

Minutes of the Meeting of the Sway Parish Council held on Thursday 24th August 2017 at the Jubilee Field Pavilion, Station Road, Sway at 7:30pm

Attendance:

Barry Rickman (Chair)
David Golby (Vice Chair)
Kevin Cripps
Peter Dance
Ted Fleat
Hugh Marchant
Alex Pepper
Melanie Seacombe
Stephen Tarling
Len Thomas
Graham Turner
John Warden

Italics indicates not present.

Also in attendance: County Councillor Keith Mans, The Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer David Edwards, a representative from Sway News and seventeen members of the public.

PC 17/093 Apologies

The Clerk advised that he had received apologies from Councillor Marchant.

PC 17/094 Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th July and Matters Arising

The minutes of the Meeting held on 20th July 2017 were reviewed. Councillor Warden suggested one small correction which was to delete the words “which the planning inspector allowed” in the penultimate paragraph on page 7 which was agreed. Subject to this change Councillor Tarling proposed that they be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Thomas and unanimously agreed. The approved minutes were signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:

- **Playground maintenance works**

The Clerk advised that a quote of £2,880.48 (excluding VAT) had been received from Sovereign Play who have previously undertaken maintenance work on the play park.

Two other companies had also been invited to quote – Hags SMP and Wicksteed. Hags SMP have advised that they would only be prepared to quote if one of their engineers first visited the site at a cost £60. Wicksteed have asked for some further information which has been provided but have not yet submitted a quote. It was agreed that in view of the size of the Sovereign quote it would be worth paying for an engineer from Hags SMP to visit so they could also quote.

- **Little Flyers application for funding**

Since the last meeting, Sharon Rickman the manager of Little Flyers had provided a copy of their bank statement and also confirmed that around 60% of the children attending Little Flyers are resident in Sway. Sharon Rickman also confirmed that Little Flyers was a registered charity.

- **Sway Cricket Club**

The Clerk advised that he had received a copy of the Cricket Club's bank statement and a letter of thanks from the Club's Chairman.

- **Memorial Bench for Mollie Mold**

Pat Fleat has confirmed that sufficient funds have been raised for the memorial bench for Mollie Mold so a contribution from the parish Council is no longer required. It may that at some point in the future a contribution towards the cost of some planting around the bench may be made.

PC 17/095 Chairman's Report

The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had received a letter from New Forest District Council which had been sent to all New Forest Parish Councils enquiring if the Parish Councillors wished to make an application to receive an allowance for undertaking Parish Council duties. The unanimous view of the Parish Councillors was that they did not wish to be remunerated for undertaking Parish Council duties and the Clerk was asked to respond to the New Forest District Council's letter to that effect.

PC 17/096 County Council Report

Councillor Mans reported that GCSE results in Hampshire were above the national average.

Councillor Mans also provided an update on the roll-out of superfast broadband in Hampshire. Superfast broadband has reached 91% of premises in Hampshire with plans to reach 95% by the end of 2017 and 97.4% of premises by the end of 2019. Hampshire County Council are working hard to meet or exceed these targets.

PC 17/097 Clerk's Report and Correspondence

PC Wickson has written to advise that in response to the recent wave of burglaries, extra patrols of uniformed and plain clothes officers have been put on. PC Wickson also advised that the recent spate of burglaries appear to have ceased.

PC17/098 UK Cycling

Natalie Hicks Managing Director of UK Cycling Events together with Jo Pickering, Logistics Manager attended the Meeting to answer questions regarding the organisation of cycling events in the New Forest. The next event planned was the Wiggle New Forest 100 planned for the week-end of 16th and 17th September. Natalie Hicks and Jo Pickering answered a variety of questions concerning the route, start times, numbers, marshalling, notice of events and road safety. In response to suggestions that additional marshals be deployed – particularly in the section by Mead End Road, Natalie Hicks advised that they would investigate this. UK Cycling Events were also encouraged to follow the New Forest Event Organiser's charter.

The Chairman thanked Natalie Hicks and Jo Pickering for attending and responding to the concerns that had been raised.

PC17/099 Finance:

- **Payment Schedule for August 2017**

The Schedule of payments for August had previously been circulated. Councillor Turner proposed that the Schedule should be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Fleat and unanimously approved.

PC 17/100 Stanford Rise

Councillor Seacombe advised that Keffen Plant Hire would shortly be starting work on the enhancement works to Stanford rise. Councillor Seacombe had also been in touch with the Village Hall committee to ask them to mark out the location of the proposed extension and scout hut.

PC17/101 Jubilee Field Update

The Chair advised that prior to the meeting Terry Simpson advised him that the trustees of the Sway Social Club were still in the process of discussing their proposals with members and did not want to present anything to the Parish Council there is a consensus within the Sway Social Club. Accordingly, there are no plans to be presented to the Parish Council this month.

PC17/102 Village Hall Update

Peter Cryer spoke to provide an update on the Village Hall re-development proposals. Peter Cryer explained that the Village Hall was now fifty years old and as a consequence its facilities need to be updated to meet current requirements. The stage which they had currently reached was that they had finished the conceptual work and had a good conceptual design, they had undertaken outline costings, obtained pre-planning advice and reached an agreement in principle in relation to the land at Stanford Rise. The Village Hall was now moving to the funding phase and looking to raise around £0.5m in order to complete the project.

As part of this, the Village Hall were keen to obtain the support of the Parish Council and in particular in relation to potential sources of funding and planning. Councillor Turner advised that this had been raised at a recent meeting of the Finance Working Group and there would be an agenda item regarding this at the next Parish Council Meeting.

PC17/103 Planning and Transport Committee Report

- **To receive and approve the report of the Planning and Transport Committee Meeting held on 10th August 2017**

The draft minutes of the Planning & Transport Committee Meeting were available on the Parish Council website.

Since the Committee meeting on 10th August, seven applications have been determined. Two were withdrawn (Application No 17/00526 for two agricultural buildings at Merrifield and Application No 17/00542 for a manege and fencing at Lepe House). Four were granted (Application No 17/00549 for a certificate of lawful development at Little Hollies in respect of a single storey extension, Application No 17/00521 for a single storey extension at Forest Way, Application No 17/00585 for the retention of a wooden chalet at Hollowood and Application No 17/00631 for a two storey extension at Claywood House).

The application for permission to retain 1.95m high fencing at Half Day House (Application No 17/00492) was refused by a majority of five to four.

PC17/104 Finance Working Group

The Chairman advised that there had recently been a meeting of the Finance Working Group and asked Councillor Turner to summarise discussions.

Councillor Turner advised that subject to review the audit of the Council's finances had now been completed.

Some suggestions for agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting had been made. In particular, the Working Group felt that it would be prudent to allocate some of the Parish Council's reserves to specific long term projects and asked Parish Councillors to provide details of any suggestions regarding this.

The Working Group also suggested that there should be agenda items covering support for the Village Hall and possible replacement of the play park equipment.

Councillor Turner asked councillors to let him know if there were any other areas which ought to be considered.

PC 17/105 Items for the Next Agenda

Councillor Seacombe asked that an update on the tree survey be provided at the next meeting.

PC16/106 Any Other Business

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 28th September at 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:40pm.

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Chairman

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Date