

Greatham Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 9th October 2024, 7.30 pm

Present Cllr C Rudd (Chair), Cllr SJ Bartlett (acting clerk), Cllr A Cheesman, Cllr Pond

Also present : 7 residents

24.139 : Chairman's Announcement : None

24.140 : Apologies for Absence : Cllr Lafferty and Cllr Oppenheimer.

24.141 :Declarations of Interest : None to note.

24.142 :Approval of Minutes: It was **RESOLVED** to approve minutes from the council meeting held on 11th September 2024.

24.143 : Update on previous actions arising from council meetings : (Appendix 1)

- It was agreed to take any questions later in the meeting under the dedicated agenda time.
- The developer working at the Old Apple Pie has been contacted and requested to attend a meeting. We are waiting on a response.
- The footpath has been reported to HCC.

24.144 : Report from District Councillors: Report from Cllr Mitchell/Cllr Steevens (Appendix 2)

- None Received

24.145 Report from County Councillor: Report from Cllr Russell Oppenheimer (Appendix 3)

- Cllr Oppenheimer has a new role at HCC. He is Executive member for Health and Wellbeing. The Parish Council wish him well with his new role.
- Cllr Oppenheimer highlighted the managing flood risk tool kit which will help to signpost all things flood related.

24.146 Public Question Time: Adjournment of the meeting for 15 minutes to allow the public to raise questions

- It was requested that the Parish council give their support to the campaign to keep open the Bordon and Petersfield tips.
- A question was asked if the Apple Pie Depot development funded the new play park in Whitehill and Bordon. Cllrs believed this was not the case and that it would have been funded by CIL monies.
- A request was made that residents be able to adorn the longmoor bridge with Poppies in Remembrance as was done in 2023. It was **RESOLVED** to approve this request.
- A request was made for the Coryton Almshouse report, received by the parish council, be forwarded onto a resident. The clerk will ask if this is possible from the current Secretary.

Meeting reconvened

24.147 : Parish Council Finances/Administration:

- a) **Payment Schedule:** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payment schedule. (Appendix 4). **Proposed by Cllr Bartlett and seconded by Cllr Cheesman.**
- b) **Finance Report:** To note the Finance Report for September 2024. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation. (Appendix 5) It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk will process a VAT Reclaim. **Proposed by Cllr Rudd and seconded by Cllr Cheesman.**
- c) **Clerks Report** (Appendix 6)

24.148 : To Approve the Village Survey for October village magazine : A very productive meeting was held between the Parish council, Cllr Oppenheimer and HCC Highways Engineer. A number of options were discussed to help with reducing the speed of traffic through the village. Given this information it was agreed that a survey is at present too early as work is still needed to determine what is possible, so that residents are not given options that cannot be delivered. For the topics discussed see (Appendix 7).

24.149 : Resident comments from the Councillor Drop in Session : The drop in session was well attended and a variety of topics discussed. The parish council will use these ideas for potential future budget spend and projects. (Appendix 8)

- A request was made for the possible double yellow lines to be extended from the Village Hall down to the pinch point alongside Deal Farm.
- The message received by the Parish Council regarding issues with the Village Hall car park will be forwarded to the Village Hall Committee for their consideration.
- Magazine copy reminders to residents : Stones on the grass verge is not permissible and damage to pedestrians or vehicles is the responsibility of the householder.
- It was **RESOLVED** that a summary of the HCC meeting be used for copy in the parish magazine.
- Footpath 9 has overhanging trees. It is the responsibility of the landowner to keep their vegetation clear of footpaths and pavements.

24.150: Community Hub Representative : It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bartlett will attend the first meeting of the community hub working group to observe the discussions and report back to the parish council. **Proposed by Cllr Pond and seconded by Cllr Rudd.**

24.151 : Planning Updates : The following updates from EHDC/SDNP have been noted on recent applications :

- Theale Knapp Cottage : Approved 10/09/24
- Swain Cottage : Approved 30/09/24
- West Fork, Farnham Road : Refused 23/09/24
- 9 Todmore : Approved 20/09/24
- 10 Bakers Field : Approved 26/09/24
- Lone Barn Farm : Additional information regarding the application should be sent to the Clerk with permission to forward on to the relevant Case Officer. The parish council have been in contact with the Enforcement officer regarding the enforcement notice issues.

