



MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22nd JULY 2021, MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

Present: Cllr J Channing (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Barnett (Vice Chairman), Cllr P Barnett, Cllr G Jenkins & Cllr J Millns.

In attendance: Heather Bourner - Clerk
Cllr David Drew – Hampshire County Council
Cllr Alison Johnston – Test Valley Borough Council
No members of public were in attendance.

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Simmonds.

Public Participation

2) There were no members of public present.

Declarations of Interest

3) There were no declarations of interests.

Planning

4) The following decisions by TVBC were noted: None
Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed: None

5) County and Borough Councilors' Report –

HCC David Drew – gave details of his past experience as a Borough and newly elected County Councillor. He said he is very keen to work closely with Parish Councils in any way he can. He gave some details about Hampshire County Council budgets and the specific areas in which these are predominantly spent. He encouraged the use of the HCC 'report a problem' web site for potholes and finally confirmed Councillor grants can now be applied for online.

TVBC Cllr Johnstone - confirmed that Mid Test Matters has recently been circulated. She said TVBC engagement officers were on hand to give advice if needed now that things are starting to return to normal. Work has begun to implement a revised Borough waste strategy which will include revisions to waste collections introducing food waste collections and more household recycling. The plans are for this to be introduced in 2023 which will mean more receptacles for each household.

Finally, she confirmed the Climate Change Forum is still working and an update will be circulated in September. There are many initiatives being discussed and possible grants available.

National Trust Report

6) No representative of the National Trust was present. The current General Manager is understood to be on long term sick leave however there is a possibility that she may return at the end of July, in the meantime Cllr Channing will try to establish another contact.

Minutes

7) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 6th May were agreed unanimously as a correct record. These will be signed by the Chairman.

8) Road repairs, potholes & lengthsman

Cllr Simmonds was absent but sent the following report:

Hampshire Highways contractors' have now put the new salt bin in Hatt Lane in the correct location outside Trokes Cottage.

Hampshire Highways has agreed the request to clean out various blocked road drains on the B3084 in the parish. This includes those filled with tar and chippings when the B3084 through Mottisfont was surface-dressed a few months ago.

Hampshire Highways have filled in quite a number of potholes in the parish but there is still some outstanding work to be done including those on the B3084 just south of Mottisfont and Dunbridge Station level crossing and near the Mill Arms. The situation will continue to be monitored.

It is not yet clear whether the scheme to resurface and re-kerb the stretch of footway alongside the B3084 opposite Hatt Terrace has been selected for funding in the current financial year. It is estimated that it will cost £20,000 to do this work and it has to meet criteria set by HCC as the footway is part of the public highway.

Parish lengthsman work: the wooden seat in the bus shelter opposite Dairy Cottage has been replaced and vegetation strimmed around the village nameplates in both Mottisfont and Dunbridge, along with cleaning dirty signage. Work will begin shortly to strim back vegetation growing over the roadside footway between the River Dun and the lay-by at Barley Hill. Overgrown vegetation will also be cut back on the Mottisfont section of footway alongside the B3084 on the northside of the River Dun along with the verges on either side of Hatt Lane (Mottisfont Millennium Walk)

9) Traffic speed indicator

The Parish Council had discussed traffic speed indicators in the past and Cllr Milns had researched speed monitoring devices. He said it was possible to hire a device that collected data and would identify what sort of traffic passes but does not have any visual display. Cllr Channing highlighted the issues with the volume of traffic using the B3084, its speed, and the number of HGVs using the route. He said pedestrians could not walk along this road as there was no footpath and it was simply not safe. Cllr Drew was asked what evidence is required at county level that might influence safety work to be carried out? He confirmed that statistics of accidents where death or serious injury had occurred (the ksi index) would be a significant factor.

After some discussion, Councillors felt that they would need further discussion with Hampshire Highways before investing in any device. The key question was whether Hampshire would take notice of traffic monitoring undertaken by the parish.

Cllr Channing also highlighted the issue with outstanding work at the gated signs on Barley Hill. The requested red road surface marking was no longer available and the Parish Council had asked HCC to proceed with road markings only and to refund the payment made for the surfacing work. Cllr Drew agreed to look into this matter on behalf of the Parish Council.

Clerk's Report

10) The Clerk reported as follows:

A revised data protection policy, data breach policy, complaints policy & freedom of information scheme publication had been circulated. These were considered and formally adopted.

Cllr Mrs. J Barnett and the Clerk are continuing to review other policies that require updates.

Minutes for Mottisfont Parish Council for years from 1932 to 1996 have now been deposited to Hampshire County archives. The Clerk has those from 1997.

It had been found that parish bank accounts were still registered by the TSB in the name and address of previous Clerks. This has now been corrected and all missing statements held by the previous Clerk recovered.

The Clerk asked all Councillors to complete up to date acceptance of office documents and GDPR consent documents.

Finance

11) Balances in the bank accounts were noted as:

30/06/2021:

TSB Charity account £5591.84

TSB Business Instant £11576.01

Payments Resolved: that the following payments be approved and online transactions agreed

H Bourner salary July	£249.95
HMRC	£62.48
H Bourner expenses	£20.00

Retrospective Came & Co Insurance	£531.86
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Advance payments to agree Clerks salary August	£249.95
HMRC	£62.48

Accounts and audit return year ended 31st March 2021

The audit exemption certificate has been submitted and acknowledged. There will be no charge to the Parish Council for audit this year.

12) Grant for grass cutting at burial grounds

The Clerk confirmed she had received a request for funding from the Parochial Church Council toward grass cutting. She has asked for confirmation that this is for costs incurred at the cemetery as legislation supports Parish Council expenditure on this, rather than the churchyard. Confirmation is awaited. Cllrs agreed that subject to this confirmation a grant of £500 would be made in line with funds set aside in the budget for this purpose.

13) Housing Needs Survey

Cllr Channing reported on the findings of the recent housing needs survey carried out by TVBC. 150 questionnaires were sent out and 42 were returned. The majority of respondents supported some additional housing development in the parish and about two-thirds thought it should be affordable. The Parish Council agreed that the full report can be placed on the parish website when it has been finalised by TVBC.

14) Items to carry forward

None

15) Correspondence

There were no items of correspondence.

16) Items for the next agenda

Refund for resurfacing work at Barley Hill gates

Any Other Business

17) Cllr P Barnett confirmed that the bus committee has met and agreed to recommence the service from 1st July. This will be twice a week to Romsey, once a week to Salisbury, and once per month to either Southampton, Winchester or Andover. He confirmed drivers were available and finances were currently healthy

Cllr Mrs J Barnett said she would like to proceed with TVBC's planting of an oak tree initiative to remember those who lost their lives to the Covid-19 pandemic and to gratefully recognise all the many volunteers who gave their time and support to help others. The Clerk will register an interest.

Cllr P Barnett said the notice board from outside the village hall is undergoing repair and would be re-erected in due course.

Date of next meeting

18) Thursday 23rd September 7.30pm at Mottisfont Village Hall