllr Crichton stated he will chase for an update. Road traffic orders are required to be in place to restrict heavy goods vehicles. Difficulties regarding car parking were mentioned, this is dealt with further on in the meeting. The Chairman requested that Hampshire Highways be contacted upon adoption to ask for the required signage to be in place. **NOTED.**
- 019/24H Correspondence: Correspondence had been received from a resident in Wellington Park, she had concerns regarding car parking. The problem had been exacerbated during an event at one of the industrial units. She was also concerned for children playing outside around cars. All members discussed this and felt her concerns, but unfortunately there is nothing that the council can currently do regarding this matter. All District Councillors are aware as well as County Councillor Patricia Stallard. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the clerk write back to resident explaining the situation.** Correspondence had been received from a resident regarding the management company RMG. He had concerns over receiving value for money and these concerns are echoed by other residents with the same management company. Newlands PC are looking at taking over from management companies in the future. Cllr Crichton also recommends joining the Facebook group Home Owners Rights Network. It was also suggested that residents check their TP1 to ensure that they have the option to change their management companies should they wish to do so, which will help get the ball rolling on the matter. **NOTED.**

Correspondence had been received from a resident who had concerns regarding the closure of Sickie Wat. This correspondence is to be passed on to HCC and to also send to Holly Drury, C/Cllr Patricia Stallard, the Highways engineer and Cllr Anne Briggs at HBC.

It was **NOTED** that a patrol car had recently been in the area and is being used to observe the area for a study.

020/24H Newlands Parish Signage: This matter was due to be spoken about at the West of Waterlooville Forum. It was reported that the scheduled meeting for the West of Waterlooville Forum had been postponed. There is a query over the future of the forum, and the forum may need a reboot in a different format, ensuring that current issues are spoken about. It is thought that the forum plays an important part to the major development area, ensuring that both WCC and HBC are aware and informed of issues that affect both authorities. There unfortunately continues to be non-attendance from many HBC forum members. **NOTED.**

Welcome to the Parish of Newlands signs had been agreed in 3 locations in the MDA. It was suggested to establish whether there is a standard type of sign that HCC use. Once this has been identified then the matter should be passed to Full Council to agree funding. **NOTED.**

It was also mentioned that the sponsorship of the Asda roundabout company needs identifying, as the sponsorship money may be going to the wrong authority. **NOTED.**

021/24H Christmas Event: It was mentioned that the council may hold a similar lights switch-on to the previous year. Cllr Bennett suggested that a Christmas meal could be planned for the elderly residents. This could be carried out in partnership with the community group. It was also suggested that the Rotary group could help, and to write to them to check for their availability. **NOTED.** Grainger could be approached for sponsorship money. The matter should be discussed by Full Council and updates given at the next Highways and General Purposes committee. **NOTED.** It was also suggested that the fir tree planted in Wellington Park be moved as it is not currently planted in the best position. **NOTED.**

022/24H Update on Outstanding Issues:

023/24H Other reports: It was queried as to whether the first allotments will be ready? It was suggested that both the Amenities and H and GP committees cover allotments. It was also suggested that consideration be given to setting up a sub-committee for allotments to be covered at the next Full Council meeting. **NOTED.**

Grainger have contracted UKPC parking to enforce parking restrictions within the development. The council were completely unaware this was due to happen. This had caused some concern from a resident who is due to move out from her home, as it will be incredibly difficult to move if the removal van is not parked outside of her home. Currently there are no exceptions to the enforcement. Cllr Crichton has spoken to a representative at Grainger to explain the situation. It is hoped that a situation similar to the First Port situation in Horndean will not happen. An arrangement had been reached with Grainger, who've explained that they will pay any parking fines should the resident incur any. This is of course not a long term solution. The Chairman felt that the signs that have been placed by UKPC are illegal under the health and safety act. Grainger should be informed of this as soon as possible as they may face court action due to discrimination of disabled persons. **NOTED.** It was also suggested that should the council's van be used for work within the development, that a sign be placed within it informing UKPC that they are carting out work duties. **NOTED.** Cllr Bennett had spoken with another Grainger representative who informed her that any blue badge holders facing

fines will have their fines quashed. It was felt that the situation has been dealt with totally unsatisfactorily. Grainger should have listed exceptions for parking upon their appointment. The matter will be returned to at the next meeting. **NOTED.** This matter will also be raised at the next Grainger meeting, it will be questioned as to why the enforcement is development wide and not just within the school zone. It was asked whether the Bloor sales office have also been informed as the restrictions could affect customers. **NOTED.**

The recent traveller excursion was also spoken about. It is believed that travellers cut the lock and removed the latch. At the time of the meeting the travellers were still in-situ but the council had been informed that they will be gone on 14th July. The Chairman requested that WCC be asked to tidy, sanitize and clear the area of any rubbish. Notices informing the public that the area is hazardous should be put up in place until this has been carried out. **NOTED.**

The fire to the play area had damaged a great deal of equipment, the equipment is covered by WCC's insurance. The area also requires resurfacing. A walkaround with WCC representatives is scheduled for 18th July 2023. This will be a chance to raise outstanding snagging items, prior to the parish council receiving the land.

As the open space land adoption may not be far off, it was suggested that the council start the recruitment process for a ground's person. The matter will be taken to Finance and Personnel committee and Full Council for consideration. The due date of the allotments will also be useful in order for timing the commencement of the employment. **NOTED,**

The meeting closed at 9:13pm

The next meeting of the Highways and General-purpose Committee is scheduled for Thursday 24th August 2023 starting at 7.30pm.

Public Session – 13th July 2023

A member of the public wished to speak about the egress at Mirabelle Mall. He believes the buildings should not have been built where they currently stand. They block the view of the road which is a serious concern especially as the route is used by school children, he reported that there have already been two cases of school children being knocked over.

The member of the public was also concerned about the state of a couple of the retaining walls on properties in Laxton Leaze. Bloor who built the homes refuse to carry out the work. The tarmac is falling away as the work has not been carried out. The Chairman stated that he will visit the site and make a report with photos to pass on to the relevant authorities, as this is a health and safety concern. The TP1 that residents received states that all roads will be kept up to adoption standards. If this is the case then the matter can be passed on to the District Councillors who can take the matter to a higher level.

It is believed that building work errors are causing blocked drains. Again, the Chairman stated that he will visit the area and assess the situation. **NOTED.**