

Clerk to the Council
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SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting held 26th September 2022

Present: Cllrs: L. Hicks (Chairman), T. Bangert, P. Green, D. James, N. Redman, A. Tait, P. Riddoch, D. Riddoch and R. Taylor

In Attendance: S. Hodgson (Clerk and RFO)
M. Carvajal-Neal (Deputy Clerk)
6 Members of the Public

The meeting opened at 7.00pm

65. CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting.

As this was the first meeting following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, the Chairman asked those who wished to do so, to stand and observe a minute's silence.

66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

67. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12th JULY 2022

Members **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Southbourne Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th July 2022 and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

68. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

The Chairman declared an Ordinary interest in agenda item 14 as a resident of The Crescent.

69. TO NOTE THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR BULBECK AND TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF REPLACEMENT COUNCILLOR TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members **NOTED** Cllr. Bulbeck's resignation and the Chairman read out the following statement:

"I would like to say a few words about the long service Chris has given to the Parish of Southbourne. Chris has lived in Southbourne all his life and has taken a great interest in local activities. He has been a Parish Councillor of 35 years and has undertaken the role of Chair for 25 years. When he first became a Councillor, Southbourne was a

very different place, more rural and more peaceful. The changes that have taken place over the years have been considerable. His knowledge of local people and places will be sorely missed and his kindness towards new Councillors has been much appreciated.

Chris' commitment to our community over the years has been amazing and I am sure we would all like to thank him for his contribution over the years. We wish him all the best for a happy and healthy retirement."

Members were then asked to consider appointing a replacement for the Planning Committee.

It was suggested there should be more than one appointment as on some occasions the Committee was only just quorate. Another Member felt the decision should be deferred as the Council were actively working to co-opt new Members. Another suggestion was to have reserve Councillors.

The Clerk's advice was that if the Planning Committee were not quorate, they could not meet and SPC would miss the opportunity to comment on planning applications. She therefore felt it was important to appoint additional Members. The committee structure could be revisited if new Members were co-opted and wished to sit on the Planning Committee.

A Proposal was made for Cllr. Hicks to be appointed as a reserve Member for the Planning Committee and this was unanimously **AGREED**.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7.10pm for Public Open Forum

70. ADJOURNMENT FOR OPEN FORUM

Members of the public are reminded that only questions and statements relating to items on this agenda will be allowed, in accordance with Standing Order 3e:-

- Members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda.*

Questions relating to any other items that are not on this agenda should be referred to the Chair of the Council or Clerk as appropriate and outside this meeting.

The Chairman invited members of the public to speak on any items on the agenda.

Linda Craig spoke in regard to the proposed TRO for yellow lines in The Crescent. The current parking situation has resulted in emergency vehicles and waste refuse collectors being unable to access The Crescent. Just recently Portsmouth Water could not attend a leak. People who park in the vicinity are mostly users of the station and not residents. If asked not to park there, they tend to become abusive. A recent repair to a wall that was knocked down due to the obstructions caused by the parking cost £4,000. Mrs Craig also asked why a previous request in 2020 was rejected.

Cllr James asked how many residents had signed the petition and was informed the response was 100%.

Cllr. Thorne did not recall seeing a previous TRO request. It was established that the procedure for submitting TROs had recently changed and that may have been the reason. However, the Chairman assured Mrs Craig that the decision for TROs lay with West Sussex County Council and whilst SPC may support or object to an application the final decision lay with them.

Mary Mumby commented on car parking in Stein Road. The situation is at its worst during school drop off and pick up times. There is no problem at the weekend of after 6.00pm. However, the problem then is speeding. The over parking blocks the road causing passing vehicles to mount the kerbs where the road narrows making the pavements dangerous . The problem is exacerbated by the railway crossing.

Single yellow lines could work but how do you police it and would it be term time only? Plus, where are all the cars going to park? Bollards are a no-no and would only make the roads narrower.

Reduction of speed is a good idea but the traffic congestion prevents speeding during busy times. Parking is the main issue.

Other comments included:

- Can there be a public car park?
- Where will the wigwags be?
- Can the social club be persuaded to allow parking there at school times?

The Clerk reported that Police Sargeant Coles had approached the social club to see if they would be willing to open up their car park but they had categorically rejected the idea.

