

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Ampfield on Monday, 11th March 2019 commencing at 7pm.

PRESENT: Bryan Nanson (Chairman) – Presiding
Allan Clark, Pete Edwards, Julian Jones, Martin Hatley,
Graham Roads, David Stevens and Julie Trotter

2840 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Margaret Rothwell.

2841 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 11th February 2019, having been circulated previously, were confirmed by the Meeting and signed by the Chairman.

2842 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no Matters Arising which were not covered by items on the agenda.

2843 Declarations of Interest

Julie Trotter declared a personal interest in Morleys Green, and also in the Village Hall, as she was a Trustee and Member of the Committee.

2844 Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

2845 Financial Matters

2845.1 Accounts for payment

It was proposed by Julian Jones and seconded by Graham Roads, that the following accounts be paid:

<u>Cheques to be signed at the meeting:</u>	£ (inc VAT)
TVBC management of SLR sign July 2018-June 2019	886.00
Ampfield VH - cleaning pavilion & allotments July-Dec 2018	530.80
Donation to Messenger magazine	60.00 *
National Allotment Society - subs renewal	66.00 *

Ampfield Parochial Church Council - Burial Ground admin fees	200.00	
Community Transport - dial-a-ride	200.00	*
CBA Trees - decay investigation on Beech T1160	<u>474.00</u>	*
	<u>2,416.80</u>	

* authorized at the meeting

Payments made between meetings

February salary D Matthews	612.64
February payments HMRC	175.79
Redington Home Services - PAT testing pavilion equipment	32.40
JN Landscapes - installation of 6 Morleys /Allotment signs	586.80
CBA Trees - H & S audit woodland	2,280.00
Eon electricity pavilion - 21 February 2019 D/D	34.26
NEST pensions payment February 2019 - D/D	56.44
Calor Gas standing charge 28 February 2019 - D/D	<u>17.99</u>
	<u>3,796.32</u>

Council confirmed and approved the cheques and payments made between meetings. Council authorised payments to National Allotment Society, and donations to the Messenger magazine and to the Dial-a Ride service. Changes to the structure and address of the Dial-a-Ride service had meant that a previous donation cheque had not been cashed. The Clerk would establish the current contact details. It was noted that this was the last annual payment to TVBC for the SLR service as it would transfer to a private contractor. Council approved the one month extension to end July 2019. Receipts for the month of February 2019 were £7,587.85 due mainly to a VAT refund of £7,000. Bank balances on 9th March 2019 stood at £121,651.84 in total. Within that the Nationwide account, which was intended for the maintenance of open spaces at Morleys, stood at £66,806.64. Council reviewed expenditure against budget. Once payments to the year-end had been made, and the reserves transferred, expenditure would be close to predicted outturn.

2845.2 Assets – replacement notice board

Council had approved the purchase of a new double bay notice board for the site on the A3090. With installation, the cost would be £1,472,80, two thirds of which would be covered by TVBC funds identified by Martin Hatley. This meant that Council would pay the remaining £501.80. It was agreed that Council would pay for a replacement brass plaque in memory of Joan Cornwell, a former Council Chairperson, which had been destroyed when the old board at the School had been removed.

2845.3 Transfer to reserves

Council formally agreed the transfer to reserves at the year-end of £4,000 to General Contingencies, £20,000 to the Recreation Ground Fund and £4,000 to Election Costs.

This would re-instate the reserves which were used the previous 2 years to help fund the construction of the pavilion.

2846 Ampfield Recreation Ground

2846.1 Car Park Project

The Chairman referred to the agreed carpark project costs, expected sources of funding and the Morleys commuted funds. Council had been advised that the Leader grant of just under £20,000 had been awarded. The grant would not be paid until completion of the project. The offer had to be accepted by 18th March or would be withdrawn. Council considered the implications of accepting the grant and of the need to provide match funding in advance. The short term cash need would be over £53,000 which was considered too great a pressure on Council finances. Council agreed to decline the Leader grant. There had been positive feedback from the failed Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) bid. Council would now submit another bid, this time for the whole project of demolition of old changing rooms, a new, re-sited playground and a car park, in early June 2019 with a decision expected in December 2019. In anticipation of this, Council agreed that the Chairman draw up and issue an Invitation to Tender for the playground replacement.

2846.2 Site Security

Martin Hatley advised that a metal post was being painted prior to installation at the rear of the White Horse carpark to inhibit unauthorised access to the Recreation Ground.

2846.3 Ground maintenance matters

The Chairman thanked Julie Trotter for her hard work in getting the new pavilion signs designed and installed. A report of moles would be referred to the pest controller. It was noted that minor repairs to the fence and posts around the playground would be addressed. Council had been made aware that some dog walkers using the Recreation Ground were not picking up after their pet and that others had had to do it for them. An item reminding people of their responsibilities had been placed in the Messenger magazine and Council would include a reference to it in the annual report which would go to all households.

