

Greatham Parish Council
Minutes of Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 9th March 2022, 8pm

Present Cllr T Butler, Cllr T Godby, Cllr S Harris, Cllr M Rodbert (Chair), Cllr O Rook

Also present Cllr Phillip Davies, District Councillor
5 members of the public

Absent Jane Ives, Parish Clerk (minutes taken by Cllr S Harris in her absence)

21.270 Chairman's Announcements: Cllr Rodbert welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those residents who had recently organised a collection for Ukraine at the village hall.

21.271 Apologies for absence: Cllr A Crick, Cllr S Driver

21.272 Declarations of Interests: None.

21.273 Council Meeting Minutes: It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th February 2022. **Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Godby.**

21.274 Update on actions arising from previous meetings: The council noted updates on current actions and the updated list is at Appendix 1.

21.275 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Davies presented his report (Appendix 2).

21.276 County Councillor's Report: The report was noted (Appendix 3).

21.277 The Chair adjourned the meeting for Public Questions:

A member of the public asked whether the verges at the junction of Petersfield Road/Longmoor Road could be planted with wildflowers. Cllr Harris confirmed that this was already planned.

A member of the public asked whether a dropped kerb installed in Bakers Field was sanctioned by Highways and it was confirmed that it was.

A member of the public asked whether the council had received a response from Highways regarding driving on the verges.

Meeting reconvened

21.278 Clerk's Report: The report was noted (Appendix 4).

21.279 Financial Report: The Clerk reported the financial records as at 28th February 2022 as follows:

Receipts 1st February to 28th February 2022

PayPal	£	0.01
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Balances as at 28th February 2022

Current Account	£	4,139.50
Deposit Account		£30,248.84
Total at bank		£34,388.34

Earmarked Funds held

CIL fund	£	8,229.00
Community Engagement	£	500.00
Tree works	£	500.00
S106 project	£	4,802.00
CFI Scheme	£	1,000.00
Total Earmarked Funds		£15,031.00

General Reserves Balance	£19,537.34	(total at bank less earmarked funds)
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21.280 Payment Schedule: It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:
Proposed: Cllr Rodbert. Seconded: Cllr Rook.

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	VAT	Total
		PAYMENTS MADE			
11/02/22	Hampshire County Council	Cultivation licence	£133.00	£0.00	£133.00
25/02/22	HMRC	Tax/NI liability mth 11	£188.62	£0.00	£188.62
25/02/22	Clerk	Salary mth 11	£676.76	£0.00	£676.66
28/02/22	Clerk	Repayment of expenses	£217.56	£30.23	£247.79
		PAYMENTS TO BE MADE			
02/03/22	Headley Parish Council	SLR deployments 2021/22	£295.30	£59.06	£354.36
05/03/22	Parish Online	Subscription fee	£75.00	£15.00	£90.00
		TOTALS	£1,586.24	£104.29	£1,690.53

21.281 The following planning applications, that sit outside the parish boundary were noted:

- a) **APP/M1710/C/21/3288365: Enforcement appeal - Land at Stairs Hill, Empshott**
- b) **SDNP/22/00850/TEL: Telephone mast, Longmoor Road**
- c) **Apple Pie Depot, Longmoor Road**

Cllr Rook will write a briefing paper regarding the Apple Pie application. The Clerk is currently arranging a meeting with the developer and dates will be circulated in due course.

21.282 Communication with residents: It was **RESOLVED** to produce an electronic and paper newsletter 3 times per year (approximately April, August & November) to be delivered to every household. The opportunity to use neighbourhood reps to help with deliveries would be explored. **Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Godby.**

21.283 Old Church Strategy Working Group Terms of Reference: It was **RESOLVED** to approve terms of reference for the working group (Appendix 5).