Lucy Meredith said there was a regular problem with jumping barriers and when the barriers are down it adds to the problem . There is also the impact of Bourne School. New developments do not have shortcuts that could help. New development means more children who will need to attend the schools. Could pressure be put on developers to include cycle and footpaths that join up to the schools?

Another resident cannot get onto his drive during these times. Instead of restrictions how about designated bays? Speed is a real problem.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their comments and contribution and reconvened the meeting a 7.36pm

71. CLERK'S UPDATE

Members received and **NOTED** updates from the Clerk as follows:

71.1 POSTPONEMENT OF MEETINGS

Members were asked to note the postponement of meetings and the rescheduled dates following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II

SPC 13th September – rescheduled 26th September 2022

Planning 15th September - cancelled

Joint Burial Committee 12th September – TBA

71.2 JBC

Members may wish to Note that following interviews held on the 14th September 2022, a new member of staff, Lindy Nash, has been appointed as the JBC Cemetery Coordinator. Her first day will be Tuesday 4th October 2022.

71.3 CHAIRMANS AWARD 2022 SPC MIN. 54 REFERS

Members may wish to Note a letter of thanks that was received from the recipients of the Southbourne Parish Council – Chairmans's Award 2022.

Southbourne Parish Council – Chairman's Award 2022

We would like to thank the Parish Council, in particular the Chairman, for the award which was given to us at the meeting in July. As Geoff said at the meeting, the best thing about our involvement with the Parish Neighbourhood Plans and other projects has been the opportunity to meet and work with so many lovely local people who are all volunteers committed to doing their utmost for the Parish. Many of the associated projects have had a good measure of success, and that is a real bonus.

71.4 FRIENDS OF MAYBUSH COPSE SPC Min 62.2 Refers

Following Members decision not to take up a position on the Maybush Copse Committee, the following response has been received:

"Thanks for your email. I understand your position. Should the Parish Council revise their thoughts on this, please let me know. Clearly quite a number of people from Southbourne use the Copse. As a Committee, we are committed to maintaining and improving the Copse for all local residents, whether they live in Chidham & Hambrook, or in Southbourne's"

71.5 OPERATION WATERSHED – PARHAM PLACE SPC MIN. 56.5 REFERS

A Teams meeting was held on the 15th September with residents and relevant stakeholders relating to the ongoing maintenance. A copy of the Notes are available from the Office if any Member would like to view them.

71.5 ILLEGAL SHELLFISHING SPC MIN. 57.4 REFERS

Following a conversation with Police Sargeant Paul Coles he was able to confirm that illegal shell fishing is being handled by the Rural Crime Team who are undertaking a series of investigations.

71.6 SPEEDING TRAFFIC A259

The following communication was received relating to Speeding concerns on the A259. Members were asked if they wished to consider this further and for it to be placed on the next SPC Agenda.

I am the chair of the management company for Jubilee Mews and have been asked to bring our concerns about speeding traffic on the A259 to your attention.

Last night there was some sort of collision outside our gates we think caused by a speeding car. It is our general experience that there is an increasing disregard for the speed limit in this area of the village, particularly at night and the early hours of the morning and residents report regular noisy motor bikes, clearly exceeding the speed limit, at 6am.

I wonder whether you could raise this with councillors and discuss what action if any could be taken. Ideally a speed camera might be the best permanent solution. The one outside the farm shop has a good deterrent effect at that end of the village. I think we need one at our end too for the same purpose.

Members **AGREED** that they wished to comment further on email from Jubilee Mews and asked for it to be included on a future agenda. It was further **AGREED** that the location of SIDs could also be included with the item.

Members **AGREED** to **RESOLVE** to change order of business as the next agenda item contained items of confidential nature. The item will then be taken as the last order of business and Members will consider moving to Confidential Business.

72. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS IF AVAILABLE:

- **WSCC COUNCILLOR'S BOURNE PARISHES REPORT**
- **CDC COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**
- **PCSO'S REPORT**
- **OUTLIERS REPORT INCLUDING A REVIEW OF THE ALLOCATION OF AREAS**

- **COUNCILLOR DROP-IN**
- **BOURNES FORUM REPORT**

73.1 WSCC Councillors Bourne Parish Report

Members **NOTED** the report.

Whilst appreciative of the detail within the report Members felt that it was perhaps too long and too generalised. They also felt some of the updates appeared to be contradictory to other reports regarding the outcomes and how they have been resolved.