24.152 : Reports from other organisations and outside bodies :

- The Village Hall have their AGM on the 23rd October 2024. They have 2 vacancies.
- The MP for Greatham is running a surgery for Pension Credit. It was agreed to promote this on Facebook.
- The zipwire at the village hall needs attention. An inspection will be carried out, if it is failed it will be de-commissioned, re-tension of the cable will be carried out if the equipment passes inspection, and quotes will be obtained for any necessary work to be carried out.

24.153 : Agenda Items for next meeting :

- Budget
- Precept

24.154 : The Date of the next meeting : 11th November 2024 @ 7.30 pm

24.155 : The meeting closed at 20.44

Signed (Chairman)

Date

Appendix 1 : Matters Arising

- Community Hub support requested from the parish council. As an agenda item discussion moved to later in the meeting.
- Apple Pie Site : is it possible to ask the developer to attend a parish council meeting to update on what is happening with the site and the timelines involved.
- Footpath. Concern was raised about the footpath by the telephone exchange caving in. Is it possible to request repair work be carried out.

Appendix 2 : Report from District Councillors : None Received

Appendix 3: Report from County Councillor

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT
TO
ALL PARISH COUNCILS
IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS
1 OCTOBER 2024**

1. New Cabinet Role

I was pleased to return to the Hampshire Cabinet last week as Executive Member for Health & Wellbeing. I have always been passionate about health and nutrition, so I am excited about this opportunity. I care deeply about improving the health of our communities. For me, public health is not just about longevity and illness prevention; it is also about quality of life and human happiness. We all know from experience that life is more enjoyable and manageable when we are in good health. I am looking forward to working with the Public Health team and the NHS to make it easier for people to get healthy and stay healthy.

Mental health, smoking cessation services, obesity reduction, suicide prevention, vaccinations, drugs services, emergency planning, improving integrated care and school nurses are all important parts of my portfolio.

This is also the “Year of Health and Wellbeing”. This is an initiative of the Hampshire 2050 Partnership. A key part of the ambition is to raise awareness of health opportunities and encourage all stakeholders to reach out to communities. With that in mind, I would invite you to visit this very interesting new resource about Nature and Mental Wellbeing. (Any of this content can be used in Parish Newsletters should you wish!

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/publichealth/mentalwellbeinghampshire/natureandmentalwellbeing>

2. Flooding: Community Toolkit

Over the last twelve months we have seen a record number of named storms, above average rainfall and significant flooding affecting communities across Hampshire. We are experiencing wetter winters and

more intensive thunderstorms, particularly during summer months. With this changing climate, it is important to be prepared for flooding.