21.284 Old Church maintenance works: It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Anstey & Stone to carry out maintenance works as per their quotation at a total cost of £20,024. It was further agreed that all works categorised A in the Conditions Report would be prioritised for work up to the maximum of the budget of £14,029. It was agreed to delegate authority to the Clerk to work with the contractor to prioritise the A works. All items marked B in the Conditions Report would be brought back to council at a later date.
Proposed: Cllr Godby. Seconded: Cllr Butler.

*It was **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting by 30 minutes as 1.5 hours had been reached.*

21.285 Telephone box: It was **RESOLVED** to approve retrospective costs from David Redman of storage of £62 and ongoing storage of the phone box at a cost of £1 per day. It was further agreed that the Clerk should write to David Redman to thank him for his help in both moving and storing the phone box.
Proposed: Cllr Butler. Seconded: Cllr Rook.

21.286 Telephone box: It was **RESOLVED** that the phone box should be placed on Longmoor Road and the council pays the fees of £900. District Cllr Davies would investigate if it was possible to get the fees waived and he further offered to investigate funding the fees through a grant. **Proposed: Cllr Rook. Seconded: Cllr Butler.**

21.287 Glover Landscape Review Consultation: It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Rodbert would work with the Clerk in order to produce a response to the consultation by 12th April 2022.
Proposed: Cllr Rodbert. Seconded: Cllr Rook.

21.288 Reports from representatives of Organisations, Outside Bodies, Working Parties, Leads & Groups: None.

21.289 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13th April 2022, 8pm.

The meeting closed at 9.38pm.

Appendix 1: Action List

Minute ref	Action	Who
2020/21	Bridleway 11 funding – discuss funding improvements at a council meeting potentially sourcing from Parish Partnership Fund	Clerk/All
2020/21	HCC Traffic Study – ask HCC to continue study after lockdown 02/02 HCC Strategic Transport Team are reviewing study	Clerk
2020/21	Telephone box – liaise with neighbours & relevant organisations such as EHDC to see if planning permission is required. Services underground need to be investigated and marked up. The panes in the telephone box need to be replaced. 05/01 no planning permission required. 02/02 SE Water offered to set plinth; waiting for Highways approval. 07/04 DC grant applied for	Clerk
21.39 07/21	Bench in Bakers Field is rotten and needs work/replacement	Cllr Rook
21.39 07/21	The school had emailed the Council seeking help with parking as the pub car park could no longer be used. The Traffic Working Group will contact the school to see if any assistance can be given with their park and stride scheme.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	A member of the public commented that parking spaces for the school drop off are available at Eurotec. She also commented that some parents park in Bakers Field but can cause a nuisance by parking near the junction of Petersfield Road.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	Concerns raised about school parents parking on the no parking area in the village hall car park. Cllr Harris reported that lines would soon be painted in the car park.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	A member of the public informed the council of a recent accident at the Longmoor roundabout where a car had overturned. Cllr Rook noted this was in Whitehill & Bordon parish and not Greatham. Cllr Cheesman was aware of a second accident and would forward details to the Clerk. The Council will report their concerns to Highways.	Traffic WG
21.39 07/21	Concerns raised about the parking at Bakers Field near the bungalows. The Traffic Working Group would investigate.	Traffic WG
21.42 07/21	FOI - Councillors recommended that a disclosure log containing information that was in the wider public interest should be published.	Clerk
21.42 07/21	Councillors recommended that a working group is formed consisting of the Clerk, Cllr Crick and Cllr Harris to clarify how the disclosure log will work and to make decisions on future freedom of information responses and whether they should be published.	Clerk/Cllr Crick/Cllr Harris
21.48 & 21.100 07/21	Village gateways – source oak posts and advise supplier that design B had been selected. Get costs for installation and bring back to Council. 30/11 Contractor will be in contact to arrange site meeting. 10/02 purchase order placed	Clerk
21.51 07/21	Tree survey outstanding works – OCWG to complete works by end of September 30/11 no further update from working group, 02/02 no further update	Clerk/OCWG
21.87 09/21	A member of the public raised a question about an email from the parish council relating to management of the Old Church and interaction between the PC and the working group which he didn't feel is working well. The Chair advised that the council will respond in writing and will liaise with the working group. 30/11 waiting for dates for a meeting 07/04 meeting held & further meeting planned	Clerk/Council
21.138 10/21	Old Church trees: a) To check with the working party if all ivy removal is complete Work not done b) To source additional mulch for the yew tree 02/02 Feb agenda item c) To consider newly planted trees as part of the Old Church strategy d) To obtain costs for a new tree survey including a separate survey on the yew tree 10/02 survey ordered	Clerk
21.139	Playground: Arrange zip wire survey and get quotes for any other work identified in	Clerk

