

**MINUTES OF FORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> 2020**

**Held remotely.**

**Present; Cllr Ford. Chairman. TF.**

**Cllr Langmead. SL**

**Cllr Smith. DS**

**Cllr Armstrong. DA.**

**County councillor. Jacky Pendleton. JP.**

**Clerk. Carol Hatton. CH.**

1. **Apologies for absence.** There were none.
2. **Declarations of interest.** Cllr Ford declared an interest as Chairman of the Community Land Trust. Cllr Langmead declared an interest as a stakeholder at Ford Airfield. Cllr Smith declared an interest as treasurer of the Community Land Trust.
3. **Public Sessions.** No members of the public present.
4. **Minutes of the Last meeting.** They were agreed and signed off by Cllr Ford.
5. **Matters arising from last meeting.**
  - **CIL payments.** The clerk reported that these payments must be used within 5 years from issue.
  - **Standing Orders.** TF is to amend these to include provision for the public to ask questions at meetings.
6. **County Councillor's Report.** (See appendix 1).
7. **District Councillor's Report.** Cllr Worne was unable to attend.
8. **Chairman's Report.** TF reported that he had had a meeting with the Community Land Trust. He had nothing else to report.
9. **Planning.** TF suggested that all councillors look at current planning applications and respond to the clerk with their comments.

**10. Report on the village hall management.** TF reported that we had received a request from Yapton Parish Council for a contribution for £1,920.00, as our contribution to the proposed repairs to the village hall roof. He stated that as we have no obligation to make a contribution, he suggested that we made a voluntary contribution of £1248.00, based on the tax base of Ford Parish Council compared to Yapton's. This amounts to an equalisation of costs for each rate payer, and amounts to £1428.00p. **CLERK TO ACTION.** All agreed.

**11. Finance.** The clerk had circulated an up to date projection for the coming financial year, which would dictate the amount we request for our annual precept. All had seen this and approved the amount we are requesting, that being £18,313.30p. An increase of 3%. The clerk reported that the current bank balance stands at £21160.65. The change of bank account from the Co-op to Natwest is in progress. All cashbooks had been signed by the chairman to date.

**12. Correspondence.** There was none.

**13. Memorial Garden.** DS reported that 8 wreaths had been laid at the memorial garden on Remembrance Day. The gardener is being asked to reduce the number of shrubs in the garden.

**14. Allotments.** SL had nothing to report.

**15. Community Resilience Plan.** DA said that there had been a suggestion for supplying food for underprivileged children. TF said that the resilience group is not set up for this type of activity, which all agreed. DA asked if we could obtain sandbags for any possible flooding in the area. **Clerk to investigate.** DA asked if we could put requests for volunteers for the resilience plan on the notice boards. **TF will talk to Yapton to see if anything is currently being developed.**

**10. Requests for donations.** There were none.

**11. A.O.B.** SL said that he is concerned with the situation that exists between the Grundon Ford Energy Site and the developers. JP said that pressure should be brought to bear on the planners to alter their perspective, as they are reluctant to commence building on the site until the Grundon dispute is settled.

The meeting closed at 20.50p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19<sup>th</sup> 2021.

## **Appendix 1.**

### **WSCC Middleton Division – Ford County Councillor Report for November 2020**

#### **Winter opening hours to begin at Household Waste Recycling Sites**

Winter opening hours will come into effect at Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRSs) in West Sussex from 1 October 2020 and stay in place until 31 March 2021.

- Chichester will be open 6 days a week and closed on Tuesdays
- Bognor will be open 5 days a week from 9 am to 4 pm and closed on Thursday & Friday
- Littlehampton will be open 5 days a week from 9 am to 4 pm and closed on Tuesday & Wednesday.

Residents are advised to check opening days and times online at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/recycling) before they make a journey.

#### **Littlehampton Harbour Board**

[I have been appointed as the West Sussex County Council Representative for the Littlehampton Harbour Board. You are probably aware that Shirley is the Littlehampton Harbour Board representative for Arun District Council so that means we have 2 Middleton people who can influence the Board.](#)

#### **WSCC Proposed Children's Trust**

As you are probably aware, WSCC Children's Services was declared as failing about 18 months ago. As a result it is proposed that all aspects of the service will be moved into a Trust which will be an independent company outside the County Council but wholly owned by them. Outside business Trustees will be appointed to the Trust Board. A Task and Finish Group of which I was a member has recommended that not just Social Services, but also Early Help and Education will all go into the Trust if the DfE decide that this is still the right avenue to follow.