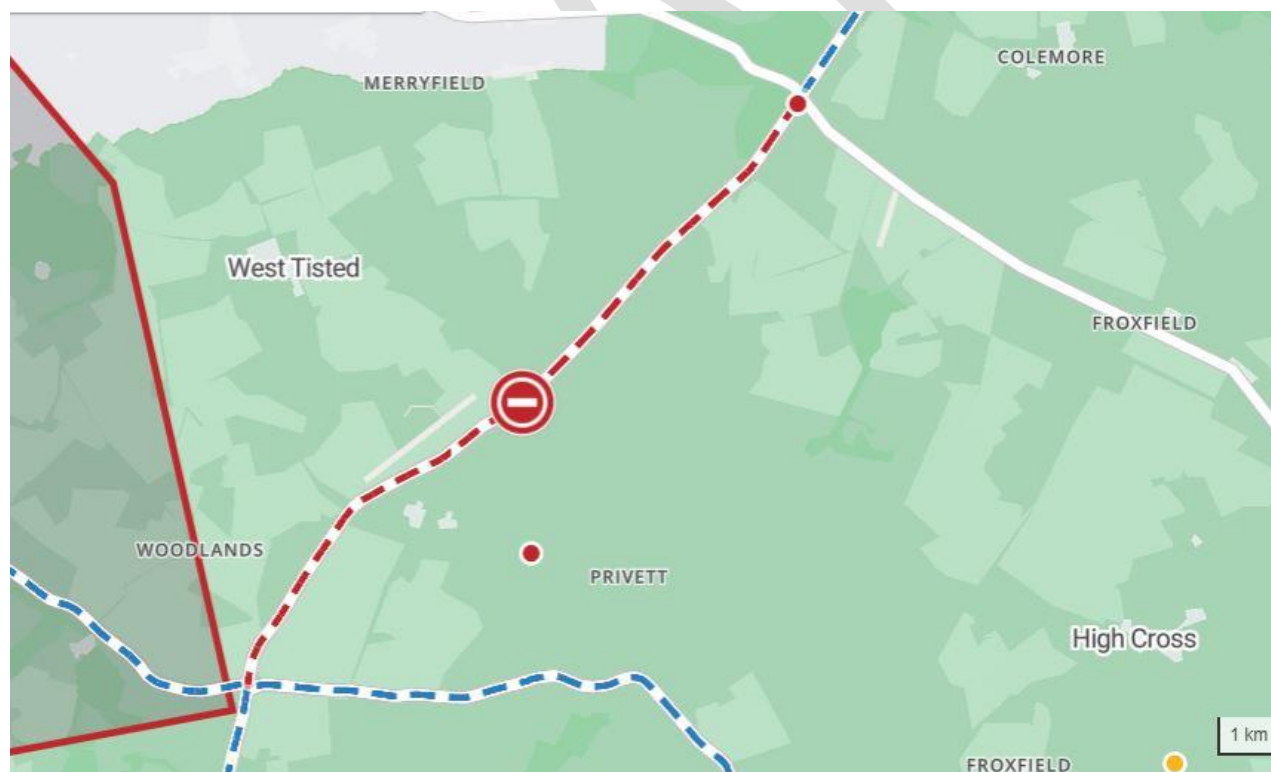
Flooding is a complex area with different bodies taking responsibility for managing different sources of flood risk including the County Council as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), Environment Agency and others (including our partners in boroughs, districts and unitary councils and water companies).

To support residents and all our stakeholders, the Flood and Water Management team at HCC has prepared a 'Community Toolkit'. This is designed to provide information in a single location on the different types of flooding, who it should be reported to, and clarification on roles and responsibilities. It also identifies how individuals and communities can take action to understand their flood risk and what they can do to make themselves more resilient. There are many embedded links in the pdf which signpost to other useful sources of information.

The toolkit is available to view on our website here: [Managing flood risk | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk). The Toolkit will be updated as required where new information or clarification is needed.

3. Closure of A32 Section

You may not yet be aware that HCC have in the last few days closed the section of the A32 north of the Meon Hut for essential resurfacing works. The whole road will remain closed until 11 October. I recognise and regret the inconvenience for hundreds of residents. We can at least look forward to a very high-quality surface once the road reopens! I also think there is a chance that they will finish early if the weather is not too adverse.



4. School catering service: proposal to outsource

HCC is consulting schools and colleges on its proposal to terminate the in-house school meal service in 2026. The consultation started on 6 September and closes on 11 October. This is not a public consultation but I thought Parish Councils might want to be aware of it.

I am conscious that the proposal has created some concerns amongst smaller, rural primary schools. I would like to reassure everyone with concerns that no decisions have yet been made and we are listening. It is open to anyone to make a submission to the Decision Day of Cllr Steve Forster which I think will be in early December.

Education Catering, formerly known as HC3S, has experienced significant financial pressure in recent years due to the combined impacts of rising food and staff costs. To cover its costs, the Local Authority has needed to increase the price of its school meals above the funding rate provided by Government to schools. This has resulted in a loss of business and as such, the County Council can no longer continue providing a non-statutory in-house service in the long term without making a loss.

The consultation sets out two possibilities:

- i. For schools and nurseries to arrange their own catering provision. (There is an active, well-established private sector market of school food providers operating successfully in Hampshire, from which schools can select).
- ii. To provide a managed outsource of the service which schools and nurseries could buy into. This option would see the County Council procure and manage the supply of meals from alternative providers, on behalf of schools and nurseries.

