

Present:

Cllr Stephen Tarling, Chairman

Cllr Graham Turner

Cllr David Golby

Cllr Len Thomas

Cllr Melanie Seacombe

Katie Walding, Clerk & RFO

Cllr Kevin Cripps, Vice Chairman

Cllr Ted Fleat

Cllr Hugh Marchant

Cllr John Warden

Cllr Peter Dance

In attendance: Sway News and 6 members of the public (MotPs)

The meeting started at 7:30pm with a welcome from the Chairman and a reminder that the meeting will be recorded.

19/059. Apologies

Received from Cllr Pepper and Cllr Mans.

19/060. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Marchant sits on the New Forest Association Planning Committee. Cllrs Tarling and Warden are members of the New Forest Association. Cllrs Seacombe and Thomas are members of the Tennis Club.

19/061. Minutes of the previous Meeting

Draft minutes of the meeting held on 28th March 2019 had been previously circulated and published. Members who had been present at that meeting unanimously approved the minutes as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

The Clerk noted that Cllr Turner had asked whether Cllr Mans could update members in regard to the junction of Mead End, Station and Brighton Roads. Cllr Mans had responded to her indicating that he had checked with Hampshire Highways about the safety issue at the junction and they would be getting back to her about it. The Clerk promised an update when she had heard any more.

19/062. Chairman's Report

The Chairman noted that this was the last Parish Council meeting of the current session.

He had received a lot of appreciative feedback concerning the Annual Parish Assembly – including from County and District Councillors. He thanked the Parish Clerk, Katie Walding, and the guest speaker Tony Hockley as well as each and every short slot speaker who all kept to time and provided brilliant summaries. He also offered thanks for the support from New Forest Marque and other local providers of food, drink and information. He suggested that next year the event should probably start earlier in the evening.

The Chairman went on to comment that twelve Parish Councillors are elected unopposed and take office on 7th May. There would therefore be no election for Parish Councillors and



no vacancies to be filled by co-option; and the Council would maintain the General Power of Competence.

On Thursday 2nd May there would be an election for our District Councillors – there are three nominations for two seats in the Boldre and Sway Ward; and election materials are now going out by post and on social media. The polling station will be the Church Rooms – open 7am to 10pm.

The Chairman was grateful to all members of the Finance Working Group, and the Open Spaces & Facilities Working Group and the Planning Committee, for all their recent meetings to tie up loose ends and ensure things are ship-shape for the new Parish Council. Cllr Tarling had been involved in all those recent meetings, and reports and recommendations from each were covered later in the agenda.

Finally he wanted to remind everyone that the Tiptoe Annual May Fayre in support of The Tiptoe Green is on Saturday 11th May from 12-4pm; the Sway Junior Parish Council would meet in the Pavilion on Sunday 12th May at 2pm; the Silver Hind Planning Inspector's hearing would take place on Wednesday 15th May at 10am in Lymington Town Hall; and the first opportunity to formally meet the new Sway Parish Council would be at the Pavilion on Thursday 16th May at 7:30pm for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

19/063. County Council Report

Cllr Mans was not able to attend.

19/064. District Council Report

Cllr Rickman was limited by purdah so offered to take any questions. Cllr Seacombe asked about the plans for the scout hut and Cllr Rickman said progress was slowly being made.

19/065. Clerk's Report and Correspondence

The Clerk had received a remittance advice for the first half of the 2019/20 Precept payment from NFDC which would be credited to the Council's bank account on 29th April.

She noted the following:

- Temporary Events Notice: Annual School Fair, St Luke's Primary School Sale of Alcohol, 22/05/2019, 15:30-18:30
- Temporary Events Notice: Sway Drama Club Production, St Luke's Church Hall Sale of alcohol, 28/06/2019-30/06/2019, 18:00-22:00
- Centurion Site Services had requested a temporary road closure at Shirley Holms, between 2100hrs Monday 10th June and 0500hrs Tuesday 11th June, in order to carry out rail bridge inspection works.

Following the resolution to re-award the tree works contract, the previous month, the Clerk confirmed that the high and medium priority work had now been completed - with thanks to the new contractor for stepping in so promptly.



