



Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council

Minutes of the Roads, Footpaths and Commons Committee meeting held online on Tuesday 22nd September 2020 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors:

Cllr. C. Lewis (Chairman), Cllr. S. Beard, Cllr. G. Bridgman, Cllr. J. Bull (arrived at 20.30), Cllr. M. Dennett, Cllr. S. Hill, Cllr. D. Ives, Cllr. J. Wells.

Officers:

Mrs. L. Hannawin

Public/Press:

There were no members of the public and no member of the press in attendance.

Part I

20/001 Public Questions (for agenda items only)

None

20/002 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. N. Carter.
Cllrs. L. Jones did not attend and no apologies were received.

20/003 To receive any declarations of interest

None.

20/004 Minutes of Last Meeting

To resolve to **APPROVE** the Minutes of the Fairgrounds and Cemetery Meeting of the 21st January 2020.

It was noted that the title of the committee in the resolution was incorrect.
Cllr. Lewis proposed that the resolution be changed to **“To resolve to APPROVE the Minutes of the Roads, Footpaths and Commons Meeting of the 21st January 2020.”**
Seconded by Cllr. Dennett.

RESOLVED unanimously.

Cllr. Lewis proposed the amended resolution.
Seconded by Cllr. Dennett.

RESOLVED, by majority vote, that these minutes be approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the meeting.

20/005 Update from Previous Committee Meeting(s)

1. To receive an update outlining actions taken following the meeting held on the 21st January and other updates.

It was noted:

- The circumstances surrounding parking on Summerlug are still unclear. It was agreed that Cllr. Bridgman would to clarify the situation with West Berkshire Council (WBC) officers. **ACTION: CLLR. Bridgman**
- The tree surveys for Summerlug and Brewery Common have been forwarded to WBC, who are responsible for maintaining both areas. John Gurr (WBC) is considering the work required, but no update has been received to date.

20/006 Items to be taken into private session

To determine which items, if any, of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded

None

20/007 Items for Consideration and Resolution

1. West End Road Car Park Hedge

To receive an update on the proposed fence and AGREE further actions.

The proposal to replace the hedge, at the front of the car park, with a fence is currently on hold. The original issues with the hedge, including the sight lines were discussed and it was noted that permission to replace the hedge with a fence would need to be sought from WBC as the landlords prior to any such work taking place. It was agreed that the hedge should be kept and maintained instead of replacing it with a fence.

Cllr. Lewis proposed tidying up the sides of the hedge and reducing the height to 4'.

Seconded by Cllr. Dennett.

RESOLVED unanimously. **ACTION: CLERK**

2. SID/ANPR

To consider any additional requirements relating to the deployment of the SID/ANPR and AGREE associated expenditure.

It was noted that the SID/ANPR is up and running and minor issues are yet to be resolved with Westcotec. WBC have agreed that the existing SID location sites may be used. A risk assessment has been completed and signed by the Chairman and a final copy of the licence needs to be signed and returned to WBC. However, to date, it appears that only a draft licence has been received. A laptop will be needed to be used alongside the SID/ANPR. This has been budgeted for and will be purchased accordingly. It was agreed that Cllrs. Lewis and Dennett and the Clerk would agree a response to WBC to address the outstanding procedural requirements in order that the equipment may be officially deployed. **ACTION: CLLR. DENNETT, CLLR. LEWIS, CLERK**

3. Windmill Common Tree Work

To AGREE the specification for work required.

The specification was reviewed. As the area is covered by a blanket tree preservation order, it was agreed that permission for the work should be obtained from WBC prior to the specification for the tree work being agreed. **ACTION: CLERK**

4. Footpath between Victoria Road and Croft Road

To review the condition of the footpath and consider and AGREE further actions.

The condition of the footpath and issues with parts of the hedges along both sections of the footpath were discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact WBC regarding the overgrown hedge on the section of footpath from West End Road to Croft Road and a letter would be sent to the resident owning the overgrown hedge along the section of footpath from Croft Road to Victoria Road. **ACTION: CLLR. LEWIS, CLERK**

20/008 Items for information only

1. Minor Matters

- Cllr. Bridgman reported an issue raised by a resident, with the condition of the footpath and low tree branches in front of the houses on Stephens Firs. The resident had reported the issues to WBC, but received confirmation from WBC that no further work was required, and that the enquiry had been closed. It was agreed that Cllr. Lewis and the Clerk would review this area, along with other similar areas in the parish causing concern and Cllr. Bridgman would request for a WBC officer to be part of the review and advise accordingly. **ACTION: CLLR. LEWIS, CLERK, CLLR. BRIDGMAN**
- Cllr. Hill reported his concern regarding the poor condition of the road and lack of lines on West End Road, from St Catherine's Hill towards Mortimer West End. As this stretch of road falls in Hampshire, Cllr. Hill has reported the issue to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should further write to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council and additionally notify the Clerk at Mortimer West End. Cllr. Bridgman would also draw it to the attention of Jon Winstanley. **ACTION: CLERK, CLLR. BRIDGMAN**

Cllr. Bull arrived at 20.30

- Cllr. Beard reported that the resulting debris from the recent ditch work around the Fairground, had been left in the ditch, which could cause flooding in the winter. Cllr. Bull confirmed that further work will be undertaken to clear the debris and silt.

20/009 Finance

1. Roads, Footpaths and Commons Budget

To review the 2020/21 budget and expenditure.

The budget was reviewed. It was noted that an additional £500 is likely to be needed for the 2020/22 budget for the accessories for the SID/ANPR. The remaining budget for 2020/21 is currently underspent and is likely to remain this way.

20/010 Communications

To identify items for communicating.

None.

20/011 Future Agenda Items

To identify future agenda items ACTION: CLERK

1. Windmill Common Tree specification

20/012 Exclusion of Press and Public

To pass a resolution to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting at Part II, items identified at 20/006 on the Agenda, due to the confidential nature of the information being discussed.

Not required

Part II

Close

The meeting closed at 20.41

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26th January, 2020