

**Greatham Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024, 7.30pm**

**Present** Cllr R Lafferty (Chair), Cllr C Rudd, Cllr A Cheesman, Cllr S Pond, Cllr SJ Bartlett (acting as temporary clerk)

**Also present** : 11 residents, Cllr Russell Oppenheimer, and Guests Ian Rodgers from HCD Ltd and Greg Stafford, Conservative Candidate for Farnham and Bordon Constituency.

**24.32 Chairman's Announcements** : The Chairman suggested that we change the order of the meeting to allow Mr Ian Rodgers to speak first and then leave given his considerable travelling time to get home.

**24.33 Apologies for Absence** : None received.

**24.34 Declarations of Interest** : It was agreed that both Cllr Rudd and Cllr Cheesman step aside from the vote for the planning application.

**24.35 Approval of Minutes** : It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

**24.36 Update on Apple Pie Depot** : Ian Rodgers from HCD Ltd, Chief Engineer responsible for the demolition at the old Apple Pie Depot site gave a very informative update on the site. Removal of the dangerous Asbestos took place 18 months ago, at present they are removing the rest. 98% is being crushed on site and re-used. Given the fear from residents about Asbestos they took the decision to take longer to demolish the site to ensure there were no problems. There is regular testing of the air on site and they are well below the national average of micron's allowable. The land will be re-graded over the next 8 – 10 weeks. Acid grass has been saved. New Zealand Pigmy weed, found in a pond on site has been removed correctly, as it is an invasive species. A sound protection fence will be erected when building commences to give Longmoor Lodge some noise reduction. The teams are on site Monday - Friday, with no Saturday working. This is as requested by residents. The drainage of the area is being re-routed to reduce the risk of flooding that has been an issue previously. A member of the construction team, will attend a future meeting to discuss next steps and what will be built.

**24.37 Matters arising from last council meeting:**

- Parking is an on-going issue in the village, and it was discussed that double yellow lines should be considered for Longmoor Road and Bakers Field.
- The Clerk will discuss with Greatham Village School the use of Cones outside the school on the yellow zig zags to deter illegal parking.
- Additional finger posts on the verges in the village, could be a possible solution to reduce parking, but it also doesn't want to look like a no go zone.

**24.38 Report from District Councillors :**

None Received.

**24.39 Report from County Councillor :**

- The Growth and Skills Board has already had a name change! Anyone wanting to apply for funding needs to provide a strong business case.
- HCC appreciate it is a tough ask to increase Council tax, but it is necessary to ensure continuity of services and ensure that a measure of reserves can be maintained.
- There is an option to close school streets to help with congestion at busy times. Might be an option for Greatham to consider.

- Broadband upgrade is in progress. Big changes should be seen within the next 12 months. City Fibre and Openreach responsible for roll out. Cllr Lafferty to engage and find out more.
- The local transport plan is now policy. Walking and cycling has priority over cars. Funding available for suitable schemes. Cllr Bartlett to review cycle route options for Greatham.
- Discussion around the new Bus service currently being offered to Greatham and the benefit to residents extended to include Minibus through the Community transport scheme and Dial a Ride. Cllr Cheesman to follow up.

**24.40 The Chair adjourned the meeting for public questions:**

- Concern was again expressed about the River height under the junction of Longmoor Road and Petersfield Road. Cllr Lafferty and Cllr Bartlett agreed to review what can be done. Discussion needed with the Water Board, and HCC to ensure remedial works are carried out.
- There is still a manhole cover at the entrance to Todmore Road that is a hazard. A land Registry request is needed to find out who owns the land that it sits on, to ensure a repair is made. Clerk to investigate.
- HEN have a clothes swap event on 13<sup>th</sup> April 10 – 12 in the Village Hall. Sara very kindly offered to share the space with the Parish Council to allow the playground opening event and village discussion to take place as planned. GPC agreed to pay for the hall from 10 – 2 pm.
- Greg Stafford, conservative candidate for Farnham and Bordon constituency introduced himself, and encouraged everyone to sign his petition to keep Bordon Recycling centre open.
- It was suggested that the council should report the pot holes outside the school. Clerk to Action.
- Speeding in the village is still an issue, further discussion to take place on the SLR agenda item.