Following the resolution under 19/055 the previous month, regarding the table tennis table at the Youth Centre, the Clerk confirmed that the quotes received directly to the Parish Council were exactly in line with the anticipated expenditure and therefore she would – as instructed – proceed to order the items as set out previously. She would coordinate with the Youth Centre accordingly.

The Clerk wanted to briefly acknowledge those members standing down after the elections. She said it had been a whirlwind 18 months as Clerk, and that she had thoroughly enjoyed working with the members over that time. She offered thanks to them for giving her the opportunity in the first place, and for all their support to her, in getting to grips with that most unique role, and to wish them all well.

19/066. Finance

a) Finance Working Group

Cllr Cripps said the FWG had met on Monday 15th April and had decided to minute their meeting for the benefit of the new Council. He summarised the key points and recommendations as follows:

Item 1: Cllr Cripps noted that the General Reserves are approximately £50,000 at the year-end (allowing for the recommended earmarked reserves below). This equated to 75% of the Precept.

Item 2: Internal Audit Report – the FWG were comfortable that no issues were noted.

Item 3: The Annual Governance and Accountability Return would be covered separately below but following review, the FWG recommended its approval.

Item 4: Accounts packages would be trialled by the Clerk and she would update the new Council in due course.

Item 5: The FWG recommended earmarking reserves as per the circulated amounts:

DECISION: To earmark reserves of £20,000 for Legionella Works, proposed by Cllr Cripps,

seconded by Cllr Thomas – unanimously approved

DECISION: To earmark reserves of £3150 for the Table Tennis Table proposed by Cllr

Cripps, seconded by Cllr Turner – unanimously approved

ACTION: The Clerk would include a summary of Reserves on the monthly accounts

issued to the Council going forwards.

Item 6: The Clerk had calculated the sport clubs' rents for 2019/20 and issued letters; she noted that the Cricket Club already paid.

Item 7: Alex Pepper would be added as an authorised signatory.



Item 8: The Clerk had prepared a document and would issue this as guidance for fund requests from any of the user groups.

Item 9(i): Lease arrangements on the Youth Centre would need to be addressed by the next Council, perhaps by way of a Task and Finish Group. The Clerk updated members that she had met with Colin Denman and was reviewing the paperwork to establish the current position more clearly. Cllr Fleat informed that initial discussions indicated that if the lease was renewed, then perhaps instead of a peppercorn rent, a more realistic figure would be charged. Cllr Rickman commented that the lease should be renegotiated with the Church, but with the use of the site and building clearly for the benefit of the community.

Item 9(ii): Following a meeting of the OS&FWG both groups had recommended that additional storage be added to the lobby area of the Pavilion at an estimated cost of £1000.

DECISION: To earmark reserves of £1000 to provide a storage solution in the lobby

proposed by Cllr Cripps, seconded by Cllr Golby – unanimously approved

b) Payment Schedule

This had been circulated and published prior to the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that a transfer would be made from the S106 account to the current account as a year-end wrap up, covering the expenditure on Stanford Rise Green which was supported by the funds drawn down previously and held for this purpose in the S106 account.

DECISION: Cllr Cripps proposed and Cllr Marchant seconded that the Payment Schedule

for April be approved, and members unanimously agreed.

c) Bank Reconciliation

This had been circulated and published prior to the meeting.

DECISION: Cllr Cripps proposed and Cllr Marchant seconded that the Bank Reconciliation

for March 2019 be approved, and members unanimously agreed.

d) Internal Audit Report

The internal audit report had been circulated for review and was received and duly noted by members.

e) Annual Governance Statement 2018/19

This document had been reviewed by the FWG and circulated to all members.

DECISION: Cllr Cripps proposed and Cllr Warden seconded that the Annual Governance

Statement for 2018/19 be approved and this was unanimously agreed.



f) Annual Accounting Statement 2018/19

This document had been completed and signed by the RFO, reviewed by the FWG and circulated to all members.

DECISION: Cllr Cripps proposed and Cllr Golby seconded that the Annual Accounting

Statement for 2018/19 be approved and this was unanimously agreed.

g) Governance and Accounting Statements

Following approval at e) and f) above, the Chairman signed both Accounting and Governance Statements, and the Clerk signed the Governance Statement.