5. HCC response to Planning Reforms consultation

The County Council has responded to the Government's consultation on planning reform which includes proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). As part of efforts to tackle economic growth, the Government has targeted a number of planning issues in need of urgent reform. They propose raising the bar on delivery against nationally mandated housing targets which would see a 71% increase in the number of houses to be planned for annually across Hampshire. As well as the impact on housing growth across the County, the proposals also have implications for infrastructure delivery, education provision, specialist housing, transport planning, public health and climate change. Our response has set out the County Council's position on each of these key strategic issues.

The key message is that the County Council responded in support of driving forward with growth, but warned against a standard methodology which fails to recognise local conditions and evidenced constraints – such as National Park designations – which make the increased housing numbers for Hampshire seem excessive and undeliverable. The lack of a transitional arrangement also undermines the plan-led system, resulting in planning authorities not being able to demonstrate a 5-year land supply and therefore opening the door for speculative applications and planning by appeal. The County Council expressed support for the reinstatement of strategic planning to unlock a sustainable level of plan-led growth in Hampshire, ensuring it is accompanied by necessary infrastructure.

In its response, the County Council has expressed concern that the proposed new standard method for assessing housing need results in much higher target numbers, which are overly ambitious. The County Council does not support the revised targets across Hampshire as they have been apportioned across local planning authority areas. There are less constrained areas of Hampshire where housing markets are relatively strong, and housebuilders are actively pursuing sites. However, in other areas, there are challenges in translating allocations and planning permissions into dwelling completions due to site viability, significant environmental designations, and environmental issues such as nutrient neutrality.

The proposed 71% increase from the current methodology target is considered excessive and unreasonable, especially in the absence of strategic planning and without accounting for growth constraints. For instance, 45% of Hampshire is covered by various environmental designations, including National Parks, National Landscapes, and Special Protection Areas of international significance.

I hope that Parish and Town Councillors are reassured that Hampshire County Council is standing up for Hampshire communities and for the environment in its response to the Government consultation.

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers

Appendix 4 : Payment Schedule

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net Total	Vat	Total
18/09/2024	BDO LLP	External Audit for Greatham Parish Council	£420.00	£84.00	£504.00
30/09/2024	Reg White	St Johns Graveyard maintenance	£168.00	£0.00	£168.00
17/09/2024	microsoft	Online services and apps	£8.60	£1.72	£10.32
21/09/2024	Giff Gaff	Mobile Phone	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
20/09/2024	RP Commercial Services Ltd	2 x days pathways clearing	£980.00	£196.00	£1176.00
Receipts					
19/09/2024	EHDC	Precept 24/25 - 2	£11,500.00	£0.00	£11,500.00

Appendix 5 : Finance Report and Bank Reconciliations

Receipts 1st September to 30th September 2024

Total Receipts £11,694.66

Balances as at 30th September 2024

Current Account £15,891.15

Deposit Account £26,518.55

Total at Bank £42,409.70

Earmarked Funds Held

Trees £ 900.00

Community Engagement £ 250.00

Elections £3500.00

EMR CIL + £2K Grant £1720.00

Telephone Box £ 500.00

Kings Coronation £ 500.00

Old Church £4500.00

Defib Maintenance £ 250.00

Bus Shelters £ 250.00

Total Earmarked Funds £12,370.00

General Reserves Balance £30,039.70 (Total at Bank less Earmarked funds)

Appendix 6 : Clerks Report

- Discussed funding opportunities for the old church with a location company. Options possible for film location, music video filming, weddings etc. Need to investigate option for power and light.
- Follow up on External Audit to submit further information.