**Meeting reconvened**

**24.41 Parish Council Finances / Administration :**

- a) **Clerk's report** : see appendix 4
  - The Risk Assessment document has been updated as required on a yearly basis. The Clerk reviewed and updated the document on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024. (See Appendix 8 ) It was **RESOLVED** to approve this version of the document and update the web site. **Proposed by Cllr Cheesman and seconded by Cllr Rudd.**
- b) **Finance Report** : see appendix 5.
- c) **Payment schedule** : see appendix 6. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment schedule, **proposed by Cllr Lafferty and seconded by Cllr Pond.**

**24.42 Working Group Terms of Reference :** Cllr Bartlett in role as Clerk has not had time to create a draft version. Postponed to next meeting. It was suggested that maybe additional admin support could be found for this project. The clerk will review options.

**24.43 Planning and TPO Applications received :** Previously planning approval had been applied for and approved for the erection of a new building on an existing foundation. The New planning application is to re-site the new build, without any increase in size. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the application. **Proposed by Cllr Pond, and seconded by Cllr Lafferty.** Additional approval vote from Cllr Bartlett. Cllrs Rudd and Cheesman excluded themselves from the vote.

**24.44 SLR :** It was **RESOLVED** to review the site locations of the SLR camera's used within the village. Wolfmere lane site to be removed, and also the bus stop site at the junction of Petersfield Road and Farnham Road. Consider 2 x sites at Silver Birch, and consider a site near the Greatham Inn. **Proposed by Cllr Bartlett and Seconded by Cllr Pond.**

Consider re-starting Speedwatch for the village.

**24.45 Asset Register** The updated version of the Asset Register was reviewed. Version Dated 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The Insurance value for the Bus stops within the village needs to be reviewed. Cllr Cheesman to assess bus stops

state of repair. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the asset register. **Proposed by Cllr Lafferty and seconded by Cllr Cheesman.**

**24.46 Items for next Agenda :**

Annual Meeting  
Terms of Reference for parish statement working group  
Financial Year end 2023/24

**24.28 Date of Next Meeting :** Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup> 2024, at 7.30 pm

**The meeting closed at 9.30 pm**

Signed ..... (Chairman)

Date .....

**Appendix 1 : Previous Meeting actions arising**

- A meeting was held with Cllr Mitchell from EHDC and the Head Teacher at Greatham Village school. Provision of a mini bus was discussed to alleviate some of the journeys that are made to and from the school. Cllr Mitchell was going to look into this in more detail and report back.
- The grass cutting team will be carrying out the first cut of the year in the village on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. They have been asked to leave Liss Nursery bank so that the wild flowers can be enjoyed.
- Footpath 10 discussions have yet to take place. This will be followed up and reported at the next meeting.
- The river beneath Peterfield Road at the junction with Longmoor road is still to be addressed.

**Appendix 2 : Report from the District Councillors**

None Received

**Appendix 3 : Report from our County Councillor**

# ANNUAL COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT TO

# ALL PARISH COUNCILS IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS

1 MARCH 2024

## 1. New Growth & Skills Boards

I would like to explain some changes that will be coming into effect on 1 April this year as a result of changes to local government structures.

From next month, HCC will assume the economic development roles previously carried out by the Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP). Those were the Solent LEP and the Enterprise M3 LEP (within which our area came). The intention of the Government is that these functions will be taken over by a Mayor for Hampshire under a devolution deal by 2030. Until that happens, the staff and cash reserves of the LEPs will come under HCC control.

I see this as very good news because it means we will have more democratic control over the allocation of economic development and regeneration funding. This funding is crucial for sprucing up our towns and villages and promoting active travel.

HCC is already in the process of setting up “Growth and Skills Boards” for each district comprising representatives from business, education and local government. There will also be a single “Place Board” for the whole of Hampshire which will comprise all the Leaders of Districts and Boroughs.

The work of the Growth and Skills Boards will be framed by the Hampshire Economic Strategy and based around themes such as Town Centre Regeneration, Housing Growth, Rural Economy and Skills Retention and Development. These themes and any other local priorities will in due course be discussed and agreed by the new Boards.

I would expect the new Boards to want to engage with Parish and Town Councils as they seek to refine and define their local regeneration and infrastructure priorities.

I am also optimistic that the new Place Board will enable Hampshire to start to build alliances across the region so that we have a powerful voice for the South in regional funding matters.

## 2. Budget update

At our Full Council meeting on 22 February HCC formally approved the budget for 2024/24 with a Council Tax increase of 5%. Nobody wants to raise taxes at a time when the cost of living has risen so much. But with a budget gap of £74m next year it would have been irresponsible for us not to go for the maximum permitted Council Tax increase. To do so would have put services for vulnerable people at risk.

Thanks to prudent management over the last 27 years, HCC has reserves which will allow us to bridge this projected budget gap of £74m.

Hampshire County Council’s council tax is among the lowest of any county council in England and we remain as focused as ever on delivering the best possible value for money for Hampshire’s taxpayers.