19/067. Open Spaces and Facilities

a) OS&F Working Group

Item 1: OS&FWG recommended (along with FWG) the creation of suitable storage space in the lobby area. The new emergency cord system had been ordered.

Item 2: Following a complaint about use of the kitchen for unhygienic purposes, the Clerk would write to all user groups to remind them that the area was only to be used for food preparation. Additional signage to be added.

Item 3: The Clerk to remind all user groups of the site curfew at 10pm and procedures relating to site security.

Item 4: The Allotment draft risk assessment would be completed.

Item 5: The Clerk had reported that all high and medium priority works identified in the last survey were now completed. Cllr Turner asked the Clerk to check whether the Oak tree over hanging the Little Flyers area belonged to the Council.

Item 6: Following the recommendation from OS&FWG that the additional signage proposed by the Tennis Club be refused, the Club had asked to withdraw the proposal and this was noted. However, the Council discussed the matter of further signage and agreed that no further signage would be supported on the Jubilee Field site. Members expressed concern that via the Planning Committee meetings, they took a firm stance on this across the village and should abide by their own rules and those set out in the Sway Village Design Statement. They thought the banners fixed to the external hedges temporarily were effective for special events.

ACTION:

The Clerk to write to the Tennis Club to let them know that the Council will not approve any additional signage in the proposed location, but this should not be taken as any indication of lack of support for the Club or its positive intentions.

Item 7: The received request to waive fees raised the question more generally of whether a standard policy should be agreed by the Council. After extensive discussion



between the OS&FWG it was recommended that everyone pays for the hall hire, since it is funded by public money and a large amount of money is needed to maintain the facility. It was noted that the Sports Clubs were able to use the hall as part of their lease agreements and at no additional cost. The Council could take an option to waive the fees for a specific reason, by way of a vote, or they could make a gift to a charity directly if they felt it an appropriate use of public funds in line with the Grants Policy. Other venues in the village charged charities and the Council should not be seen to undercut those operations.

DECISION:

Cllr Cripps proposed, and Cllr Marchant seconded that the Council should uniformly apply hire charges for the hall to all standard hirers – unanimously agreed.

Item 8: The Council would take a stand at the Sway Carnival Fete. A request to grant permission for tree climbing activities at the Fete was considered.

DECISION:

Cllr Cripps proposed and Cllr Turner seconded that, subject to appropriate insurance approval being received from all parties, permission be granted for the tree climbing activity at the Sway Carnival Fete – unanimously agreed.

Item 9: A received request to place a memorial bench in Sway had led to a discussion about the need for a Policy to cover such an arrangement as none was currently in place. The Clerk and Chair of OS&FWG had created a draft Policy for the Council's consideration (attached). The key points were some financial arrangement towards the maintenance of a bench, and a time limit imposed to remove the obligation in perpetuity. One minor edit was suggested, under bullet point 6 where the Council would 'try to' contact the donor – before any decision was made.

DECISION:

The adoption of the drafted Memorial Bench Policy (with minor amendment) was proposed by Cllr Cripps, seconded by Cllr Marchant – unanimously agreed.

ACTION:

The Clerk to respond to the requester and provide the Policy for their consideration and give advice on the permission to be sought for the location, as it was not on Parish Council land.

Item 10: Some time ago the Council had considered the option of installing a solar powered barrier to provide extra security as the manual barrier was frequently left open and the Clerk had tried, and failed, to establish a rota for closing it. After further research it was established that the technology was not yet robust, and other solutions would be very expensive. OS&FWG therefore recommended that the Council resolve not to pursue this matter any further.

DECISION:

Cllr Cripps proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded that the additional barrier security matter be closed – unanimously agreed.



ACTION:

The Clerk to investigate the increased insurance premiums for the tennis court carpets and natural surface sports pitches. To be reported to the next Council for their consideration.

b) Yarn Bombing

The Council considered granting permission for the inclusion of the Jubilee Oak in the yarn bombing event during Sway Carnival Week (28th June – 7th July). Following the huge success of a similar project for the Remembrance commemorations the Council were keen to support this idea and asked the Clerk to respond positively.

19/068. Planning and Transport

a) Committee Meeting

Cllr Marchant noted that the minutes of the 11th April meeting had been on the website for some time but explained that since the current PaTC would not be in attendance when those minutes were reviewed and signed, he thought it appropriate to briefly remark on some items within the minutes, as well as reporting on those things that have happened since.