Members asked the Clerk to contact Cllr. Kerry- Bedell to thank him for the amount of detail but to request a more summarised form with more focus on Southbourne. If an individual Member wanted additional information, they could contact Cllr. Kerry-Bedell directly.

73.2 CDC Councillor Report

The Report was **NOTED** with the following points:

Affordable housing, Cllr Bangert would give a further update in her next report but could confirm that the recommendation had been accepted.

Support for Ukrainian Grants in the Community, these are available to Parish Councils. Members **AGREED** for this to be an item to consider at the next SPC meeting.

The Chairman thanked CDC Cllrs Bangert and Brown for their detailed and focused report.

73.3 PCSO's report

Sgt Coles and PCSO Isles had been unable to attend due to their work rota. It was **NOTED** that no report had been received but both Officers had attended the Drop in Session.

73.4 Outliers report including a review of the allocation

Members **NOTED** the reports from CDC Cllrs Bangert and Thorne

Members reviewed the current outlier's allocation list and **AGREED** to the following changes:

Cllr. Green will now cover the Bournes College South area

Cllr James will cover the Bournes College North area and retain Priors Orchard

The Chair asked for the updated list to be put on the website with relevant contact email addresses.

73.5 Councillors Drop in Surgery

Members **NOTED** the report.

The Chairman said the session was very successful and thanked Police Sargeant Coles and PCSO Isle for attending.

The next Cllr Drop in Surgery is scheduled for Saturday 1st October and will be held at Bourne Community College. The session will be "Focus on Youth"

Cllrs: Bangert, Hicks, James and Tait will be in attendance . Jon Robinson from Thorney Barracks will also be invited to attend.

73.6 Bournes Forum report

Members **NOTED** the report.

The next meeting is scheduled for the 24th October and will be attended by Police Crime Commissioner, Katie Bourne and Chief Inspector Nick Bowman, Sussex Police. For this meeting two additional Councillors from the Parishes are invited to attend and any Member wishing to do so should contact either the Clerk or the Chairman.

73.TO NOTE STEIN ROAD QUESTIONNAIRE AS CIRCULATED WITH REPORTS AND TO FURTHER NOTE ANY UPDATES

Southbourne Parish Council and West Sussex County Council Highways Department are proposing a Traffic Regulation Order to improve the safety of residents and visitors along Stein Road. A questionnaire has been put together and distributed by hand and on social media, to help gather information, comments and evidence of need.

The Chairman reported that to date the response had been amazing and thanked all those who had taken the time to take part. She also thanked fellow Councillors for hand delivering a number of questionnaires.

Once the closing date is past the responses will be collated and analysed. The findings will be reported back.

74.TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE METINGS HELD ON THE 14TH JULY 2022, 4TH AUGUST 2022 AND THE 25TH AUGUST 2022 INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONSIDERATION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members **NOTED** the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 14th July, 4th August and 25th August 2022.

There were no recommendations to consider.

The Chairman thanked the Planning Committee and Officers for continuing to meet during summer period to ensure SPC responses were submitted.

75.TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE GREENSPACE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 26th JULY 2022 INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AND TO UPDATE MEMBERS RELATING TO THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR LITTER PICKING AT THE RECREATION GROUND – MIN. 27 REFERS

Members **NOTED** the Minutes of the Greenspace and Community Services Committee meeting held on the 26th July 2022.

There were no recommendations to consider.

Cllr Tait gave a brief update on SEG and asked the Council to thank Roy and Siriol Seabrook, Elizabeth Medlar and Shaun Peters for litter picking the recreation ground.

She further reported there had been an incident relating to an amount of drug paraphernalia recently found which had been reported to the Police. The Clerk also advised that in future it may be best to contact CDC to remove these sort of items as they had the correct PPE and the means of disposal at their service.

Whilst the recreation ground was being regularly picked there were other areas around Southbourne that needed attention and Cllr Tait appealed for more volunteers.

76.TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & POLICY MEETING HELD ON THE 7th SEPTEMBER 2022 INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF ANY RECOMMENDATIONS

Members **NOTED** the Minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting held on the 7th September 2022.

There were no recommendations to consider.

