

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18TH APRIL 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	(P)
	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			

Also present, C/Cllr Patricia Stallard, D/Cllr Paula Langford-Smith, D/Cllr Chris Chamberlain and Karen Seear - Clerk to the Council and members of the public.

127/24C Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Brook.

128/24C Declarations of Interest: Cllr Read declared an interest as he is a Ward Councillor for Winchester City Council. Cllr Bennett declared an interest as she is Chair of the Community Group.

129/24C Public Participation: Several members of the public were in attendance. No members of the public spoke during the public session.

130/24C Minutes:
The minutes from the previous Full Council meeting held on 21st March 2024 had previously been circulated. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that all minutes to date were a true and accurate record of business that was transacted and were duly signed.**

131/24C Matters arising and outstanding matters from Previous Minutes: Cllr Read queried what had happened regarding street naming, as this was discussed at the last meeting. Cllr Berry stated that the suggested names had been sent to WCC. He has asked members of the Highways and General Purposes committee as well as residents to draw up lists of new street names, the names of which should fall into relevant local criteria. **NOTED.** The new street naming policy should be available shortly, this offers nationwide guidance to local authorities and will stop house builders/developers using their own names. **NOTED.**

132/24C County and District Councillor Reports: C/Cllr Stallard had provided a written report for the Annual Parish Assembly on the 11th April, this was still relevant to this meeting. D/Cllr Langford-Smith provided a verbal report. The new school within the development had been given approval and will cost just under £4million pounds to build. The naming of the school is yet to be decided. It is hoped the name will be chosen in consultation with Newlands Parish council. The clerk was asked to chase the matter if the council has not heard anything with regards to this. **NOTED.**
As the pre-election period is underway, there was not much else to report.
D/Cllr Chamberlain gave a verbal report, again as it is purdah not much to report other than to mention the Royal England prosperity fund which is now open for applications. Anyone interested is encourage to apply for grant funding, the funding covers a broad range. **NOTED.**

133/24C Parish Matters:

(a) Developments and Adoptions: The Chairman gave a verbal update, the recent Grainger meeting had taken place, the clerk had previously circulated her report. A lot of focus is going into having the main roads through the development adopted. 2 further building phases are in progress.

Redrow work had not yet begun, and no work had begun either at the Bargate Homes development, it is assumed this is still pending planning permission. A discussion then took place regarding the offer from WCC for the council to partly adopt an area of land at Newlands Walk, including the play park. This will only be accepted as long as all snagging issues have been rectified. There are still several outstanding. Cllr Berry mentioned issues with flooding to some of the footpaths. He suggested another walkaround take place. The grass is very long in some place, big ruts are being left in the ground by tractors. These issues have been raised, an agreement on how the area will be maintained requires determination. The Chairman suggested that the council starts the adoption process, this area of land is unaffected by the outstanding section 104 agreement. The RFO is to put in place the required steps in order to receive the commuted sums. Cllr Read proposed that the council start the process of handover. **It was then RESOLVED by a majority that the clerk contact WCC and accept the initial request, beginning negotiations for the handover process.** This matter will be dealt with further by the Amenities Committee. **NOTED.**

- (b) HBC Land: The Chairman gave a verbal update. HBC are still refusing to take on the land they are obliged to do so. There may be a change after the May elections regarding this. The issue with the trees which have been planted over the sewage easements is still yet to be rectified. C/Cllr Stallard suggested making enquires of the relevant County Councillor in Havant, pressure could be put on to have the work completed, through the environmental agency. The clerk was asked to write to Cllr Anne Briggs regarding this matter. **NOTED.**
- (c) Bi-monthly Grainger meetings: There were no comments or questions regarding the written report from the clerk regarding the recent meeting. A meeting with Community First will be arranged to discuss working with the community group. **NOTED.**