PT19/060 Trees

The Clerk, with Karen Marshall as Tree Representative would write to Hampshire Highways regarding the wish for a TPO for the Jubilee Oak.

PT19/064 New Applications

- 19/00227 Coombe Grange
 A brief note to the Planning Officer had been drafted by Cllr Warden and would be sent from the Clerk on behalf of the Committee. The draft would be circulated with the draft minutes of this meeting, for PaTC approval (attached as Appendix 1).
- 19/00161 Lancewood House
 A more detailed response had been circulated around the committee and Cllr Tarling had made some excellent suggestions for improvement. The draft was approved by the PaTC members present, with an abstention from Cllr Warden as he had not yet seen the draft (attached as Appendix 2).

PT19/065 Outcome of planning applications

- 19/00257 SWITCHELLS, BIRCHY HILL
 Decision: Prior Approval Not Required (Sway was not invited to comment)
- 19/00152 BELGRANO, CHURCH LANE
 Decision: Grant Subject to Conditions (Sway recommended a 5)
 An amended plan was submitted showing the gable end material changed from UPVC to timber painted white, to meet NFNPA requirements.
- 18-00946 HATCH MOTORS OF SWAY
 Still showing as 'Awaiting Decision' five weeks after the Committee meeting that approved it, presumably due to the production of suitable conditions to support the



movement of pedestrians, and the safe management of underground fuel tanks on the site.

PT19/067. Planning Inspectorate and Enforcement Appeals

18/00711 Land of South Sway Orchard

Cllr Marchant and Karen Marshall had drafted a response for the Committee and this would be circulated for email approval. The response would need to be finalised by the current PaTC before 6th May, for submission by 9th May.

PT19/068. NFNPA Planning Committee

The NFNPA local plan is now out for a final consultation on the proposed main modifications that have come about following the planning inspectors' report. The main direct impact for Sway is the watering down of the affordable housing requirement in policy SP24 – the Church Lane development. Instead of stating that 50% of the houses must be affordable, it now requires "The provision of on-site affordable housing for local people in housing need in accordance with the target of 50% affordable housing;".

The more general policy SP27 has similarly been watered down to state: c) On development sites of 11 dwellings or more, a target of 50% affordable housing will be "sought on site" rather than "must be made on-site".

It is further worrying that Policy DP34 has been amended to remove the statement "The four Defined Villages are rural areas often characterised by spacious residential plots set within mature landscapes."

There are other changes but these are the major ones affecting Sway. The consultation period ends at 12 noon on 31st May 2019.

Minor modifications are not subject to the consultation, but it's worthwhile noting that the provision of a safe, off-road pedestrian link from the Jubilee Field Sports Ground to Church Lane through the site will be supported, and that "The access to the site off Church Lane must ensure adequate visibility splays and provide safe access to the school and on foot to the village centre;".

Parking standards for retail development are to be specifically included in Annex 2 of the plan:

Туре	Car Parking Standard	Cycle Parking Standard
Non-food retail and general retail (covered retail areas)	1 space per 20 m ₂	Greater of 1 space per 6 staff or 1 per 300m ₂
Non-food retail and general retail (uncovered retail areas)	1 space per 30 m2	Greater of 1 space per 6 staff or 1 per 300m ₂
Food retail	1 space per 14 m ₂ covered areas	Greater of 1 space per 6 staff or 1 per 300m ₂



Wording here also states:

"This annex sets out the required parking standards, rather than maximum or minimum standards. All new development proposals should comply with these standards. Reduced parking provision may be acceptable in certain circumstances, such as where there is relatively good accessibility by public transport."

Cllr Tarling noted that the NFNPA pre-application advice service will be available between 9am-12pm (reduced from 1pm) Monday to Friday.

b) Transport Matters

Cllr Marchant noted that SID helped report 88 speeding vehicles to the police the previous week, with two exceeding 50 mph.

Community Speed Watch are still waiting for permission to use the 3 locations requested on the open forest 40 mph area and Cllr Marchant planned a meeting with police next Wednesday to identify precisely where CSW might operate. He reiterated the need for additional volunteers in order to do this but as yet, nobody had come forward.

