

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 25th JANUARY 2024 AT NEWLANDS COMMUNITY HALL, NEWLANDS AVENUE, WATERLOOVILLE, PO7 3BX COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm.

<u>Members:</u>	Cllr D Crichton (Chair)	(P)	Cllr O Barneveld	
	Cllr A Berry	(P)	Cllr A Carden	(P)
	Cllr A Kirby	(P)	Cllr P Bennett	(P)
	Cllr L Price	(P)	Cllr M Read	(P)
	Cllr C Brook	(P)		

Also present, C/Cllr Patrica Stallard, D/Cllr Neil Cutler and Karen Seear - Clerk to the Council and members of the public.

091/24C Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Barneveld and D/Cllr Langford-Smith.

092/24C Declarations of Interest: Cllr Bennett declared an interest as she is Chair of the Community Group.

093/24C Minutes:

- a) The minutes from the previous Full Council meeting held on 7th December 2023 had previously been circulated.
- b) Previous minutes to date: Cllr Carden wished to make an amendment to the previous minutes of the last Finance and Personnel committee meeting. **Upon this amendment it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that all minutes to date were a true and accurate record of business that was transacted and were duly signed.**

094/24C Public Participation: Several members of the public were in attendance. A transcript of the business that was transacted is appended to these minutes.

095/24C Matters arising and outstanding matters from Previous Minutes: Any matters arising will be dealt with throughout the meeting.

096/24C County and District Councillor Reports:

D/Cllr Cutler gave a verbal report. It is finance and budget setting time at Winchester City council. It is felt the council is in currently in a relatively strong position, finance wise and hope to remain stable for the next year or so. Budget papers will be produced on Monday 29th January. There are several pressures facing the council, a farer funding review may be due to take place, although this is uncertain the council is working on the basis that this will happen. He went on to speak about the changes to waste and recycling collections. The council is preparing for food waste collections. The vehicles are due to be ordered shortly, in the future the council hopes to use electric vehicles for collections. Fly tipping remains a problem everywhere. Although a 40% reduction had been reported, as well as several successful prosecutions. These prosecution cases are still backlogged. The WCC fly-tipping officer is doing a really good job. The use of covert CCTV cameras is starting to pay off. There is also a lot of pressure on finding the funds and the contractors to carry out tipping clear ups. He went on to mention an increase in homelessness which has meant a knock-on effect to the budget.

County Councillor Stallard had provided a written report, previously circulated. She spoke about the financial constraints currently felt by Hampshire County Council and the

cuts having to be made. It was queried whether the Waterlooville waste and recycling centre could be one of those to close? It was thought not as the centre is fairly new and efficient. The smaller/older sites such are more likely to face closure. A consultation is due to take place, and a survey can be found online regarding this. C/Cllr Stallard encouraged everyone to take part. Westminster has agreed to distribute £600 million to local government authorities, the share for Hampshire County Council is £10 million. Although this does help, the county council still faces a huge deficit. The county council have been using reserves where possible and doing all they can to keep going. The problem is countrywide. It is felt that by 2027 the county council will be on the crunch line if no further funding/help is received. Cllr Stallard then spoke about dementia and the costs to tax payers, the number of people with the condition is expected to rise by as much as 40%, due to people living longer. Hampshire County Council is helping the NHS to free-up beds in hospitals, by offering temporary care accommodation to the elderly when they are eligible to be discharged from hospital. The HCC accommodation will allow elderly patients to gain strength and care packages to be put together before the patient returns to their own home.

Cllr Stallard reported that the 20-mph speed limit report had been accepted by HCC. If a district/borough/parish wish to implement 20 mph speed limit zones they will need to self-fund and regulate/monitor it. **NOTED.** Cllr Berry asked if there was any news on the current flooding at the Asda roundabout. Cllr Stallard suggested contacting Cllr Anne Briggs at Havant Borough Council. **NOTED.**

Cllr Price spoke about the booking scheme that Hampshire Waste and recycling centre use, he asked for clarification on whether the booking system will remain in place? It will. He then congratulated the council on the scheme.

D/Cllr Read in his capacity as District Councillor gave a verbal report. He spoke regarding community involvement; every council may be expected to produce a report on this. The document will tell the public what their role is in the planning system. Cllr Read spoke about the 4 main car parks in Winchester City Centre, they are to receive £753k in a major works program. Financial constraints and cutbacks were also spoken about, meaning that things like CCTV may disappear and the knock-on effects of this may not be good.

