



Laverstock & Ford Parish Council

Incorporating Hampton Park & Old Sarum

**Meeting held at the Old Sarum Community Centre
at 7.30pm on Monday 21st November 2016**

MINUTES

Councillors present: Birkett, Burnell, Burton (Chairman), Bussereau, Champion, Davis, Dean, Hayes, Waller.

Wiltshire Councillors: WCllr McLennan had presented his apologies and sent a written report to the Council.

In attendance: Prince (Clerk).

There were four members of the public present. A resident of Sherbourne Drive expressed concern regarding a letter from Virgin Media received by him and other residents. Also in attendance were two representatives from the Environment Group of Salisbury Transition City, Richard Wood and Roger Dudin. Richard Wood addressed the Council for 5 minutes on proposals for wild flower planting on two sites within the Parish. He asked for the Council's agreement to carry out this planting and then answered questions from Councillors.

The meeting started at 7.37pm.

16.121 APOLOGIES Apologies had been received from Cllr Law and Cllr Martin.

16.122 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR The potential candidate has presented her apologies. This agenda item was cancelled.

16.123 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Nil

16.124 APPROVAL OF MINUTES The Clerk reported on an amendment requested by Cllr Bussereau to delete one sentence from Item 16.116 Traffic in Ford.

Resolved: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2016, as amended.

16.125 MATTERS ARISING

Action PC102. Consider how Junior Football Pitch on MOD land could be managed.

The Chairman reported that he hoped to have a further meeting with Salisbury Football Club in the New Year to progress this matter.

Action PC173. Clarify meaning of earmarked and restricted Reserves. Cllr Bussereau suggested that this should be available to all Councillors before discussion of the budget and precept.

Action PC205. Investigate alternative proposal for acoustic reverberation problem in Old Sarum Community Centre. The Clerk gave an update on progress so far. Resolution is unlikely before Easter 2017.

Action PC204, PC211 & PC213 Closed

Meeting with Salisbury City Councillors. Cllr Bussereau reported on discussions with Cllr Willmot. The current suggestion is that Councillors would meet during the last 2 weeks of January 2017 for a presentation by a member of Wiltshire Council's Spatial Planning team.

South Wiltshire Area Board – 29 September 2016. Cllr Champion had previously reported on his attendance at this Area Board meeting but disagreed with the Minutes relating to the Traffic Management Scheme in Ford. He had no recollection of CATG being asked to submit a request to Wiltshire Council Highways for central funding and will dispute this at the next CATG or SWAB.

Speeding on the Portway, Old Sarum. Cllr Bussereau reported on a meeting with residents and Councillors to discuss this issue. It had been agreed at CATG that a Speed Review was required. The total cost of the Speed Review would be £2,500 and the Council had been asked to contribute £1,000. The Council had previously resolved (Minutes 19 September 2016) to contribute £1,000 towards the cost of moving the 40mph signs.

Resolved: To approve the addition of an urgent motion to the published agenda.

Resolved: To approve a contribution of up to £1,000 towards the cost of carrying out a Speed Review on the Portway, Old Sarum.

16.126 PLANNING

Old Sarum. The Clerk reported on maintenance of the MOD Land following transfer to the Council, and his proposals for litter bins that he will confirm at the Residents' Association meeting. After a long delay he expected the balance of funds arising from this land to be transferred from Wiltshire Council within the next few days. There was discussion about the public open space associated with Area 9A/9B. It seemed unlikely that this would be ready for adoption until the middle of 2017. The Clerk added that he had asked Wiltshire Council to enquire about the possibility of obtaining a licence to build the Local Area for Play before the formal transfer of the land.

Old Sarum Airfield. Cllr Bussereau gave a brief update.

Longhedge. Cllr Hayes reported on the draft leaflet that it was intended to give to new residents along with the latest Parish Newsletter. The first occupations would probably be before Christmas. A noise complaint about construction work on a Sunday was discussed.

Hampton Park Country Park. The Chairman gave a brief report on the initial meeting with Wiltshire Council and the developer to discuss a new legal agreement. The discussion centred on a draft Deed of Variation prepared by the developer. There were concerns about the method of defining completion of the Country Park and also about the level of funding. The Clerk reported that he had instructed Wilsons Solicitors to act for the Council in this matter. The solicitor for the developer was expected to produce a revised legal agreement.

Planning Application 16/10173/FUL. Provision of a Garden Room at 1 Willow Close, Laverstock. Cllr Hayes gave a summary of the application and discussion followed.

Resolved: To object to the application for the following reasons.

- The appearance of the building is out of keeping with the surrounding area.
- There are environmental concerns about the discharge of treated sewage into the River Bourne.
- There is a lack of parking for a large number of visitors.

Planning Application 16/09593/FUL. Proposed vehicular access from roundabout on A345 for Farm and Equestrian vehicles.

Resolved: To respond with NO COMMENT to this application.

Planning Application Log The following responses to Planning Applications had been made since the Council meeting on 17 October 2016. 16/10156/FUL, addition of two-bedroom semi-detached property with driveway. 11 Duck Lane, Laverstock. NO COMMENT. 16/10453/FUL, removal of 1.75m hedge and replace with brick wall (retrospective). 26 Tryhorn Drive, Bishopdown. NO COMMENT. 16/10496/FUL, addition of upvc conservatory to rear extension. Slinfold, Laverstock Park. NO COMMENT.

Resolved: To approve the above responses.

16.127 OLD SARUM AOS LOCAL EQUIPPED AREA FOR PLAY. The Chairman gave a summary of the tendering process and described the winning design produced by Wicksteed Leisure Ltd. Cllr Champion queried the type of surface and the length of guarantee. His concern related to the problems experienced at Pheasant Drive.