A member of the public had requested that VERA be located in the vicinity of Arnewood Bridge. Cllr Marchant would apply for permission to deploy it on the post currently holding the speed camera warning sign. This would not cost the Parish Council any extra money as there was one bracket spare.

Vera flashed at 24,895 people speeding at Birchy Hill in less than 3 weeks (equivalent to 460,652 speeders per year in just the one direction) and was now deployed at Brighton Road. Cllr Cripps had previously pointed out that she activated for vehicles that are still on the open forest 40 mph area. This had been noted before, and was perfectly acceptable since Vera's job was to remind people of the speed limit at the point where she was located. It did however mean that none of the statistical data collected would be usable from that location on Brighton Road. An alternative would be to purchase a post and post socket located further down Brighton Road at an estimated extra cost of approx. £626.85+vat but this was not preferable.

Feedback from volunteers helping to move Vera suggested that 4 volunteers would be required (rather than 3) when working at the more dangerous sites such as Birchy Hill and Pitmore Lane (and indeed Arnewood Bridge if a site was approved there), and to park their vehicles to physically impede traffic flow and offer some protection for volunteers. The appalling lack of any consideration shown by motorists during the short time that volunteers were deploying warning signs and cones, installing or removing Vera, and then clearing away the warning signs and cones meant that further steps needed to be taken for the sake of their safety.

Cllr Marchant had written his final mass cycle event report following the recent 2-day FreeWheel Spring Sportive and circulated it to the PaTC. He would submit this personally.

Cllr Cripps noted his disappointment that no commoners have volunteered for CSW



locations on the open forest given their continuous requests for traffic to slow down. If no new volunteers came forward then a discussion should be had whether to continue just on the village locations that the existing volunteers covered, otherwise the village activities would be diluted by the addition of forest locations.

Cllr Warden noted that he would like to carry on as Transport Rep for Cango if the new Council offered him such a role. He would encourage the new Council to contact New Milton Town Council to remind them of the requirement put in place for an annual governance meeting for which the new Council would need to agree a representative.

c) New Planning Applications

19/00288 – 1 Tebourba Cottages, Station Road, Sway Single storey rear extension Response by 13th May

Cllr Marchant noted that the previous application 19/00103 for a first-floor extension was granted and permitted development rights were removed. The officer had confirmed that this new application would bring the total increase in floorspace up to the 30% mark.

DECISION: 5. We are happy to accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers (unanimous)

Sway note that there was no pre-app advice sought and there are no clear dimensions. This site is outside defined village, and within DP11 limits at exactly 30%, so further Permitted Development rights should be removed. There would be very little impact on adjacent properties and the proposal is in keeping with local amenity. Surface water disposal should be agreed and this otherwise fits within Sway Village Design Statement.

11. 19/069. Sway Village Hall

Cllr Turner explained that the stair lift installation had been delayed; it would not be commissioned until the following week but was now in situ. The renewed 100yr lease was ready for signing. Though it could not be finalised until the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation is place. Due to delays at the Charities Commission it was likely to be 9-12 months.

Cllr Thomas noted that there had been no meeting to report on.

12. 19/070. Youth Centre

No meeting had been held.

13. 19/071. Other matters for discussion

None reported.

14. 19/072. Items for the Next Agenda

None requested.



15. 19/073. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 16th May 2019 – the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

The Chairman gave a small presentation to each of the eight Councillors who were standing down from the Council, and thanked them individually (attached for interest as Appendix 3) for their significant contributions to the Council and the parish of Sway, on behalf of the other members, the Clerk and most importantly the electorate.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 21:03 pm.

SIGNED:	DATE:



APPENDIX 1 – Draft letter to NFNPA re: Coombe Grange

To Clare Ings and Steve Avery

Sway Parish Council's Planning and Transport Committee was presented with the above application at its meeting on Thursday 11th April 2019. Any opportunity for the Committee to comment on the application proposals was denied it, since the decision to grant approval had already been made at Officer level based solely on the enlarged windows to the staircase of both dwellings. The other amendments appear to have been ignored.

Whilst it is possible that Sway's Committee may well have given approval for the amendment of the staircase windows, the other amendments give rise for concern.