The Clerk advised Council of the rates being charged for the new ground maintenance contract from TVBC for the 2019/20 financial year. The contract had only arrived that morning and a decision was required within 11 days. TVBC had reverted to charging for the full quoted amount rather than the work completed. The overall contract was approx 1% more than the previous year but this had been achieved by a reduction in frequency of gang mowing. As Council had always found the ground maintenance team helpful, flexible and reliable they agreed to renew the contract but the Clerk would write to TVBC expressing disappointment at the way the contract renewal had been handled. Council would also consider going out to tender the following year.

2847 Village Design Statement(VDS) – update

After many months of following the process closely and receiving good feedback on the revised draft of the VDS, an objection from one department in TVBC had delayed its formal adoption. This had been very disappointing and wholly unexpected but the VDS Steering Group was working closely with TVBC officers to resolve the issues and it was still the intention to publish the VDS in mid-2019.

2848 Highways

2848.1 Community Funded Initiative

An application had been made under the Community Finance Initiative Programme to take forward the project on traffic calming along the A3090 through the Village. This had been the only route open following the transfer of the project from TVBC to Highways whose main focus was on accident rates and their severity. Ampfield's scheme would be considered in the 2020 programme. It was hoped that some proposals would be available to share with parishioners at the Parish Assembly.

2848.2 Speed Limit Reminder Sign (SLR)

TVBC would not manage the Speed Limit Reminder Sign (SLR) beyond July 2019. Contract negotiations continued with an experienced operator with a view to him taking over the management of the SLR. Pete Edwards would prepare the contract for Council approval in April.

2848.3 Knapp Lane

Yellow lines restricting parking outside the School had been painted during the February half term holidays. Council was not aware of any specific comments about it from local residents. Following representations made to the Leader of HCC, the Chairman and Pete Edwards were to meet on 12th March with representatives of Hampshire County Council and Ampfield School to try to find a way forward on the parking problem.

2849 Chapel Wood

2849.1 American Airmen Anniversary

Work had started on the memorial service for the 5 American Airmen who died when their Cessna Bobcat crashed into the woods to the north of St Mark's Church on 2 July 1944. The Revd. Ashdown had agreed to lead the service and the re-dedication of the memorial to the Airmen. It was planned that this would be followed by light refreshment in St Mark's room. All parishioners were welcome to attend. Invitations would include representatives of the American Embassy, the Mayor of Test Valley and the 2 persons

who uncovered artifacts from the crash many years after the incident and worked to have it formally recognised and remembered.

2849.2 Maintenance

Working parties continued to meet monthly but there were a number of one-off jobs that required machinery and professional help. Council agreed that quotes should be sought to clear the Rhododendron from the rear of the Burial Ground, remove the stumps and seed the area. It was also agreed that quotes should be sought to build a path down the slope at the west end of St Mark's towards the pond, clearing Rhodo stumps as necessary, and also to rebuild the dipping platform. It was agreed that posts and materials be purchased to repair the perimeter fence.

2849.3 Burial Ground

A quote had been sought from Cullen Memorial Services to clean and re-point the WW1, WW2 and American Airmen memorials and to re-paint the enamel characters. A quote had also been sought to similarly clean the fountain at the bottom of the path up to St Mark's. As this was specialist work, and Cullen came highly recommended by a local Parish, it was agreed that sole sourcing was appropriate. Cllr Roads would take this forward once satisfied about the methods to be used. It was also agreed that any work needed to clear and improve the consecrated ground around the American Airmen memorial should be undertaken before the memorial ceremony.

2850 Elections

Closing date for nominations was Wednesday, 3rd April 2019. Forms had to be handed in, not posted, at Test Valley Borough Council Offices in Andover. Appointments could be made to see Electoral Services staff who would review the forms for completeness. The Chairman and the Clerk were attending the Offices on 29th March and would deliver nominations papers. Forms were available electronically. The new Council would first meet on 13th May 2019.

2851 Annual Report and Parish Assembly

Council agreed the quote from DEK Graphics to print the annual report. Councillors were asked to submit any outstanding entries as soon as possible. The intention was to deliver the annual report, after the elections, from 4th May 2019 onwards,

2852 Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders

Council noted that the current method of financial and practical support for the website could no longer continue. A new host for the website would have to be found. Provision had been made in the budget for a new provider. Julian Jones and the Chairman would take this forward. There had been power cuts in the parish in the previous 2 weeks; some of them had been quite lengthy in certain areas of the village and had caused damage to domestic appliances. Scottish and Southern Energy maintained a register of whose thought to be vulnerable or in need of extra support

during power cuts. Council agreed that the scheme should be more widely known. Leaflets would be made available for the Café and at the Parish Assembly. A note would be included in the annual report.

2853 Correspondence and Communications

The Clerk reminded Council about the Great British Spring Clean being promoted by Keep Britain Tidy. It was agreed that the notice should be re-issued for Councillors to consider.

2854 Test Valley Borough Council

There was nothing to report.

2855 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Monday 8th April 2019. The Parish Assembly would be held on Monday 20th May 2019.

2856 Closure

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Chairman.....

Date.....