



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Hampton Park & Old Sarum

**Meeting held at the Old Sarum Community Centre
at 7.00pm on Monday 17 July 2017**

MINUTES

Councillors present: Beard, Birkett, Burton (Chairman), Bussereau, Buttigieg, Champion, Davis, Dean, Hayes, Waller (from 7.27pm).

Wiltshire Councillors present: McLennan (until 9.14pm).

In attendance: Prince (Clerk). Stay (Assistant).

There were 4 members of the public present plus PC Matthew Holland, Co-ordinator from the South Wiltshire Community Policing Team. Jennifer Brown introduced herself. This was the second Council meeting that she had attended and she may offer herself for co-option to the Council. Lee Jackson introduced himself and spoke about the need for more recreational facilities at Old Sarum. He was particularly keen on a skate-park and would be prepared to assist with fund raising and procurement. Another resident spoke about a tree issue in Laverstock.

The meeting started at 7.09pm.

17.094 APOLOGIES. Apologies had been received from Cllr Davidson.

17.095 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman moved to change the Order of Business to assist members of the public.
Resolved: To change the Order of Business by bringing forward item 17.103, a grant application by St Joseph's Catholic School.

17.103 GRANT APPLICATION by St Joseph's Catholic School. Mr Blaho-Schogl, Head of Religious Education, spoke in support of the application for £500 to assist in the construction of a chapel in the grounds of St Joseph's School for the use of pupils and local residents. It will be a wooden temporary building. He answered several questions from Councillors. A lesser amount of £200 was proposed and seconded but received no support from other Councillors. The application was therefore refused.

17.096 COMMUNITY POLICING REPORT. A copy of the latest report had been provided to Councillors. PC Matthew Holland apologised for the lack of reports in recent months. He drew attention to the Police & Crime Commissioner's Community Action Fund and to the current vacancies for Police Community Support Officers. He reported on current police activity in the Parish and Salisbury and answered questions from Councillors. Cllr Champion asked how the Community Policing Team set their priorities.

PC Holland said that there was an open invitation through Area Boards for every Parish to set up a Neighbourhood Tasking Group but none currently exist.

17.097 APPROVAL OF MINUTES. The Clerk reported on two minor amendments to the draft Minutes.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2017 as amended.

17.098 MATTERS ARISING

Action PC227. Investigate request by resident for work to be done on council owned trees by Silverwood Drive. A quotation for work had been submitted to the Council. The Clerk had requested a further breakdown of the quotation. Cllr Bussereau requested to see the quotation. **Action Clerk**

Action PC233 & PC238. Closed.

Action PC239. Investigate status of proposed change in use of land designated for employment land for new housing at Old Sarum and find out why the Parish Council has not been consulted. Cllr Bussereau said that the response of Spatial Planning was that Change of Use would normally be covered by a planning application. WCllr McLennan said that the matter was still at a pre-application stage and the Council would be consulted when an application is submitted. Closed.

17.099 COMMUNITY ACTION TRANSPORT GROUP update

Diversion of Byway 10, Milford Mill Road. The agreement is in its final stages of preparation and once signed a Diversion Order will be issued.

Speeding on the Portway, Old Sarum. The solutions offered were red 'rumble' strips on the road and 'gates' on the verge. These were accepted but it was stated that no work would be done until the shared-use road crossing was constructed, which may not happen until January/February 2018.

Warning signs for Monarch's Way crossing of C56 (Portway), Old Sarum. Cllr Birkett said that the proposal to place warning signs at the crossing had been accepted and the cost would be £1000. A £250 contribution had been requested from the Council.

Resolved: To approve adding an emergency resolution to the agenda.

Resolved: To approve spending £250 towards the provision of warning signs at the Monarch's Way crossing of the C56 (Portway), Old Sarum.

Ford Traffic Calming. Cllr Bussereau reported that £22,200 had been allocated to the scheme but that it had been removed from the programme for the current financial year. He had requested that at least some of the more simple elements of the scheme be progressed and was waiting for a response.

Issue 5062. A crossing and bus shelter for Alabare on the Portway, Old Sarum. This is a new issue. Provision would be expensive and, if supported by the Council, a contribution would be expected. A brief discussion followed. The disadvantages of an unregulated crossing point were mentioned, as was the proximity of the crossing next to the roundabout. It was also pointed out that because of the circular bus route there was no need to cross the road, albeit at the expense of losing a few minutes. No information was

available on the numbers using public transport. The Chairman said that he would write to Alabare.

Action Chairman

Laverstock Speeding issue. Cllr Bussereau reported that a Metrocount survey had been requested by a resident at the south end of Church Road/Riverside Road; he would request a survey at the north end.

17.100 PLANNING

Old Sarum update. The Clerk reported that he had been promised a transfer plan for the Swale land this week. There were delays on the new play park on The Green. This is now unlikely to open before the end of the first or second week of August.

Old Sarum Airfield update. Cllr Bussereau gave a brief update. It appears that the determination date has slipped again.

Longhedge update. The number of occupations is increasing but has not yet reached 100. This is the point at which the Linden Technical manager has said he would update the Council on progress.

HP2 Country Park update. The Chairman reported that agreement has been reached on the play area designs and Wiltshire Council has approved them. He also spoke about the public art project and his involvement in defining the brief and selecting the artist. The Deed of Variation is close to a final copy for signature.