The addition of a window and an external swing door for each kitchen on the side elevations, and the introduction of sliding/folding patio doors on the rear elevation on both dwellings is considered excessive for dwellings which were originally approved as Starter Homes for young people under application 16/00457.

It was the applicant who pleaded for this form of dwelling for young people at a meeting in Sway, despite the fact that such development in the countryside away from the village was against planning policies.

A later application (18/00869) to change the size and orientation of the two dwellings, with access via Pauls Lane was recommended for refusal by Sway Parish Council since it was moving away from the affordable homes ethic; the application was subsequently withdrawn.

Despite the withdrawal of this application, a substantial extent of hedgerow and verge was removed at the proposed point of access on to Pauls Lane. This was contrary to the original approval 16/00457 which sought to retain all trees and hedgerows on the Coombe Grange site. This hedgerow has not been reinstated in the recent planting season and therefore its removal is in breach of planning consent and should be investigated as an enforcement issue.

There are other minor amendments shown on the drawings which have been overlooked in granting approval and upon which any opportunity to comment by Sway Parish Council has been denied.

Sway Parish Council consider that this action by the NFNPA shows a lack of professionalism in the planning process that should be avoided in any future applications for amendments to approved drawings.

Yours sincerely etc....



APPENDIX 2 – Response to Lancewood House

19/00161 Lancewood House, Barrows Lane, Sway

DECISION: 4. We recommend REFUSAL for the reasons listed below (unanimous)

This application, at 143 square metres, presents a huge building which is not at all subservient and does not appear to be for incidental use. This is contrary to current policy DP12 and emerging policy DP37. For comparison: the maximum size of a new dwelling under the emerging policy is 100m²

Sway note that according to the application form, in pre-application advice at section 23 the officer recommended that "the overall floor area, which I calculate to be 115m², should also be reduced" and also says "I would advise that the proposals should be scaled down before an application is submitted." The same application form at section 4 says the site area is 146m². We note that there are few width or depth dimensions on the drawings

Since the removal of the agricultural restrictions, Lancewood House is now a privately owned property, recently modernised into a four/five bedroomed house.

The location is outside the defined village and this application is introducing what appears to be new industrial usage to the site which will result in intensification of use wholly contrary to current policy CP14. It will also encourage increased traffic locally contrary to current policies DP1(e) and DP16.

Consideration also should be given to the potential noise impact to neighbours from increased traffic and site usage. In particular the access to Lancewood House is from Barrows Lane running alongside a privately owned residential property (The Bungalow). Due to the close proximity of the access lane past The Bungalow this would obviously cause disruption. A drive parallel to this drive leads to the polo establishment to the south of Lancewood House. The polo yard has been in operation for many years and as far as it is known there has been no problem with the repair of any plant or machinery within the already established outbuildings, which could be used for this purpose.

The plans are for a building far in excess for personal use and are poorly designed for the use of repairs for agricultural plant and machinery. There is no provision in the planning for the storage of welding gas bottles or a three phase electricity supply, necessary for welding purposes. There is nothing in the documents to indicate that any fire proof material is to be used. Sway are concerned over either poor design or an alternative intended use.

The Sway Village Design Statement SPD Guidelines on garages and outbuildings limit such outbuildings to not be positioned in front of the house (in this case one wing of the outbuilding is in front of the building line of Lancewood House), and indicate that there should be sufficient off-street parking and the style should reflect that of the main building. These guidelines are not met.

Without prejudice, and if, counter-intuitively, this were to be granted, then conditions should be added to prevent the building from being used for habitable accommodation or for commercial use, and further permitted development rights should be removed to prevent gross over-intensification.



APPENDIX 3 – Chairman's Address to Councillors

One of the most difficult tasks I've had to undertake in my short period as Chair of Sway Parish Council is my final task today: to try to express the thanks of all Sway Residents to the eight councillors who have not sought re-election. Cumulatively they represent about 75 years of experience as Parish Councillors — each year given selflessly with no pay or allowances and often scant recognition. So, colleagues, please accept my apologies for all the things I've forgotten or won't have time to mention, and let me briefly remind us all of their contributions, and perhaps we can save our applause until the end.

John Warden has been a Councillor for about 3 years but before that was our transport rep and came to all our meetings for many years previously. He's made major contributions to planning, as might be expected of a retired architect, and has been a tireless campaigner for our local CANGO bus service.