The 5% Council Tax increase will help to generate an extra £39 million towards our overall service delivery costs – in areas like education and learning across hundreds of Hampshire schools, looking after vulnerable children and adults, maintaining over 5,000 miles of roads, libraries, outdoor spaces and country parks, household waste recycling centres, public health, and trading standards.

As you know, HCC is consulting on possible savings from 2025 through the Future Services Consultation. If you have not yet responded to the consultation then you still have time! The consultation closes on 31 March.

### 3. New School Streets policy approved

At our meeting on 6 February the HCC Cabinet approved a new policy around School Streets. This is a scheme which enables the temporary closure of certain roads around the school entrance at drop-off time. The intention is to encourage walking and cycling whilst reducing congestion and pollution. The full report can be read here:

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s116625/School%20Streets.pdf>

As a result of the new policy there is now a willingness for HCC to engage with schools and communities who wish to initiate their own School Streets scheme with local funding. The set-up costs are likely to be around £15,000. There are not high ongoing costs because the schemes are run by volunteers. Maintaining that voluntary effort has been a challenge on the pilot schemes and is something to think carefully about.

You will note in Appendix 1 of the Cabinet Report that County Councillor support is one of the criteria required for consideration of a School Street scheme. I can say that I will be likely to be supportive of such schemes as I think they are a very good idea.

I know that all Parish Councils have excellent links with their local schools. If any Parish Council wishes to work with a local school on a School Street scheme, I would direct you to this web page which also includes the link to apply.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/school-streets>

### 4. New role for HCC in broadband roll-out

HCC has decided to take on a strategic leadership role in the Digital Place strategy with three key themes:

- **Digital Inclusion**, making sure no-one is left behind so that everyone can access services easily.
- **Digital Infrastructure**, although our contract with Openreach is now completed, we will continue supporting BDUK with Project Gigabit and advocating for the final hardest-to-reach rural properties. This may include wireless technologies such as 5G and Satellite broadband.

- **Systems Leadership**, working with industry and other public sector bodies to identify and exploit cutting-edge opportunities for Hampshire.

For those with an interest in these issues you can read the full report at this link:

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s116628/Digital%20Hampshire%20Future%20Strategy.pdf>

#### 5. New Local Transport Plan for Hampshire

After four years of gestation, the fourth Local Transport Plan for Hampshire has been formally adopted by Hampshire County Council. You can read the final Plan here:

<https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s116580/Appendix%20-%20Local%20Transport%20Plan.pdf>

As I have mentioned in previous reports, this new plan puts walking and cycling at the top of the hierarchy. It aims to create healthy and prosperous towns and villages.

Proposed schemes for further development are also included in the plan such as the roll out of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, higher quality bus services in urban areas, better quality cycle facilities, changes to our roads to reduce congestion and improvements to high streets and town centres so they are more accessible and safer for shared use by pedestrians, cyclists as well as those pushing prams and those in wheelchairs.

The plan will now have formal status in planning decisions and in highways priorities. It will take some years for the shift to transform our road systems but I would encourage Parish Councils to familiarise themselves with the key points and be ready to challenge HCC to live up to the commitments made in the Plan.

#### 6. Confiscated vapes poised to be sent for destruction

As Executive Member for Countryside and Regulatory Services I am responsible for the Trading Standards department at HCC. I am pleased that our crackdown on vaping over the last 12 months has been effective. Over £300,000 of illegal vapes have been seized from vape shops. I visited the Trading Standards secure office recently where there are about 25 cabinets of confiscated vape bags like this one.



Disposing of these vapes responsibly is a challenge. They cannot be sent to incineration because they contain batteries. It would be wrong to send them to landfill as it would cause contamination. So we need to employ a specialist contractor to take them apart. This is a very frustrating problem to have and I look forward to a time when we have less vaping in society and better compliance by retailers. Nobody knows what the long term health effects of vaping will be. I am glad that the Government is going to ban coloured and flavoured vapes.

