

MINUTES OF THE MICHELDEVER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held virtually (using Zoom)

at 7.45pm on Wednesday 5th May 2021

Councillors present: William Helen (Chairman), Anne Freeland, Andrew Adams, Graham Foot, Charlotte Cobb, Neil Hornby, David Wandless, Roger Townsend, Peter O'Keefe, Olive Bramley.
In attendance: HCClr Jackie Porter, DCllr Caroline Horrill, DCllr Stephen Godfrey.
Clerk: Jocelyn Jenkins
Public: Inspector John Stribley (Hants Police) and up to 20 others.
Apologies: DCllr Patrick Cunningham.

067 CODE OF CONDUCT Cllr Adams – Warren Centre (NPI), Cllr Helen – East Stratton Village Hall (NPI), Cllr Bramley – East Stratton Village Hall (NPI), Cllr Cobb – Northbrook Hall (NPI), Cllrs Hornby and O'Keefe declared interests in planning applications as at 073.1 below.

068 MINUTES of the (virtual) Ordinary Parish Council meeting of 7th April 2021 were **agreed**.

069 MATTERS ARISING from the minutes

069.1 058.1 Village Shop Micheldever Community Enterprise Society (MCES) advised that the £995.00 of expenses incurred from the loan made by the Parish Council relate to joining the Plunkett Foundation (£240), registering a trade mark (£170) and making a pre-planning application (£585). It was **agreed** that MCES would not be asked to repay the expenses incurred in joining the Plunkett Foundation or registering the trade mark. The remaining balance of £590.00 should be repaid if MCES are able to do so from income received during the duration of the loan. If no income is received which can be used to make repayments during the three-year term of the loan then the Parish Council will review the matter once more.

The meeting adjourned for reports and questions from the public

070 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

070.1 Inspector John Stribley, Hants Police opened by providing an explanation of the Police response to the events on the A33 over the previous weekend. He noted that prior to the weekend reports had been received by the Police of travellers planning to attend the area but that the figures expected were much lower than the number who actually attended. Following the meeting Inspector Stribley provided the following summary:

I can understand the evident frustrations felt by some of your parishioners in the meeting last night and their perceptions around the Police action but as stated, the actions taken were to ensure the safety of the community. The numbers that attended the A33 on Saturday 1st May far exceeded the number anticipated and the blocking of both carriageways by up to 500 individuals meant that putting intermittent closures on the A33, with the Police resources available, ensured public safety whilst keeping disruption to those in the area to a minimum. The change in the subsequent information picture, not just the numbers and behaviour of those involved, but also the environmental damage and incidents at nearby hotels and licensed premises will impact on our Police response going forward. As stated in the meeting, please encourage parishioners to report any issues to the Police either online, through 101, via their Neighbourhood Team or 999 if it is an emergency.

He noted that the event which is believed to be planned for 19th-20th June will be subject to a force-wide Police response.

Residents and councillors asked Inspector Stribley questions as follows:

Will the 19th/20th June event be allowed to go ahead?

This is not known at present but it cannot be allowed to go ahead in the same way and more Police resources would therefore be utilised. A decision has not yet been taken but evidence from the past weekend will inform the decision. It is against the law to race horses on the highway but to stop the racing last weekend would have required Police resources in excess of the level of the crime.

Re-assurance is needed that residents will not be put in this position again and that more resources will be available and be proportionate for the next event

Planning will be based on what has transpired this weekend and proper resources will be allocated for the June event. The Police will deal with as many offences as possible and will prioritise dealing with these eg drink/drug driving ahead of horse racing.

Chairman's initials Date

The event is occurring and getting larger because smaller events have been allowed previously and been ignored or not acted upon by the Police. The impression given at the weekend was that the Police were supporting the event by allowing large numbers to build up. Trap racing and practice is taking place regularly. Will the Police

monitor this and act upon it as a deterrent?

The impact of the weekend's event was felt in Winchester and Basingstoke, not just on the A33 and much better resources will therefore be available in future. It is agreed that a precedent should not be set and consideration given to moving the event to a different location in future. Many travellers were staying in hotels and licensing teams have followed up on this but need to be careful not to discriminate. Equine officers were present over the weekend to consider animal welfare. There were no injured horses or any evidence of mistreatment. Planning and enforcement issues relating to Carousel Park are the responsibility of WCC.