Graham Turner has been a Councillor for 4 years serving on a number of Working Groups, and Chairing Finance; and was our Village Hall representative until he was no longer eligible because he is now Chairman of the Village Hall Committee – a testament to his continuing support of the Sway Community, and an area where we wish him every success.

Melanie Seacombe served her apprenticeship as author of the Sway Village Design Statement before her 4 years as a Parish Councillor marked by her major contributions to the Open Spaces and Facilities Working Group, and as our Tree rep, and then Vice-Chair of the Planning and Transport Committee; and part of her legacy will be the remodelling of Stanford Rise Green. We look forward to seeing her at the opening of Stanford Rise Green.

Hugh Marchant has served with passion, and extraordinarily hard work over 4 years – previously editing our web site and as Vice Chair, and more recently, as Chair of the Planning and Transport Committee, which under his watch ran astonishingly strong campaigns; and Hugh has had an intense focus on road safety – helped by his colleagues SID and VERA in his Community SpeedWatch role, which I trust Hugh will continue.

David Golby started as a Parish Councillor 6 years ago, and he finishes as he started: a wise counsellor (spelled with an 's') bringing leadership, guidance and insight from his senior managerial background, serving on all three Working Groups: Finance, and Open Spaces & Facilities, and chairing Human Resources, as well as being Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for many of those years. If there were one person I could send as an external consultant to the British Parliament to bang heads together to sort out Brexit, it would be David Golby. He has also, of course, long been The Organiser of SWAG - the Sway Welfare Aid Group.

Kevin Cripps has served as a Parish Councillor for over 7½ of the last 8 years. Following the increasing scrutiny and legal requirements for dealing with public money, Kevin has used his extensive background in Management Accountancy to guide us through the recent changes – as a fiscal safe-pair-of-hands, ever conscious of our responsibilities with Sway Council-Tax-payers' cash. Kevin is Vice Chair of the Parish Council, and also chairs the two major Working Groups – the one dealing with Finance and the one dealing with Open Spaces and Facilities.

Ted Fleat has served a straight 8 years in an amazingly wide range of roles – from the Sway Village Design Statement through to the Planning and Transport Committee, the Jubilee Field Users' Group, Sway Youth Centre, New Forest Consultative Panel, NFNPA Southwest



Quadrant and more. Ted's strongest contribution has always been his active help on the ground for so many local events and groups — Ted has always been the first to roll up his sleeves and get stuck in, and is rightly very popular and well-known in Sway.

I'm sure the previous magnificent seven will agree that **Barry Rickman**'s contribution eclipses everyone else's put together. Barry has served Sway and Sway Parish Council for so long that I can't find the record of exactly when he started but it must be about 40 years ago. He has been Chairman of the Parish Council for longer than anyone else – sharing that role with Gwen Meaden over a number of years. His photography shop was for many years the de facto Parish Office; and in his spare time he is our District Councillor, the Leader of the New Forest District Council and one of the 22 members of the New Forest National Park Authority. Come rain, shine or recovery from medical operations Barry attends every possible meeting, and I think his annual holiday is a few days at the New Forest Show.

Sir Christopher Wren's son added a dedication to his father in St. Paul's Cathedral reading "Lector, si monumentum requiris, circumspice" which translates as "Reader, if you seek a monument, look around you". If it were not for the work of Barry Rickman we would not be here in the Jubilee Field Pavilion today — and I suspect that Sway would otherwise look and feel quite different as well; and the community spirit of a New Forest Village which is so encouraged by Barry would be missing.

There was a James Rickman born in Sway in 1827, and at the time of the first census in 1841 he lived in Mead Ends in Sway. James is Barry's great-great-grandfather and this was the same place as Barry's brother lives today. Following this line back another couple of generations I can get to 1752 when Barry's four-great's grandfather John Rickman was born – there was no Sway Parish then, we were part of Boldre Parish which is where he married Sarah Kitcher on 03 Oct 1731. As someone far wiser than me has said: "Barry really is Mr. Sway".

Ladies and gentlemen please can we express our thanks to all those Parish Councillors who have not sought re-election, but who we trust will all continue to serve Sway.