D/Cllr Brook in her capacity as District Councillor gave a verbal report. A scrutiny meeting had taken place, following the budget papers. It is thought that Police and Crime figures may have come down, up to date figures are expected in March. Local police officers are returning to the beat. The Parish has a named Police officer.

Thanks were given to everyone who gave reports.

097/24C Parish Matters:

- (a) Developments and Adoptions: The Chairman gave an update; things are moving forwards with the Barratt/David Wilson land and the remedial repairs. A second meeting with Barratt's took place. Blanchard Wells are now onsite. All residents have received letters about the works. The work is expected to cause residents a lot of hassle. Everyday life will be affected, things like car parking, deliveries waste collections are all to be impacted. No arrangements have been made so far to assist with this. A temporary car park has been suggested. The works are due to go on until September 2024. In some areas the ground is having to be dug back to the substructure to remedy works. It was questioned how emergency services will access the area should they need to. Thanks were given to all those involved in setting up the meetings etc. C/Cllr Stallard gave particular thanks to Cllr Bennett for the way in which she handled the meeting and ensuring Barratts commit to the work. **NOTED.** The Parish Council are also grateful to Cllr Gwen Robinson with her assistance with Barratt's. A development in the Havant area is also reporting issues onsite with the company. Grainger report that they will not be allowing Barratt's back on site for further phases. **NOTED.** The next two phases for sale with Grainger are going through. There is progress

towards getting the last part of road adoption finalized. The section 104 agreement has been reached. Things are now moving forward, slowly.

HBC Land: There was very little to report as far as this area is concerned. Items will be raised at the next West of Waterloo forum meeting. An item of real concern is the Old Park Farm stream. Taylor Wimpey needs to be reminded that maintenance work is required, the SUDS appears to be blocked on Darnel Road. **NOTED.** Cllr Berry stated that the culvert is blocked, a representative from WCC is looking at clearing this. The Parish council may have responsibility for this in the future. Cllr Read suggested the party with responsibility be named on the contract for signing.

Bi-monthly Grainger meetings: A meeting is due shortly. The meetings are very useful to the council and there are positive moves forward as a result of these. The question of commuted sums and land transfers still needs actioning. A meeting will be held to discuss. **NOTED.**

098/24C Communications:

- a) Website: Cllr Bennett is currently researching website providers. She feels the current website is lacking in certain areas. **NOTED.**
- b) Correspondence: Correspondence had been received from Winchester City Council in regards to a response to their request to increase the number of councillors. Cllr Brook agreed to make contact with the Governance department at WCC to follow-up.

099/24C Outside Bodies:

Southern Parishes: Cllr Bennett gave a verbal report, written reports for outside bodies to be provided and circulated in advance of meetings in the future. **NOTED.** She will circulate her report to all councillors after this meeting. She mentioned that WCC are close to adopting the new code of conduct, and the council may like to look at the details of this. **NOTED.** Cllr Berry was also in attendance gave a verbal update, it was suggested that all of the southern parishes look at grounds maintenance and hold a meeting as an item regarding football pitches had arisen. This has no affect on this Parish council and the council have been used a model council for the forthcoming football/pavilion areas. He also reported that the Denmead MUGA had been approved and will go ahead. **NOTED.**

100/24C Financial Matters:

- a) Orders for Payment: Payments detailed on the orders for payment list. A typo was mentioned on the orders. This will be amended and the order re-circulated for approval. **NOTED.**

- 101/24C Media and communications committee:** Cllr Bennett had circulated a list of suggested actions for the committee, the list was **NOTED.** She heavily recommends all councillors having a separate councillor email address. She pointed out several new laws which had been introduced regarding websites. She hi-lighted some of the information which was missing. Cllr Bennett will circulate website provider details when available. **NOTED.** She went on to say that the Facebook page for Wellington Park states that it was set up by the council. So as to ensure the council represents the entire MDA, the page be changed. The council could also set up other social media pages. She spoke about having a space in the community group E-newsletter. She suggested coordinating with Grainger for articles etc. this will become easier once the new community development officer has started work with Grainger. It had previously been discussed that a hearing loop could be installed. The cost of which will be around £200 stated Cllr Bennett. Any other accessibility issues should also be addressed. The outside bin and baby change unit have been mentioned to Grainger and are in hand. **NOTED.**

Cllr Carden was asked to look at any outstanding/new policies required by the council. **NOTED.**