- Attended Councillor drop in session and took notes on discussions that took place.
- Was due to attend Hampshire football workshop, but as GPC will not be doing any work on the football fields in the immediate future did not attend. Have full slide deck and contact details of the meeting that took place.
- Met with Local MP Greg Stafford, to keep dialogue going about needs of the Greatham community.
- Met with Russell Oppenheimer (HCC) and Joe Folland (SDNP) to discuss the traffic calming options available to the village and the recent damage to the fence at the junction of Petersfield Road and Farnham Road. Visited the resident involved and took photographs. Reported the incident to HCC Traffic.
- Discussed options for managing the process of installation of the pedestrian crossing and traffic management of the site. Further investigation to take place for a parking suspension notice.
- Met the legal requirement of the audit by publishing the required documentation on the parish website by 30th September 2024.

Appendix 7 : Notes from HCC Highways Meeting

- Post replacement along Petersfield road (SJ to send document with details)
- Finger post erected on junction of Petersfield road and Longmoor Road : do I need to request this? or are you happy to move this forward Joe?
- Joe to discuss clearance of junction of Petersfield road and Farnham road, at site of traffic accident, request road markings to be reinstated, and look at colour of replaced chevron corner signage. I believe we also discussed the positioning of a 30 speed sign closer to the junction?
- SJ to raise the option of double yellow lines either side of the school in Greatham village at Parish council meeting on 9th October 2024.
- Joe to review the existing speed signage for slowing traffic close to the school. Solar panels to be updated and signage to be serviced to make operational.
- Joe to request the do not park road markings outside the school to be renewed as they are faint or missing in places.
- Joe to liaise with police and request they visit the village during school drop off and pick up to assess the parking issues in relation to road and pedestrian safety.
- Given budget restraints I suggest we park the pedestrian crossing installation at this point, as it is likely to not meet public expectations in what is delivered, and we have an ongoing issue with vehicles restricting access to the site.
- Joe to review the option of having road indents (?) from Longmoor Road up to Digby roundabout to help restrict the speed of traffic through this part of the village.
- SJ to approach Cllr Costigan to see if ANPR camera's can be used in Greatham from the EHDC allocated stock.
- SJ to discuss at the parish council meeting the use of 30 speed roundalls on the road from Longmoor road to Digby way roundabout. these are an effective reminder to vehicles of the speed limit through the village and are a cost effective solution which the parish council could fund.

- Additional points from Cllr Oppenheimer :
 - We agreed to explore the cost of School Flashing 20 signs using the existing solar infrastructure.
 - Joe suggested thicker and more central edge lining to narrow the perception of the road
 - I suggested Children signs at either end of the proposed double yellows.

Appendix 8 : Notes from Councillor Drop in Session

- Notes from parish councillors prior to residents arrival :
 - Book zip wire service.
 - Purchase remembrance wreaths for St Johns Church and GPC, and order 11 additional large poppies for village display. Service 10th November 2024
 - Put up large poppies around the village. Cllr Lafferty.
- The Millenium Tree planted in the village has been cut back by an unknown person, presumably Norse, and the debris left on the verge. Ask about clearance.
- Village Green posts all need replacing.
- Daffodils planted on the village green, any help to plant, and option to plan in front of village entry signs.
- St Johns 150 year anniversary in 2025, GPC support for celebration to be considered.
- Oak trees on the boundary between Deal Farm and Hill View. All have TPO. One appears to be dying and the others seem to be cut. Can anything be done to stop this happening? GPC will take this up with the District Councillors.
- Is it possible to supply equipment to support the ongoing maintenance of the Old Church? Clerk to book an Old Church working party meeting.
- Footpath between Snailing Lane and Greatham overgrown to need to walk in the road. Can this be cut back and the hedge cut back further.
- Request made that all hedges in the village be trimmed at correct time of year to ensure full access to footpaths when walking in the village. October magazine copy to include this request from the Parish Council.
- Request to HCC Councillor Russell Oppenheimer to update on the Chief Engineer comments regarding accident black spot on junction of Petersfield road and Farnham road.
- Traffic calming measures to be discussed : pedestrian crossing to be intalled. Traffic enforcement notice to be issued to ensure work can take place. Zig zags outside of school need re-painting. 20 MPH signage to be considered, yellow average speed camera's installed at either end of the village, school sign saying 20 installed near school crossing areas, ANPR camera's purchased to be set up as average speed camera's through the village.