77.CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF A SUBMISSION OF A TRO FROM RESIDENTS OF THE CRESCENT, SOUTHBOURNE

Before re-declaring an Ordinary interest and withdrawing from the debate the Chairman wanted to thank Linda Craig for taking the trouble to coordinate the application and wished to add that she felt double yellow lines on both sides of the road would be more beneficial.

Cllr. Thorne stated she had no problem supporting the TRO

Cllr. James fully supported but also felt there needed to be double yellow lines on both sides of the road.

Following the discussion, it was proposed, and Members unanimously **AGREED** to support the TRO with an amendment for double yellow lines on both sides of the road and to proceed with the application on that basis.

The proposed changes will be fed back to the residents for their endorsement. The Clerk will liaise with Linda Craig and proceed with the submission.

78.CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATION FROM SOUTHBOURNE & DISTRICT AGE CONCERN FOR AN AMOUNT OF £1400.00 TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A DEFIBRILLATOR

Members considered an application from Age Concern and made the following comments:

- considering the placement of the building being near the school would suggest any defibrillator should include an infant pack
- very important to all the community
- not an ideal place, need to look at the location as there is not readily available access to public
- only happy to support finance partially
- hesitant that the building is only used once a week by Age Concern is that the best siting for the device.

The Deputy Clerk advised that any defibrillator installation must provide access and codes to access so the location would not be restrictive.

Following discussion Members felt they would like to contribute but not the full amount. It was proposed and unanimously **AGREED** that SPC will match fund any contribution made by Age Concern towards the supply and installation costs of a defibrillator to be sited at Age Concern.

79. CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSAL TO LIVE STREAM MEETINGS VIA FACEBOOK OR OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS AS REFERRED FROM THE FINANCE & POLICY MEETING 6th JULY 2022 MIN. 7.2 REFERS

During the discussion comments included:

- Way of reaching out
- Limited uptake reported from those that currently livestream
- Lot of members of the public joined online during lockdown but would they now
- Managing Facebook resources is time consuming
- Public cannot participate only watch
- Think it will become inevitable
- How do other people manage to facilitate it

Members **AGREED** that the SPC CDALC and WSALC representatives would ask fellow councillors from other parishes their thoughts and feedback.

Members further **AGREED** to defer the decision to a future agenda.

80. TO NOTE THE LAUNCH OF 'THE CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE' AS PROMOTED BY NALC, SLCC, WSALC AND OVW AND CONSIDERATION FOR SPC TO SIGN UP AND TAKE THE PLEDGE

Members **NOTED** the Clerks Report

It was unanimously **AGREED** to sign up and take the pledge to support the Civility and Respect.

81. TO REVIEW AND UPDATE CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Members reviewed the Code of Conduct and unanimously **AGREED** to Adopt with further clarification on point 8.1

82. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE UPDATE FROM SOUTHBOURNE INFANTS AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS FURTHER TO THE CIL DONATION FROM SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL TOWARDS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Members **NOTED** the Report from Southbourne Infants and Junior Schools.

Members were delighted to see the improvements and said they would like to visit the school to see in more detail. Members asked the Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

83. TO RATIFY THE LETTER TO NATURAL ENGLAND SENT FROM SPC IN RELATION TO TWO MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE PARISH

Members unanimously **AGREED** to **RATIFY** the decision to send the letter to Natural England.

84. TO NOTE THE DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7.00 and will be held at St Johns Church Meeting Room

85. TO RESOLVE TO MOVE TO CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS (S.O. 3.d) - (Legal Advice)

The Council **RESOLVED** that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it was advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and were instructed to withdraw.

Members of the public were asked to leave the meeting.

86. TO NOTE THE LEGAL ADVICE RECEIVED FROM PALLANT CHAMBERS FOLLOWING A SITE VISIT TO THE PRINSTED AREA AND TO FORMALLY NOTE THE DECISION FROM THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR FOLLOWING THEIR REVIEW OF THE MATTERS OBJECTED TO BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IN RELATION TO THE 2022 AGAR RETURN.

Members **NOTED** the confidential reports previously circulated in relation to the legal advice received. Following discussion Members advised and **AGREED** how they wished to proceed.

Members further **NOTED** that the objection made to the External Auditor by a member of the public in relation to the SPC 2021/22 AGAR return was not upheld. Following the external auditors review of the objection they were satisfied that the return had been completed and submitted correctly.

A more detailed report for Minute 85 will be appended confidentially to the Minute File.

The meeting closed at 21.14