The Chairman thanked Inspector Stribley for his attendance and expressed his sympathy to affected residents. He noted that the Parish Council have been in contact with Steve Brine, MP to seek his support for more robust action. Steve has contacted the Police Minister in respect of the powers the Police can have available to them. DCllr Horrill thanked Inspector Stribley for attending the meeting and the Chairman for allowing residents time to ask questions. She noted some of the wider issues, such as animal welfare, where attendees are staying and rubbish clearance which need to be considered by WCC and HCC and that the City Councillors, with HCllr Porter, need to work on enforcement with assistance from the Police.

HCCllr Porter noted that events such as the one last weekend feel like intimidation to residents and that they need a means of quickly reporting the build up of travellers. They should also be advised of road closures when their homes are within the closed section. She asked how we can quash the idea that an illegal act is acceptable on the A33.

Residents have been asked to report incidents via 101 or on-line but there was a general consensus that 101 is not effective. Cllr Freeland noted that there is no point asking residents to use 101 if it is ineffective and that as the Police already know that there is a repeated problem they should take action. Residents also queried why they should try to report incidents when the Police are already present and allowing racing to continue. A resident noted that rather than policing future events these should be prevented from happening but Inspector Stribley advised that no clear organiser has been identified.

071 REPORTS

- 071.1 HCllr Jackie Porter provided a written report (Appendix 1) and drew attention to the continuing HCC covid response and the Gigabit Scheme. The scheme was stopped early by Openreach but a new scheme has replaced it and it is hoped that HCC will provide a further top up fund.
She noted that enforcement officers have been recruited for Carousel Park but that covid has delayed the start of their work.
- 071.2 DCllr Stephen Godfrey advised that Lisa Kirkham, the WCC Monitoring Officer, has published a review of meeting rules following the ending of virtual meetings and that she can provide advice to councils.
The new leisure park at Bar End will open on 28th May.
The Government have made more money available for businesses who need to adapt or diversify. These are available on a first come basis until 24th May.
- 071.3 DCllr Caroline Horrill noted that whilst Inspector Stribley had indicated that enforcement at Carousel Park was a WCC matter, there is also a criminal element and that this needs dealing with. Rubbish from the past weekend will be cleared where possible but a lane closure is required for some areas and this will therefore be done later in May by utilising a closure already planned for grass cutting.
The first round of the Local Plan consultation is now complete. The responses are currently being processed and will be published in due course.
Cllr Bramley asked whether it is council tax payers who cover the cost of the extra rubbish collections.
Cllr Horrill confirmed that this is the case and applies equally to Police costs, all of which are felt to be the local authorities. She noted that HCllr Porter has asked for the costs of the event to be recorded.

The meeting resumed

Chairman's initials Date

072 CORRESPONDENCE received by the Clerk in the past month:

Allotment holder	Request received for fencing and stand pipes.	Agreed that individuals can secure their own plots in accordance with current rules. Water butts & troughs encouraged not additional mains use.
Meadow View	Residents enquiring re permission to park at the the Lord Rank playing field.	Agreed not to give permission as the parking is for recreational users eg football teams.
WCC	Licensing application re Mucky Weekender Festival,	Circulated to all councillors together

073 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

<u>073.1 New Applications</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Draft comments</u>
506 Woodmancott House, Rownest Wood Lane, Woodmancott	Swimming pool building for previously approved swimming pool.	No comment.
507 4 Stratton Close. East Stratton	To fell non-native eucalyptus tree.	No comment.
508 Waterside, Bilberry Lane, Micheldever	Erection of detached garage to replace 2 existing outbuildings.	No comment.
509 Surmai, Northbrook, M'dever	Ground floor rear extension & replacement cladding.	No comment.
510 Bakehouse Cottage, Church Lane, Micheldever	Retrospective amendments to permission 17/02678/HOU.	No comment.
511 The Old Post Cottage, Andover	To remove holly (Tree Preservation Order).	No comment.

073.2 Cllr Hornby declared an interest in 507 and Cllr O'Keefe declared an interest in 511. They did not participate in the voting on these applications. The draft comment on 506 to 511 were **agreed**.

073.3 062.3 Affordable Housing & Exception Sites WCC have sent residents of Southbrook Cottages a further consultation on the proposed changes to parking. This has been circulated to councillors and there were no further comments made.
Helen Farnham (WCC) provided a short item about progress at Barron Close for the May edition of the Dever.