- 102/24C Amenities Storage/Office facility:** The clerk updated council stating that the containers are now in-situ. A few more items require attending to before they are ready to occupy. Internet access will also be required for staff working from here. **NOTED.** Cllr Berry asked whether the dropped gate had been attended to? It was also noted that the van had had a flat battery and required mechanical assistance. It was suggested that the council look at breakdown assistance for this vehicle and any other future vehicles. It was questioned whether breakdown cover is included in the lease of the van? The item will be covered by the Amenities committee. **NOTED.**
- 103/24C Events:**
Cllr Bennett had circulated a list of suggested events and also welcomed input from other councillors/staff. The events will repeat every year and will aid planning purposes. It was questioned whether the council want to mark the D-Day Anniversary? It was thought that the local event will be marked in Southwick. There may be little need to mark this. It was then pointed out that the development is home to some military families. C/Cllr Stallard stated that Southwick Revival was indeed marking the D-Day anniversary and if the Parish council want to get involved, they would be welcome. Guided walks are to take place through Creech Woods and there will be a substantial display of WW2 memorabilia on display. The planning is in early stages. Cllr Stallard will mention that the Parish council wishes to be involved. **NOTED.** The clerk will contact the revival team for more information. **NOTED.**
- 104/24C Internet Access for community hall:** The need for this was agreed. Prices etc. will be sourced, circulated and discussed. Depending on the range of the router, more than one server may be required. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to ask the clerk to look into internet providers and to bring back costs to the F and P committee.**
- 105/24C Agenda Items:** It had been suggested that public participation be featured on the agenda earlier on in the agenda. It was thought that its position is still suitable. The Chair of the meeting is able to use their discretion whenever they feel necessary during meetings. 15 minutes is the standard amount of time for public participation. **NOTED.** A member of the public had made the comment that the agenda is not always clear. The clerk will ensure all items are explained appropriately.
- 106/24C Update on outstanding issues:** Cllr Bennett mentioned that nominations for the Mayor awards had been circulated amongst councillors and she asked if anyone was going to nominate? Some members suggested that they may want to nominate Cllr Bennett for her work with the community group. **It was RESOLVED by a majority to make the nomination.**
- 107/24C Other Reports:** No other reports.

The meeting closed at pm
The next meeting of Full Council will be held on 7th March 2024.

Please note minutes of meetings are published as soon as possible on the website to help residents. However, they do not become the formal record of the meeting until agreed or otherwise at the next meeting. Therefore, you should always check to see whether any amendments have been made.

The first member of the public spoke about the Blue Star development land. They queried whether this had been approved? The application is a Havant Borough Council planning application, only a small part of the land lays in Winchester land. Comments should be made to Havant Borough Council and their Ward Councillors. The member of the public was very upset that the land had been cleared in such a way that they feel it will be detrimental to wildlife, who have made their homes here. Cllr Carden stated that although he finds the actions deplorable, the landowner has the right to carry out what they need to. There is little that the Parish council can do regarding this. Another member of the public asked if the council will do anything? The council can pass on comments etc. This is the only power they have. Cllr Read reiterated the need for the Joint Planning committee which he had been requesting a meeting of for quite some time now. The purpose of the committee is to discuss planning applications jointly as they effect both authorities. The member of the public was urged to pass on comments or to attend meetings at Havant Borough Council.

The Chairman stated that this parcel of land has been earmarked for development for some time. Grainger do try and work alongside wildlife as much as possible within the development and have done some fantastic work encouraging wildlife. The river restoration work etc. He then stated that he believes no decision has been made by the Borough council yet, an environmental report had been carried out. D/Cllr Cutler mentioned that if a rare species of wildlife, orchids etc. are found in the area, then it could be protected by an order of protection. **NOTED.** It is not illegal to move badgers if required.

Another resident wished to speak about the increase in the number of HGVs in the MDA. The Chairman responded to say that the phases are being developed on. All HGV traffic should be entering the development via the Asda roundabout. The planners are aware of the problem and are monitoring it. The member of the public then asked if the roads were any closer to adoption? Adoption of Grainger Street is in hand and there are hopes this will happen shortly. While the roads are not adopted, Grainger have responsibility. Individual developers will remain responsible for their internal roads. The Parish Council has installed a speed monitor and will be placing another soon, Once the roads are adopted it is hoped that Hampshire Highways will enforce traffic. More yellow lines could appear in the development.

Another member of public asked regarding an update for the adoption of Newlands Play Park. Cllr Brook replied to say that the repair works after the fire caused by vandalism had been finished. WCC are dragging their feet regarding the outstanding work and the Parish council won't and shouldn't take on the area until this is complete. The Equipment was installed by WCC. Norse maintain some of the area as well as WCC. The D/Cllr's will chase for further updates and the matter will be spoken about at the next Amenities committee.