

## **Minutes of the Amport Parish Council Meeting followed held on Monday 24th June 2024, 7.30pm at Amport School**

Present: Cllr C Harris – Chairman, Cllr S Coke-Vice Chairman, Cllr A Montagu, Cllr Mrs D Stephenson, Cllr P Harvey & Cllr Mrs T Hawkings-Byass.

Also present

Heather Bourner – Parish Clerk  
HCC Chris Donnelly  
TVBC Mrs M Flood  
15 Members of the public

### **Apologies**

1) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mrs S Baker, Cllr Hemmings & TVBC Cllr S Hasselmann.

### **Public Participation**

2) There were several members of public present who raised concerns regarding a proposal to change the licenced opening hours at Breach Farm Brewery. Cllr Harris explained that a Parish Council had no powers in relation to licencing and were not statutory consultees.

Those present highlighted their concerns, the increase in traffic volume causing health and safety concerns to other road users and footpath users, increase in noise levels including music and a significant concern with regard to the safety of users of the site which is based on a farm. There are several unlocked farm buildings, some containing chemicals including barns containing animals which are accessible and children have been seen entering these. One livestock holder asked the business to help deter customers from allowing children into the farm but this has not happened, the volume of traffic using the site has prevented those storing caravans at the site from leaving and farm traffic from entering, which will become a real problem at harvesting time.

The footprint of the site as per the agreed planning application has been increased without authority a concern raised by residents when the original application was made, residents also feel the original licencing application was such that the opportunity to apply for extended hours was easy.

The group collectively asked the Parish Council if they would take a view and submit comments to the licencing body. There are currently thirty-six objections to the proposal and only one letter of support. They also suggested the Parish Council might approach the business owner to discuss other concerns to establish if these can be addressed, with one idea being that additional events be held in the Village Hall once the build is complete.

Cllr Coke said there were four areas which are considered in respect of licence applications which are fire and rescue concerns, Police concerns, Environmental Health and public nuisance. He asked the group to send the Parish Council written details of their concerns and which category they felt these should be considered under. The Parish Council will then review this and agree the course of action they can take.

A member of the current fete committee highlighted the funds currently held by the PCC relating to fetes held in previous years. Each year the fete raises funds the first £10,000 is split between the Church and the School, the balance can then be granted to other local organisations. The Parish Council said the group in control of the funds at the time they were raised should distribute these in accordance with their constitution. Moving forward the fete committee have asked if the Parish Council would be prepared to hold such funds and help with the distribution to other local organisations. The Parish Council said in principle this was a sound idea and that it would be an agenda item for the next meeting so a resolution can be passed.

### **3) Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest in matters on the agenda. All Councillors confirmed that no changes to Register of Interest forms were required.

### **4) Minutes of previous meetings & matters arising**

**Resolved:** The minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> June were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Coke seconded Cllr Hawkings-Byass. All in favour.

## 5) Specific reports

**Principle & Process**-Cllr Coke had nothing to report.

**The Fen & Green**- Cllr Harris reported the overall condition of the green is good. Grass cutting of both the green and the fen has taken place. He said some maintenance is needed to the small wooden bridge in the south-east corner of the main green and the path in the north end of the fen is "liquid mud" in places, and hardcore needs placing there. Quotes for this work have been requested.

A quote for a new round picnic bench and fitting was discussed. The costs were considerable and a question was asked if S106 funds could cover this. The Clerk agreed to establish what funds were available and how they could be used. Cllr Stephenson proposed a rectangle bench made of composite material should be purchased if Parish Council funds were required, this was seconded by Cllr Coke. The Clerk will circulate details by email so this matter can finally be resolved.

**Play Area** -Cllr Harvey confirmed that he has recently checked all the play equipment and there are no areas of concern.

A quote to replace the goal posts was discussed but feedback from the school as to what they want for their needs is still required. Cllr Harvey agreed to approach the school again.

**Weyhill**- Cllr Hemmings had sent apologies

**Footpaths- Cllr Hawkings -Byass** – said she had reviewed footpaths recently and has identified one that needs to be cut back which is landowner responsibility, she will ask him to cut this back. The contractor will carry out further cuts to footpaths over the coming weeks.

**Communications** – Cllr Hawkings-Byass will prepare the next newsletter shortly and asked that any articles to be included are sent to her now. The newsletter will include a timeline for the final paper newsletter in December 2024 with newsletters only then being available online.

**Projects**- Cllr Harvey reported the Parish Council would be having a stall at the village fete which will also hold a display regarding the Village Hall. Cllr Hawkings-Byass will draw up a rota for Councillors to attend.

**Neighbourhood Plan**– Cllr Stephenson reported the final draft of the character appraisal is expected shortly, the design codes report has been updated and the steering group have almost agreed a response to the TVBC housing needs survey. She is confident that a full draft plan will be drawn up shortly.

**Highways**- Cllr Harris reported that National Highways have commissioned a report on the A303 / Sarson Lane junction and it is hoped a response will be received on this shortly. The Clerk has asked HCC Donnelly to investigate why the HCC report regarding sites for Speed Indicator Devices is outstanding. He is communicating with the officer in charge of the department. In addition, a request has been received from the Hawk Conservancy to place a speed awareness camera on Sarson Lane.