10/21	inspection report. Liaise with volunteer group regarding any work they could do.	
21.167 11/21	Transport & Traffic WG to approach landowners re permissive footpath/right of way 08/12 TB has approached landowner and will report back	Cllr Butler
21.172 11/21	The Clerk to provide code of conduct training for all councillors 02/22 dates circulated to councillors 07/04 April agenda item	Clerk/All
21.207 12/21	Reapply for CIL funding for renewal of playground 05/01 Playground WG to action by end February 22/03 application submitted	Playground WG
21.220 01/22	Report issues to Highways with grass verge on corner of Church Lane and posts outside a property on Petersfield Road.	Clerk
21.225 01/22	Add Cllrs Crick & Godby to the bank mandate 01/03 bank mandate completed, awaiting signature & id evidence	Clerk
21.226 01/22	To carry out the outstanding actions on the Risk Management Schedule	Clerk
21.260 02/22	Apply for HCC cultivation licence for verge opposite Longmoor Road junction 10/02 licence applied for	Clerk
21.282 03/22	Produce a newsletter 3 times per year (approx. April, August & November) April newsletter complete	Clerk/Cllr Harris
21.285 03/22	Write to David Redman to thank him for moving and storing the telephone box 07/04 complete	Clerk
21.286 03/22	Provide a response to the Glover Landscape Review consultation by 12 th April	Cllr Rodbert/Clerk

Appendix 2: District Councillor's Report

Councillor grants

The Councillor Grant deadline has passed and the EHDC Community Development team are now processing the final applications and these will be published on the EHDC website. The scheme will re-open on 1st April and instead of approaching the Community Development team, the form will go live with a new online application form which we hope will be faster and easier.

I am pleased to report that Cllr Carew and I have awarded several grants including supporting the preservation work at the Old Church. If people have requests for grants, especially those supporting our environment, please speak to Adam or myself.

Community fund

EHDC's £1 million community fund will be open to applications from community groups from 1st April 2022. Local organisations, clubs and charities can apply for grants from the council's Supporting Communities Fund to help them pay for one-off projects or continue their valuable community work.

The £1 million put aside by the council will be distributed among community organisations over the next 3 years. This is the second such fund made available by EHDC. A pot of £1 million was created in 2019 and, over the subsequent 3 years, given in support of community schemes. The scheme launches on 1st April and is live for 6 weeks. Grants go up to a maximum of £25,000 in capital funding or £30,000 in revenue.

The council is aiming to achieve two outcomes using this fund:

- Supporting positive mental health in residents, in particular young people
- Reducing social isolation in residents, in particular older people

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

EHDC is offering its support to residents who want to organise street parties to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee over the extended week of 2 to 5 June. Information on insurance, food safety, noise and sustainability are available on the website, together with application forms for road closures, bunting hanging and funding that could be available. Buckingham Palace has announced details of the Jubilee celebrations which include a pudding competition, a Service of Thanksgiving, a concert and the lighting of Platinum Jubilee Beacons across the UK.

Apple Pie Depot

I have been following this closely over the last year. The movie studio bid didn't quite make it and I asked the Regeneration Company to introduce me to the owners. I am due to meet with Equation Properties Limited who purchased the site at the end of last year. Equation say they have formally instructed a team to prepare a full planning application to redevelop the site to provide much needed industrial and warehousing space that they say will see 400 new jobs created in the East Hampshire region. They are due, they say, to consult locally and I have asked to meet with them. I will likely attend with EHDC portfolio holder Cllr Ken Moon and possibly Cllr Richard Millard, EHDC leader.