134/24C **Communications:**

- a) Website: Cllr Bennett gave a verbal update. The site map she had compiled was received well by all. The current website will be updated. She is currently working on obtaining three quotes for web services from different website providers. She is ensuring that the providers will have the website compliant with the latest accessibility guideline and the new WCAG status which is due to be implemented shortly. A discussion then took place regarding newsletters. Grainger are looking at providing the next newsletter over the summer. The community officer has asked for input from both the Parish council and Newlands Community Group. The question was asked that as Grainger are only prepared to deliver the newsletter to the Berewood side, how could the council ensure residents on the Wellington Park side receive it? A budget has been allowed for newsletters; this could be used. **NOTED.**
- b) Correspondence: Correspondence had been received from the community officer at Winchester City Council regarding a safe spaces project. It was suggested that perhaps a monthly coffee morning could be set up at the hall. More information and guidance are required. The council will go back to the community officer and ask what we could do. C/Cllr Stallard thought this was a great idea, she encouraged the council to try and ensure men realize the safe spaces are also available to them and to encourage men to attend, these events are often not considered by men and more awareness should be given. Cllr Bennett wondered whether the care home at Wellington Vale could be a good venue for the safe spaces, as there are more opening times available at different times of day. It was suggested that the council speak to Wellington Vale and promote their other sessions. **NOTED.**

135/24C **Outside Bodies:** Written reports had been provided from all representatives to the outside bodies. There were no comments or questions regarding these.

136/24C Social Housing: Cllr Bennett, also Chair of Newlands Community Group wished to raise this matter with the council. She informed everyone that the Grainger Trust are looking to sell all their social housing on the development. There are no plans to build future social housing. The sale of which has gone out to open tender. Under the shared ownership scheme, no resident has yet bought a home in the development. There has been a lot of speculation between residents taking place on social media. Cllr Bennett wanted to ensure everyone was aware of this by raising it with the council. There may be concerns from residents in the future. The Chairman spoke about the various social housing providers currently within the development. Some are better than others. He suggested that future planning applications including social housing could be managed by WCC and not Grainger themselves. It was suggested that the council write to the Grainger Trust and explain the problems that have been faced with the other social housing providers, the council is keen to see whoever takes over will keep their areas of responsibility tidy. **NOTED.** Cllr Read suggested that the current obligations to provide a percentage of social housing be checked. He believes this is 40%. Cllr Bennett explained the sale of the homes will affect 300 properties. Cllr Carden suggested that the council ask to be kept in the loop with this information from the Grainger Trust. The Chairman queried whether the Trust are selling their social housing homes at the other development in Wellesley? This information was **NOTED** and any updates will be provided once received. Cllr Price mentioned that grass cutting continues to be a problem within many areas.

137/24C Financial Matters:

- a) Orders for Payment: Payments detailed on the orders for payment list 1 was received. **It was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to approve the orders for payment.**
- b) AGAR 2024/25: The clerk has been working with the internal auditor for this year's audit. The statements provided were correct pending some extra work to ensure the asset register is correct. The clerk will report back at a future meeting. **NOTED.**

139/24C Media and communications committee: This item had previously been covered.

140/24C Amenities Storage/Office facility: This item had previously been covered.

141/24C Events: Cllr Bennett had identified some events that will be held in conjunction with Newlands Community Group. She queried whether the NHS may be interested in holding clinics at the hall. Blood donation, baby care, diabetes services etc. The clerk was asked to follow this up.

142/24C Internet Access for community hall: Cllr Price had been working very hard providing his assistance with setting up the internet for users to have access at the hall as well as a connection for staff working in the compound opposite the hall. His document had previously been circulated to all. He is currently working on how to amplify the signal. Thanks were given to Cllr Price. **NOTED.**

143/24C Other Reports: Cllr Bennett wished to mention that the councils' noticeboards are out of date and could do with a clean-up. The noticeboard in Wellington Park is not fit for use. The Warden was asked to report on all noticeboards in the development and come back with recommendations. **NOTED.**

A query was raised trees which have been planted in the development, but have since died. Who will replace these? Is there a breach of planning if these trees are not replaced and who's responsibility is it to replace them? Cllr Read answered that it is the responsibility of whoever put the planning application in to replace them. The trees need to be in place for a year or two before it can be judged as to whether they will require replacing. This will be raised the next meeting with Grainger. **NOTED.** Cllr Bennett thought that a map, noting the trees would be useful.

The question over having an external defibrillator was raised again. It was queried whether the care homes have defibrillators available if necessary? This item will be raised with Grainger at the next meeting. The match funding award scheme has now ceased for applications.

The meeting closed at 9:12pm

The next meeting of Full Council will be the Annual Council meeting held on 30th May 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.