7. Grants awarded during 2023/24

I am in the habit of publishing my grants list for the year once the grant round has closed for the sake of transparency. I always make efforts to spread the grants around the Petersfield Hangers Division. Here is my list for the year which has now ended.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant</b>
King George V Memorial Hall (Froxfield Village Hall)	Main Hall floor refurbishment	1000
Froxfield and Privett Parish Council	Parish Verge Cutting	1000
Petersfield Shakespeare Festival	Petersfield Shakespeare Festival 2023: Twelfth Night (Accessibility)	800
Ropley Parish Council	Improving access to Ropley footpaths	900
Petersfield Youth Theatre	'Summer Fun' and 'Show in a Week'	600
STEEP FILM SOCIETY IN MEMORY OF SIR ALEC GUINNESS	Installation of Induction Loop, Public Address System and	500

	professional tuning of sound output	
Steep and Stroud Newsletter (a part of Steep PCC)	Keeping Communities Informed and Engaged	500
Petersfield Musical Festival	Petersfield Musical Festival 2024	500
Petersfield Community Land Trust	Reservoir Lane Self and Custom Build	1000
Friends of Sheet School	Laptops for school	1000
Home-Start Butser	Home-Start Butser Safeguarding Training	200

The new grant round for the year 2024/25 opens in June 2024 and I am always happy to discuss potential applications.

**RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER**  
**County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers**

**Appendix 4 : Clerks Report**

- Attended meeting at Greatham Village School with Cllr Kirsty Mitchell to discuss the parking issue within the village at drop off and collection time. Very positive discussion and all agreed to investigate further HCC mini bus provision.
- Discussion with Ian Rodger regarding the demolition works at The Apple Pie Depot. Good update and agreement that he will attend the next Parish council meeting.
- On site meeting with tree surgeons doing the agreed tree maintenance in the Old Churchyard. To ensure brief and planning consent adhered to.
- Meeting to discuss the terms of reference for the parish priority statement working group. Draft terms of reference produced post meeting for discussion at the March Parish Council Meeting.
- Took delivery of 2 x defibrillators for the village. Engaged with Eurotec regarding the siting of one unit. Cllr Lafferty and Cllr Rudd organised the positioning of the second unit.
- On site meeting with tree surgeons and L'Abri to discuss issues with the removal of the cherry laurels at the back of the old church yard.

**Appendix 5 : Financial Report**

The Financial records as at 29th February 2024 are as follows :

**Receipts 1<sup>st</sup> February to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024**



**Total Receipts** **£91,796.43**

**Balances as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

Current Account £103,041.21

Deposit Account £30,923.13

**Total at Bank** **£133,964.34**

**Earmarked Funds Held**

Trees £ 900.00

Community Engagement £ 250.00

Elections £3405.00

CIL + £2K grants (old church repair) £1720.00

Telephone Box £ 89.00

King's Coronation £ 0

**Total Earmarked Funds** **£6364.00**

**General Reserves Balance** **£127,600.34 (Total at Bank less Earmarked funds)**

**Appendix 6 : Payment Schedule**

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	Vat	Total
05/03/2024	Sawscapes Play	Single onsite toilet 4 week hire	£134.00	£26.80	£160.80
04/03/2024	Headley Parish Council	SLR unit deployment	£289.30	£57.86	£347.16
29/02/2024	Reg white	Graveyard maintenance	£168.00	£0.00	£168.00
23/01/2024	Lightatouch	Interim assessment of internal controls	£152.90	£0.00	£152.90
29/02/2024	Hexius	Email support	£56.13	£11.23	£67.36
21/02/2024	Giff Gaff Phone	Expensed by SJB for Nov – Jan inclusive	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
27/02/2024	Liphook Tree Surgeons Ltd	Tree works carried out as per survey and quote	£575.00	£115.00	£690.00
27/02/2024	Liphook Tree Surgeons Ltd	Extra work to remove cherry laurels completely as per recommendation by SDNP	£1000.00	£200.00	£1200.00
17/02/2024	Microsoft	Microsoft apps expensed by SJB	£8.60	£1.72	£10.32
05/03/2024	Greatham Village Hall	Room Hire 14/02/24	£5.50	£0.00	£5.50
11/03/2024	PSC Electrics Ltd	Labour to install defib unit and box from existing supply	£90.00	£18.00	£108.00
13/06/2023	Petersfield Town Council	3 x grass cuts may 2023	£84.00	£16.80	£100.80
22/08/2023	Petersfield Town Council	1 x grass cut July 2023	£28.00	£5.60	£33.60

Approved .....

Date .....