The site was occupied by the Ministry of Defence since 1890 and was confirmed for disposal in 2016. Now vacant, with the exception of a number of temporary uses, the site has now been made available for development by the MOD. The site benefits from an extant planning permission for employment use granted in October 2020, which the new owners believe will provide a great opportunity to increase employment development in the area.

The Charity Walk for Peace (CWFP)

The Charity Walk for Peace, given current events, is more relevant than ever, is calling for local community groups to work together and raise funds for charities and not for profit organisations. The CWFP platform provides a wonderful way for small, local charities to engage with each other and raise valuable funds for projects on the CWFP platform.

The walk, which raises thousands of pounds for different charities every year, is being held in Whitehill & Bordon for the first time.

Local organisations and groups that provide a service to the community can apply to be one of this year's beneficiaries for both grant funded projects and volunteer support by signing up by Friday 8 April.

The charity walks are organised by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Associations (AMEA) together with EHDC. This year's walk is due to start and finish at Hogmoor Inclosure on Saturday 21 May.

Charities can apply from anywhere in East Hampshire, not just Whitehill and Bordon.

EHDC strategy

EHDC launched its new corporate strategy and budget for the next financial year, with wellbeing and welfare and tackling climate change most prominent. The strategy includes putting the necessary resources in place to ensure that the council can reach net zero carbon in its operations before 2050. Though much will be done well before 2050, EHDC earmarked £300,000 to support its Climate and Environmental Strategy.

To support the strategy a 2% council tax increase was unanimously agreed. This represents £139.13 at Band D, about 5p per week.

An increase of 2% is about half of that permitted to the council without triggering a referendum and councillors believe it is the best way to safeguard the council's existing services and deliver its bold ambitions.

The council's property investments continue to perform well, despite the pandemic, and it has made savings across all services of around £977,000.

The council will focus on the following priorities over the next 3 years:

- A fit for purpose council
- A safer, healthier and more active East Hampshire
- A thriving local economy with infrastructure to support its ambitions
- An environmentally aware and cleaner East Hampshire

The council is determined to get its own house running as smoothly and efficiently as possible so that it is fit for purpose and can ensure that it is delivering the very best for its residents, businesses and communities.

Appendix 3: Report from County Councillor

1. Ukraine: HCC Leader's Statement

Hampshire County Council has expressed solidarity with the people of Ukraine and has stated its preparedness to support the UK Government, if called on, to help with the unfolding humanitarian crisis.

Leader of Hampshire County Council, Councillor Keith Mans said: "As the world watches events in Ukraine, across Hampshire we all send our thoughts and prayers to the Ukrainian people, including those who are living in Hampshire. None of us would have expected to have seen such hostilities in Europe in these modern times, and we condemn the attacks on Ukraine's innocent citizens.

"Hampshire County Council, in common with the rest of the country, is watching the concerning situation in Ukraine and stands in solidarity with the Ukrainian people and communities affected by this conflict. Should Government seek our support, we will assist as needed - building on our experience of supporting refugees and evacuees from previous conflicts."

I am sure all Councillors will share this sentiment from the Leader. Incidentally Keith Mans will be standing down in May 2022 and this has been reported in local newspapers. HCC will therefore be under new leadership in May following an election process within the Conservative Group.

2. Storms put Hampshire Highways to the test

The consecutive Storms Eunice and Franklin in February were extremely challenging for everyone at Hampshire Highways. We had over 2,000 incident reports and over 1,000 trees down. The clean-up operation is ongoing and may take another week or two. The bill for the response will run to seven figures.