Resolved: To approve the recommendation of the Old Sarum Play Area subgroup and to appoint Wicksteed Leisure Ltd as the contractor for the provision of the Old Sarum AOS Local Equipped Area for Play.

16.128 STANDING ORDERS – PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT Cllr Hayes briefly described the proposed amendments but acknowledged that further changes might be required when the 'Way Ahead' subgroup had finished its deliberations. The proposed amendments had previously been circulated to Councillors. The amendments were proposed by Cllr Hayes and seconded by Cllr Birkett. They will be introduced for resolution at the next meeting in December.

16.129 CONSULTATION ON PAYPHONE REMOVAL There are two payphones in the Parish that BT want to discontinue. One on the Portway, Old Sarum near Partridge Way and one at the Neighbourhood Centre on Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown. A brief discussion followed.

Resolved: To offer no comment on these payphone removals.

16.130 FLYING FORUM Cllr Bussereau described the Flying Forum, which was a regular meeting of interested parties to discuss noise complaints received by Wiltshire Council and Old Sarum Airfield. The last meeting in October was cancelled and WCllr Douglas had informed participants that Salisbury City Council had withdrawn their secretarial support for the Forum. Cllr Bussereau acknowledged that the Clerk already had a high workload and offered to provide this service himself.

16.131 WILTSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST The Clerk stated that he would like a resolution on membership before paying the annual subscription of £36.

Resolved: To continue membership of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust for a further year.

16.132 FINANCE

Adoption of Monthly Accounts The Financial Statement had previously been circulated by email and copies were provided. The total funds held at the end of October 2016 were £467,021.67 of which £410,251 were earmarked or restricted reserves.

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 amounted to £4,129.56. Debit card payments in October 2016 amounted to £186.30.

Resolved: To approve the cheque and debit card payments.

Grant Application - St Andrew's Church, Laverstock The application was for £100 for Churchyard Maintenance. Cllr Waller said that she would not support this application because in her experience in local government, public funding should never be used for religious groups. Cllr Burnell said that he would not support because the application is repeated every year with no evidence that it is used for churchyard maintenance. He also said that the application should state the level of church reserves that will fund the remainder of the cost of maintenance.

Cllr Champion said that he understood that the only funding available to St Andrew's Church was from their congregation. He said the churchyard was open to all of the public for their relaxation and enjoyment and he will support the application. Cllr Hayes said that he had spoken at length to the applicant, Assistant Treasurer Michael Bunting, and he will support the application. The churchyard is part of the Laverstock community and is enjoyed by people from Laverstock and beyond. There are several seats that can be used to enjoy the tranquillity, and the churchyard also gives access, past the allotments, to the river beyond. He said that the funds will only be used for churchyard maintenance and this has nothing to do with the religious activities of the church. The Chairman said he thought the churchyard was a massive asset to the community and was enjoyed by many local children. It was also a haven for wildlife and he will support the application.

Resolved: To approve the application.

Grant Request – HELP Counselling Services. The Clerk reported that following an enquiry about how this service benefited our Parish, the charity had withdrawn their request.

Budget and Precept The Clerk reported that the taxbase for the financial year 2017-2018 was 3330.97, which was an increase of 12.1% on the current year. At the current level of band D taxation this would result in a precept of £42,902.89 or an increase of £4,630.88.

He intended to produce a draft budget for review by the finance subgroup and present it for initial discussion at the December Council meeting. There would then be an extraordinary meeting in January 2017 to finalise the budget and agree the Precept. He said that his draft budget would encompass three principles. All Highways contributions that are now being requested by Wiltshire Council must be paid for from the precept and not from reserves. Where there are known shortfalls in public open space maintenance funding these must also be met by an increase in precept. Finally there is an increasing demand for litter and dog waste removal and this must be met from the precept.

16.133 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

Automatic Enrolment & Workplace Pensions He reported that he has had a reminder from The Pension Regulator that the Parish Council must choose an automatic enrolment

pension scheme and complete a declaration of compliance. This must be underway by 1 February 2017 and be complete by a staging date of 1 May 2017. He intended to use Sandra Silk Bookkeeping Services to assist.

Parking in Boundary Road, Laverstock. A resident of Boundary Road had complained about the two off-street parking spaces that are owned by one of the new homes in the Pilgrims Way estate. This resident said that he thought it unreasonable that a home with a double garage and large driveway should own these spaces, and he also believed the Council had a responsibility to erect a sign informing residents of the situation. The Clerk refuted this responsibility.

Wessex Water – Water Main Replacement A notice has been received that Wessex Water will be carrying out a water main replacement in Laverstock Road between Manor Farm Road and Whitebridge from 27 February 2017 for a duration of 5 weeks. They had requested that the Council grant them permission to set up a storage and work compound in the field alongside the railway line. They have been told to obtain permission from the tenant of the field, the River Bourne Community Farm. The Farm has been told that they can negotiate without further reference to the Council.

16.134 REPORTS

Cllr Bussereau He reported that Speed Indicator Devices installed by the Community Farm are now serviceable and he hoped to start a 10-day installation soon. He would start in Ford, move on to the Portway in Old Sarum and then select a location in Laverstock.

Cllr Dean He reported on his attendance at the Salisbury Area Board. The Community Farm had been awarded a grant of £5000.

Cllr Birkett He said that he would be taking the lead on the tender process for the play area and other facilities on the MOD open space, and any input from Councillors would be welcome.

Chairman He reported on the Schools Liaison meeting. He also reported on ideas from the 'Way Forward' subgroup to try and reduce the length of meetings.

16.135 EXEMPT BUSINESS – EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC There being no exempt business this item was cancelled.

The meeting concluded at 9.57pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the River Bourne Community Farm at 7pm on Monday 19 December 2016.