073.4 062.4 Village Design Statement It was **agreed** to accept the completed VDS and this will now be submitted to WCC. Cllr O'Keefe was thanked for the considerable time he has spent producing the very impressive final version of the document.

073.5 062.5 Winchester Local Plan 2036 & Call for sites The next stage of the Local Plan process is awaited.

073.6 062.6 Carousel Park HCCllr Porter confirmed that the enforcement contractor can enter the site from 17th May.

073.7 062.7 Community Greening Campaign Only one potential volunteer has come forward from the community but a Climate Change committee was formed at the Annual Meeting earlier this evening and it will seek to take forward the Greening Campaign and recruit more volunteers. Cllr O'Keefe will chair the committee with Cllrs Freeland and Adams also members.

074 PARISH SERVICES

074.1 063.1 Highways Matters Cllr Bramley confirmed that the Lengthsman sanded and re-oiled benches on his last visit to the Parish.

074.2 063.2 Pavement Micheldever Station to railway bridge HCC Specialist Environmental Services are due to visit to record the fungi.

074.3 063.3 Network Rail No new reports received this month.

074.4 063.4 SLR & Community Funded Initiatives The Traffic Engineer is currently contacting the landowner on Overton Road for permission to accommodate the gateway sign which is wider than the strip of highways land available.

074.5 063.5 A303 Flooding HCCllr Porter confirmed that work is continuing and that there will be a full road closure for a short time.

074.6 063.6 A33 Footpath A meeting is awaited following the elections.

Chairman's initials Date

075 SPORTS & RECREATION

075.1 064.1 Warren Field & Play Area Arrangements for key holders for the security gates were confirmed.

A quote has been received for the proposed petanque area. Cllr Bramley will liaise with the interested petanque players to obtain a second quote for consideration at the July meeting.

Cllrs Wandless and Foot have carried out the minor repairs identified in the annual play area report.

075.2 064.2 LRPF Pavilion & Play Area The potential available budget for the play area will be revised and circulated to the Sports and Finance committee members for consideration.

076 FINANCE

076.1 Accounts for payment were **agreed**:

		Total	VAT	Net
2551 HALC	HALC Affiliation & NALC Levy 2021/22	450.30	0.00	450.30
2552 Lynsey Sweeney	ROW expenses (from grant)	85.60	0.00	85.60
2553 Andrew Adams	Zoom subscription	14.39	2.40	11.99
2554 Jocelyn Jenkins	April expenses	78.54	1.16	77.38

2555	Jocelyn Jenkins	April salary			807.29	0.00	807.29
2556	David Wandless	Refund of costs re repairs and key cutting	67.49	0.00	67.49		2557
	Nursery Agric.Servs	Security fencing works at Warren Field	10404.00	1734.00	8670.00		
2558	Colin Thatcher	Grass cutting ES Open Space			60.00	0.00	60.00
DD	NEST	March pension contributions			198.51	0.00	198.51

RFO's Report

076.2 065.2 Balances & Bank reconciliation Balances report 28th February 2021.

Cash held: £78,921.33. Reserves: Earmarked: £63,617. General: £15,304.

076.3 065.3 Bank Accounts An application for digital banking has been made to RBS.

076.4 065.4 Risk Management & Covid Response Cllr Adams noted that infection rates are locally very low. Business grants (see 071.2 above) are being promoted to local businesses.

077 OTHER COMMITTEES

077.1 066.1 Northbrook Hall A meeting is to be held next week and the hall plans to open from 21st June.

077.2 066.2 The Warren Centre The AGM was held last week.

077.3 066.3 East Stratton Village Hall The AGM is to be held on 24th May and bookings are starting to be received.

077.4 066.4 Allotments See correspondence.

077.5 066.5 Media and Broadband No report.

077.6 066.6 Monthly Dever item Inspector Stribley and HC Cllr Porter will be asked to provide items following the A33 issues last weekend.

077.7 Other Council matters

077.7.1066.7.1 Meetings The emergency legislation allowing remote meetings expires this month. However, in light of the restrictions still in place until 21st June, both the national and Hampshire associations are strongly advising against holding meetings in person before 21st June. It was **agreed** to hold the next full council meeting on Wednesday 7th July (venue to be confirmed). There will be no meeting in June unless it is necessary to hold a brief meeting to approve the Annual Return.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm

Next meeting: Details will be posted on the website. The next full council meeting will be on Wednesday 7th July.

Chairman's signature