When the ground is wet, it is always more likely that trees will come down in storms. Councillors will be aware that the ground is still unusually saturated and so we are currently vulnerable in the event of further high winds. I would advise people to be very cautious about driving during storms when the ground is so wet.

Sadly there was a fatality in Alton which shows how dangerous these storms are. The bravery and commitment of our Highways teams cannot be overstated. We all rely on our highways to live our lives and these frontline workers are doing a great job this winter, showing considerable resilience. We owe them our profound thanks.

3. 2022/23 Budget is approved by Council

Hampshire County Council's council tax precept for the financial year beginning 1 April 2022 will increase by a total of 2.99%, of which 1% will go specifically towards adults' social care. This equates to an annual charge of £1,390.86 for a Band D property – an increase of just over £40 per year. This recommended increase will generate an extra £21m towards delivering essential County Council services in the next financial year, especially in the care of the vulnerable.

Hampshire still has one of the lowest Council Tax rates in the UK, alongside Somerset. This year's increase has to be seen in that context. Price inflation and demand growth in social care (both adults and children) have put pressure on budgets and mean that a Council Tax rise is the most responsible decision.

Alongside revenue budget plans, the County Council has approved a capital programme worth £556.2m over the next three years to boost jobs, build schools and cycle paths, and improve the quality of the environment. This provision for Hampshire's infrastructure brings the County Council's four-year total investment in the fabric of Hampshire, to £832.6m. Our prudent financial management and strong reserves has made this investment possible. Very few County Councils in the UK have the capacity to embark on such a substantial capital programme.

Nevertheless, the financial challenge facing Hampshire County Council over the coming years looks to be considerable. At HCC we are lobbying the Government to use its review of Local Government Finance to increase funding and to provide a multi-year settlement so that we can plan services effectively.

Appendix 4: Clerk's Report

EHDC District Councillor Grants

The grants for the Old Church totalling £1,800 from Cllrs Davies and Carew have been applied for. I have received a remittance advice for £1,000 from Cllr Davies grant pot and awaiting the balance from Cllr Carew's grant pot.

CIL Application for Playground

The CIL application for playground funds of £90,000 has been applied for as agreed. We will hear the outcome later this year although the expectation is this may not be successful as we are not yet affected by any significant development. In discussions with Liss Parish Council it appears the SDNPA tend not to provide CIL funds until they have started to collect CIL monies from a developer so we may find that we are not successful until the nursery site is in progress.

Code of Conduct training

Dates for training have been circulated to all councillors. I am awaiting responses before we can confirm a date.

Tree survey

This was carried out on Saturday 26th February and the report will be circulated in due course.

Village gateways

These have been ordered and I will advise councillors when they are going to be installed.

End of Year VAT reclaim

The VAT reclaim has been submitted to HMRC for 01/02/21-31/01/22.

Old Church Strategy Working Group

Terms of Reference

1. The Working Group will consist of a minimum of two councillors, determined by the Council and the Clerk in an advisory capacity. Membership is to be determined by the parent body at its Annual meeting or at a normal full Council or Committee meeting.
2. The working group may invite members of the public to attend meetings in an advisory capacity on an ad-hoc usually temporary basis.
3. At its first meeting of the working group members shall appoint an elected member as Lead Member who should ensure the entire working group's members are kept informed and involved with progress and act as the primary reporting channel back to the parent body.
4. In line with the task set by the Council, the purpose and remit of the working group is to :
 - a. Produce a strategy in line with the framework strategy document agreed by council in February 2022
 - b. Consider future use of the Old Church and its' environs
 - c. Work within the limits of the restrictive covenants set out by the Church Commissioners in the deeds
 - d.
5. The group does not have delegated powers to make decisions on behalf of the Council nor should exceed its purpose and remit (above) without the parent body's sanction to a change to this Terms of Reference
6. The group reports to the council.
7. The group shall provide timely reports to the parent body in the following manner:
 - a. Progress should be reported either verbally or by way of a report on a monthly basis
8. Meetings of the working group are not usually but may be public meetings