Planning Application Log. The following responses to Planning Applications have been made since the Council meeting on 19 June 201. **17/04529/FUL.** Demolish flat roofed single storey extension and replace with 1.5 storey side extension. 6 Church Road, Laverstock. NO COMMENT. **17/05215/FUL.** Single storey rear extension and raised patio area. 9 Melvin Close, Laverstock. NO COMMENT. **17/05371/FUL.** Proposed two-storey extension. 56 Castle Well Drive, Old Sarum. NO COMMENT. **17/05418/FUL.** Conversion of garage to living accommodation with new bedroom and ensuite above. Construct single detached garage. 6 St Christophers Close, Bishopdown Farm. NO COMMENT. **17/05520/FUL.** Change of use of Industrial/ Commercial (Class B8) to Personal Training Studio. Unit 14, Hurricane Close, Old Sarum. NO COMMENT. **17/05809/FUL.** Refurbish existing Land Rover showroom to include current branding. Reduce workshop to allow for larger showroom area. Westover Land Rover, Old Sarum. NO COMMENT.

Resolved: To approve the above responses.

17.101 WILTSHIRE COUNCIL PLAY AREAS IN THE PARISH

The Chairman had previously circulated notes on a meeting held between the Chair, Vice-chair, Clerk and Assistant with officers from Wiltshire Council Local Highways and Streetscene. This is the department that is responsible for the play areas that are owned and operated by Wiltshire Council. There are 6 such play areas in the Parish and 3 are currently closed for safety reasons. Across the county 50 play areas have been closed for safety reasons. This is due to a lack of funding.

Wiltshire Council have proposed that the responsibility for all play areas shall be transferred to town and parish councils. The transfer will be by a 7-year lease and will be accompanied by a one-off payment of £1000. In the current financial year there are only funds for another 10 transfers.

Cllr Waller expressed the view that that the Wiltshire Council policy was wrong and that the Council should not engage with them because that would condone the policy. WCllr McLennan said that he had raised the issue at the full Council meeting that approved the draft Business Plan, and he will also take it up with Corporate Director, Dr Carlton Brand. Cllr Hayes described the policy as scandalous but said the Council should be committed to provide play areas for our children by whatever means. The Chairman agreed that there should be political action against the policy but that the Council should ensure that it is in a position where it can control the future of these play areas. Cllr Champion expressed reservations about the future cost of taking responsibility for these play areas. Cllr Bussereau said the tabled motion only recommended exploring options to lease and that decisions on funding could be made at a later stage.

Resolved: To approve adding an emergency resolution to the agenda.

Resolved: That the Council explore the option of 7-year leases for the six Wiltshire Council owned play parks in the Parish due to the failure of Wiltshire Council to maintain them.

The Chairman requested WCllr McLennan to represent the Council's views to senior management at Wiltshire Council, that they have abrogated their responsibilities with regard to the provision and safety of play parks. In the absence of WCllr Brown this includes all play parks in the Parish including those in Bishopdown Farm.

17.102 AREA BOARD REPRESENTATION

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the report that he had circulated following his attendance at the last meeting of the Salisbury Area Board. He felt that the Chairman of that Area Board failed to give him the opportunity to fully represent the views of the Council at that meeting.

WCllr McLennan reminded the Council that the ward of WCllr Brown (Salisbury St Marks & Bishopdown) is entirely in the Salisbury Area but is split between the parishes of Laverstock & Ford and Salisbury City. After the recent boundary change 60% of that ward is now in the parish of Laverstock & Ford. He will discuss this issue with the Monitoring Officer at Wiltshire Council and he will propose that this ward should move from Salisbury Area to Southern Wiltshire Area. Area Board funding would be adjusted accordingly and WCllr Brown would attend both Area Boards.

17.103 GRANT APPLICATION – Wiltshire Citizens Advice.

Resolved: To grant £100 to Citizens Advice Wiltshire.

17.104 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT The Clerk had previously circulated the Internal Audit Report including a separate report listing five specific observations and recommendations. He had written responses to all five recommendations and sent them to the Finance subgroup for comment. Copies of all documents were presented to Councillors with Supporting Papers for this meeting. The Council noted the contents of the Internal Audit Report and no questions were asked.

17.105 DRAFT INVESTMENT POLICY The Clerk reported that one of the observations of the Internal Audit Report was that if the cash and bank balances of the Council exceed £500,000 then it is mandatory for the Council to have in place an Investment Policy. A draft Investment Policy had been written but had only just been presented for approval. It was decided to defer approval until the next meeting.

17.106 FINANCE

Adoption of Monthly Accounts. The Financial Statement had previously been circulated by email and copies were provided. A statement of Financial Reserves was also included. The total funds held at the end of May 2017 were £459,065.92 of which £432,875.73 were earmarked or restricted reserves. The Clerk also presented a statement that showed that General Reserves had fallen from £45819 at the end of the 2015/16 financial year to £37276 at the end of the 2016/17 financial year.

Resolved: To adopt the monthly accounts as a true record of the Council's finances.

Cheque & Debit Card Payments. The list of payments had been circulated by email and copies were provided. Total cheque payments in July 2017 amounted to £6,275.28. Debit card payments in June 2017 amounted to £88.93.

Resolved: To approve the cheque and debit card payments.

17.107 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

Consultation on draft Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan. The Clerk had previously forwarded the details by email. Cllrs Bussereau and Champion said that they were going to attend the public exhibition in the Guildhall and produce a draft response to the consultation. The draft would be discussed and agreed at the next meeting in August.

Riverbourne Road Land Ownership. The Clerk reported that he had recently located the title to an area of land 'to the east and west of Riverbourne Road, Milford' that proved that it has belonged to the Council since 24 October 2000. This area of grass had previously been maintained and mown by Wiltshire Council but this year they stopped and said it was a Parish Council responsibility. This resulted in the investigation of title.

17.108 LATE NOTICE ITEMS. There were no Late Notice Items.

17.109 EXEMPT BUSINESS. There being no exempt business this item was cancelled.

The meeting concluded at 9.23pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the River Bourne Community Farm at 7pm on Monday 21 August 2017.