It was noted that the work to the junction of Fyfield Road and Amesbury Road has not yet been completed. Finally, he reported that the actions discussed at a meeting with Jonathan Bambridge of Hampshire Highways-reported at the May meeting, are now scheduled for remedial works.

**Resilience Plan**- The Clerk said the latest draft had now been posted to the website.

**School Liaison**-Cllr Baker had sent her apologies.

### Grant Application

6) The Clerk gave details of an application for a grant from the PCC for fencing and gates for the burial ground and community allotment site. The total cost of the project was £2100 and the grant application was for £1050.00. The Clerk confirmed the Parish Council had set aside £500 for a possible grant for the burial grounds when budgeting.

After a short discussion Cllr Coke proposed a grant of £500 be made, this was seconded Cllr Stephenson-all agreed.

### **Southern Water update**

7) Cllr Harris said the PPPF continue to work with Southern Water and their next meeting will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June when the work required to repair the verges/lay-bys in Amport and East Cholderton will be considered.

### **Amport & Monxton Village Hall**

8) Cllr Harris reported work continues and the completion of the shell of the building is expected soon. There is still a shortfall in funding and donations can be made via the Village Hall website. Trustees want to recruit members of both villages to be part of the hall management committee. Anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk.

### **Applications for private use of Village Green**

9) Two applications had been received to use the village green. The first was for a wedding reception for a village family in June 2025 which was agreed. The second was for the weekly use of the green by a local PT instructor to carry out exercise classes. The idea was discussed and it was agreed provided any use did not interfere with use by the school.

### **Amport House-update**

10) Cllr Harris reported while there has been expression of interest in the purchase of the building by a hotel chain a number of points of clarification are required before anything further progress can be made.

### **Clerks report**

11) The Clerk reported as follows-

All invoices issued regarding the water testing kits have now been paid.

Notification has been received that the interest rate on savings will be reducing on 27<sup>th</sup> July from 1.30% to 1.00%

### **Finance**

12) To note the bank balances as at 19/06/2024

Lloyds savings £13368.72

Lloyds current £12005.19

To approve the following payments and authorise online transactions: -

H Bourner salary	£475.76
HMRC	£118.80
H Bourner exp.	£34.09
Kinex electricity (DD)	£16.78
Hugo Fox website	£11.99
Ray Welch	£267.00

### **Retrospective**

Clare Hemmings £36.38

### **Borough & County Councillor Reports.**

13) HCC Chris Donnelly reported that by the end of the year blood pressure monitors will be available at Hampshire libraries for use by the public and noted that Amport School is the top performing school in the local division.

TVBC Maureen Flood reported the planning application for The Black Swan in Monxton will be going before the Northern Area Planning Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> June and that she will call the new planning application for the Solar farm at Lains to be heard by NAPC once the planning deadlines have passed.

### **Planning**

14) The following decisions by TVBC were noted:

24/00111/CLLBN- certificate of lawfulness- re thatch Weyhill Barn, Amesbury Road-certificate issued

24/00823/FULLN- construction of timber frame car port, Hardy House, 3A Amesbury Road-permission

24/00857/FULLN- replacement conservatory roof-Woodcote, Sarson Lane-permission  
24/00950/TREEN-tree works, Stonebrook, 5 Sarsons Barns- no objections  
24/01049/TREEN-tree works, Nether Cottage, The Green-no objections

**Resolved:** that the planning advisory committee's approval on the following applications were endorsed:

24/01140/TPON tree reduction, The Cheese House, Hay Down Lane- no objections  
24/00767/FULLN- erection of stable-land east of Keepers Hill Lodge- no objections  
24/01229/FULLN-extension, 8 Laundry Cottages, Cholderton- no objection  
24/01288/FULLN- installation of a solar farm, land at Lains Farm-update to previous application-no objections  
24/01387/TREEN-tree works, Sarsons Farm, Monxton Road-no objection

### **Correspondence**

15) The Clerk highlighted

An email regarding a tree planting initiative in the village. Cllr Harris will discuss the idea with a local tree surgeon.

### **New Items for next agenda**

16) None at present.

### **Community News**

17)Cllr Harris reported The Hawk Conservancy is holding a Dream Night event from 6 pm to 8.30 on 4 July. This is an event where disadvantaged children and their carers have a free fun evening. The Parish Council have been asked to volunteer to help at the event. Cllr Harvey will attend.

Cllr Harris also highlighted a number of reports of crime locally, usually at night and mainly from smallholdings and from garages in the villages. He asked that everyone be vigilant and ensure that doors etc are locked. If any suspicious activity is seen or heard, the matter should be reported to the Police by dialling 101.

Finally, he reported as part of the Watercress and Winterbournes project, W&W are running a restoration project by the Hawk Inn, Amport on Mon to Fri, 24-28 June inclusive (approx. timings 10am-4pm).

### **Date of next meeting**

18) The next meeting will be on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 7.30pm at Amport School