Appendix 7 : Asset Register

Asset Register as at 07/03/2024									
Asset Details					Purchase Details		Payment		Insured value
Date entered on Register	Item	Make	Serial Number	Location	Supplier	Purchase Price	Invoice Date	Sub Totals	
						(ex VAT)			
14/08/2006	Greatham Old Church			Petersfield Rd		£1.00		£1.00	£1
14/08/2006	War Memorial			St John the Baptist Church		£14,060.69		£14,060.69	£16,619.75
30/03/2020	Village Green			Petersfield Rd/Forest Rd		£1.00		£1.00	
20/03/2018	Speedwatch equipment			Cllr Butler	CA Traffic	£2,258.40	07/09/2015	£2,258.40	£2,258.40
31/03/2021	Defibrillator & Cabinet	AED Plus		Village Hall	Donated by Farnham Lions pre 2016 (purchase price = market price). 10/06/21 new cabinet purchased @ £465	£1,670.00	10/06/2021	£1,670.00	£1,670.00
14/11/2021	Litter pickers x 8			Cllr Bartlett	Amazon	£24.43	14/11/2021	£24.43	£24.43
14/03/2012	Cupboard			Village Hall	Surrey Office Supplies	£85.00	06/01/2012		£85.00
14/03/2012	Laminator	Fellowes Mars A3	110909vd0065685	Cllr Bartlett	Viking Direct	£53.49	15/03/2012		£53.49

14/03/2012	Projector Screen	Metro plan Budget Tripod Screen 240x240 ET1005		Village Hall	AV Partsmaster Ltd	£116.75	05/03/2012		£116.75
20/03/2018	Colour printer/scanner	Samsung C480FW Colour Laser Printer	08GRB8KJG B026VW	Cllr Bartlett	Amazon	£209.99	07/11/2017		£209.99
20/03/2018	External hard drive	Bipra 1TB 2.5" USB 2.0 FAT 32	BOOP81QTJ	Locum Clerk	Amazon	£54.95	16/01/2018		£54.95
30/03/2020	Laptop computer	Lenovo S340 1415BL		Locum Clerk	Currys PC World	£479.00	11/03/2020		£479.00
30/09/2020	HDMI cable			Cll Lafferty	Amazon	£26.21			£26.21
30/09/2020	Extension cable			Cllr Bartlett	Amazon	£11.68			£11.68
06/02/2024	Post Box	Black 171 letterbox		Village Hall	B&Q	£35.52			£35.52
30/09/2020	Fire extinguisher /blanket			Old Church	Fire Safety Store	£31.95			£31.95
31/03/2021	Mobile phone	Nokia 1.3		Cllr Bartlett		£89.00			£89.00
31/03/2021	Webcam	Logitech		Cllr Bartlett		£24.99			£24.99
26/07/2021	Water bowser	Tanks Direct		Cllr Bartlett		£239.00			£239.00
21/06/2022	Bat & bird boxes	RSPB	8 x bird boxes, 2 x bat boxes	Old Church	RSPB	£309.42			£309.42
07/03/2024	Defibrillator & Cabinet	DHSC Mindray C1A fully automatic		St John the Baptist Church rooms	London Hearts. Match funding 50%	£750.00	05/01/2024	£750.00	£1,500.00

	Defibrillator & Cabinet	DHSC Mindray C1A fully automatic		Eurotec Ltd	London Hearts. Match funding 50% (EHDC Cllr Grant funded)	£750.00	05/01/2024	£750.00	£1,500.00
	Voice Recorder	Olympus Digital voice Recorder VN-8500PC		Cllr Bartlett	Donated by Mr D. Jerrard	£0.00			£44.99
						Sub Total		£21,282.47	
	<b><u>PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT</u></b>								
25/03/2024	Village Playground (including playsurfaces)			Recreation Ground	Sawscapes Play Ltd	£112,725.00	25/01/2024		£112,725.00
	Zipwire			Recreation Ground	GB Sport & Leisure	£7,613.04	07/09/2015		£11,055.42
						Sub Total for Playground Equipment		£120,338.04	
	<b><u>STREET FURNITURE</u></b>								
07/09/2015	Flagpole			Village Green		£421.79			£421.79
	Union Jack			D Redman		£71.95			£71.95
03/12/2012	Bench			Village Green		£389.90			£1,193.82
03/03/2021	Bench			Bakers Field	Donation	£400.00			£400.00
	Bench			Old Church	Hemington Rustics	£250.00	06/06/2020		£250.00
	Fences			Playground		£2,785.59			£2,785.59
2011	Telephone box			D Redman		£1.00			
14/08/2006	Bus Shelters x 3			2 @ Greatham Inn, 1 @ Digby Way		£14,581.48			£25,000.00

14/08/2006	Litter Bins			Bakers Field, bus shelter, playground, school, Hopes wood	Trevor Iles Ltd	£455.76	20/03/2006		£455.76
29/03/2023	Village gateways			Petersfield Road	K Knight Engineering	£2,600.00	21/10/2022		£2,600.00
						Sub Total for Street Furniture		£21,957.47	
								£163,577.98	£182,344.85

Appendix 8 : Risk Assessment

[Risk Assessment link](#)

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