#### **A259 Road improvements from Littlehampton to Angmering**

The first main phase of works starts in the next few weeks. The scheme will widen a total of about 2km of single carriageway to dual carriageway including widening part of Worthing Road from the new Lyminster Bypass roundabout at Highdown Drive (under construction) to the Body Shop Roundabout. A new pedestrian and cycling path will be installed to the south. The existing controlled crossing point

will be retained. Some night-time closures will be place for the safety of both road users and the workforce.

### **Winter Service Plan**

Whenever ice is forecast, we carry out salting of our 'Winter Service Network' to reduce the potential for ice forming on the road surface – about 42% of the county's roads including major bus routes, access to blue light operational centres, hospitals and large industrial establishments.

In the event of heavy snowfall (5cm or greater) only key roads needed which are needed to keep the county open will be treated.

Parish & Town Councils and Residents' Associations who have winter maintenance plans and undertake local salting and snow clearance, will have their salt bins/hippo bags of salt (topped up for use by local community groups. Some local farmers will also be paid to remove snow in the event of a serious snow event.

Schools who would like to discuss additional provision locally will be asked to approach their Town or Parish Council who will be aware of the necessary processes and request mechanisms.

Parishes will be emailed with regard to pre-season salt bin top ups and parishes where farmers' agreements are in place will also be contacted to ensure plans are up to date.

### **Update on development of A259 from Hoe Lane to Wick Roundabout**

Proposals for improvements are now being consolidated and a ball-park costing of around £29 m is envisaged. This will mean the following improvements:

- Comet corner - a 4-arm roundabout and additional pedestrian & cycling facilities plus bus priority measures going east
- Grevatt's Lane – Extension of the 40mph speed limit, improved signage and visibility, upgrade the existing ghost island central reserve to a physical island.
- Oystercatcher – a 4-arm roundabout with walking and cycling improvements, which will take account of Yapton Rd and Climping Street, plus bus priority measures from Climping Street to A259 eastbound movement.
- Church Lane – Provision of 4-arm roundabout with walking and cycling improvements, plus bus priority measures for A259 westbound to A259 westbound movement.
- Ferry Road – Convert existing staggered cross-roads to a 4-arm roundabout, with walking and cycling facilities.
- Bridge Road roundabout – Minor improvements, with localised widening and inclusion of crossing points for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Wick Roundabout – Convert to a signalised 4-arm cross-roads junction, with pedestrian and cycle improvements.

A strategic business case should be submitted at end of December 2020.

An outline business case should be submitted in March 2022. Following that funding would be allocated.

A full business case will take a further 9 months to produce following which funding would be agreed in roughly 22/23.

Construction should start from 23/24 and will take 2 years so should be in place by 2025/26.

However, any Highways capital scheme has to include a cost benefit analysis.

The DfT have 3 levels of scheme:

Below 1 to 1.5 cost/benefit ratio is considered low priority

Between 1 to 1.5 to 2 cost/benefit ratio is considered medium priority

Above 1 to 2 cost/benefit ratio is considered high priority.

Currently the A259 scheme at a cost of Approx. £29m is at 1 to 1.9 cost/benefit ratio

With additional benefits of improved pedestrian and cycle facilities WSCC Highways are hoping to bring this into the 1 to 2+ ratio and get it considered as high priority.

Regardless of it being considered as high priority, there is always the risk that funding generally will be pulled but at this point the potential outcome is looking good.

### **Grundon/Viridor Incinerator**

Developers are going back to the drawing board to re-design a further facility following consultation responses. However the outcome is still likely to be bulkier and higher than the current planning approval which is in place which is already bigger than the current facility. New plans are thought to be on the table from December 2020. However the developers have not withdrawn their original planning application, one assumes in the vain hope that it might get through on the first hearing. There is no definitive date as yet for this first hearing but the next meeting of WSCC Planning Committee is on December 1<sup>st</sup>. and the Agenda has not yet been published.

### **Health & Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee**

A review of services associated with adult health care in the community. The new service areas are:

- Tackling social isolation
- Take home and settle from hospital
- Support at home after hospital
- Information and advice

- Prevention and assessment team.

Previous areas being decommissioned;

- Help@Home
- Relative support

Both of which will be incorporated into the new areas.

### **Bognor Regis Regeneration**

A report commissioned a while ago has now been presented and proposes a new approach to marketing our key coastal towns ie Littlehampton, Arundel & Bognor Regis. It will also look at adjoining parishes to try to upgrade the offer for tourists, to market it better, to provide a better quality of accommodation and to highlight opportunities and events which will attract a higher spending and more frequent tourist.

**Jacky Pendleton**

**WSCC Councillor for Middleton Division (Clymping, Ford, Middleton-on-Sea & Yapton)**