

## SOBERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Soberton Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in Soberton Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Mr J Hyland (Chairman), Mrs J Masterman (Vice-Chairman), K Lamport,  
Mr D Salmon, Mr R Stranks, Mrs A Turner, Mr D Cleeve &  
Ms R Cole

In attendance: District Councillor Mrs Vicky Weston  
Mrs Liz Manship – Acting Clerk

### **38/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from: Cllr Mr S Marland (COVID) and Cllr Mr N Findlay (Vacation)  
D/Cllr Gemmell & C/Cllr P Stallard

### **39/22 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

No disclosures were made.

### **40/22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

2 members of the public joined the meeting. 1 resident addressed the Council in respect to agenda item "Speed Indicator Device (SID) and Road Traffic Signs". A summary can be found in appendix A.

### **41/22 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**

#### **Resolved**

The Minutes of the last meeting, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr Turner                      Seconded: Cllr Lamport                      All Agreed

### **42/22 APPOINTMENT OF CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER**

#### **Resolved**

To appoint Mr Brendan Gibbs as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) to Soberton Parish Council. A start date to be determined.

Proposed: Cllr Hyland                      Seconded: Cllr Stranks                      All Agreed

Mr Gibbs was introduced to Council. The Chairman thanked Mrs Liz Manship for her support to Council since March 2022.

### **43/22 POLICES & TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **Resolved:**

The following Polices and Terms of Reference were approved:

- a) Member/Officer Protocol
- b) Freedom of Information Policy
- c) Training & Development Policy
- d) Health & Safety Policy

- e) Disciplinary and Grievance Procedure
  - f) Staffing Committee Terms of Reference
- Proposed : Cllr Hyland                      Seconded: Cllr Masterman      All Agreed

The Chairman offered the Council's thanks to Mrs Clarke for completing the documents prior to her retirement. Endorsed by all Members present.

#### **44/22                      GRANT APPLICATIONS**

**Resolved:**

In line with the budget, grants of £1,250 were awarded to both St Peter's Church, Soberton and Holy Trinity Church, Newtown, to support churchyard maintenance.

Proposed: Cllr Lamport                      Seconded: Cllr Cleeve                      All Agreed

#### **45/22                      RECREATION GROUND**

Cllrs Hyland and Stranks provided Council with an update:

- a) **Football Pitch** – The contractor has cut the pitch 3 or 4 times this month and will shortly be raking the hatch. The Football Club have been invited to visit.
- b) **Pavilion** – The Soberton and Newtown Ukrainian Group (SNUG) have been using the home changing room to sort clothes to support Ukrainian Refugees. A timeline has been agreed until the beginning of the new football season. The Council offers its thanks to the group for not only its work on behalf of the village, but also for cleaning the changing room after 2-years lack of use.
- c) **Goal Posts** – These have been condemned and temporarily placed behind the Guide Hut. New posts will be needed for the next season. Money is set aside in the budget.
- d) **Play Inspection Report** – The Play Area Inspection has been undertaken. Any action required will be considered as soon as the Clerk receives the report.
- e) **Jubilee Celebrations** – Other than the vehicles parked without agreement in the carpark, mentioned in the later ACSO report, no issues of concern were raised with the ground. The Chairman thanked Cllr Stranks for his work.

#### **46/22                      ST CLAIRE'S MEADOW**

A report from Cllr Masterman, previously circulated, was received:

*The cattle are back in the north field. The footpaths are still pretty muddy so visitor numbers are low. Red Kites, heron and egrets have been sighted regularly as well as a brief appearance of swans. Apparently a kingfisher has been seen in the closed section of the meadow but not, as yet, at its usual nesting site.*

#### **47/22                      ACCREDITED COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER (ACSO)**

A Report from the ACSO had been previously circulated. Currently spending approximately an hour a week in the village, a significant number of untaxed vehicles have been observed parked in the Recreation Ground Carpark, the details of which have been forwarded to WCC. Five hours a week are budgeted for, so this can be increased in consideration of need.

**Resolved:**

The New Council to monitor and lead in agreeing ACSO priorities

Proposed: Cllr Hyland                      Seconded: Cllr Masterman      All Agreed

## **48/22      SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES & ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNS**

The Chairman advised that there isn't any budget set aside for a new SID, so a way forward does need to be thought through. He proposed that, as suggested by the resident earlier, this needs to be discussed by the new Council.

### **Resolved**

To be considered by the new Council

Proposed: Cllr Hyland      Seconded: Cllr Stranks      All Agreed

## **49/22      PARISH LENGTHSMAN**

The Chairman advised that Soberton is to continue with the coordination of the Lengthsman's Scheme for the 2022/23 financial year. There are approximately 10 parishes within the cluster. Mr Cole, as the Council's new Clerk/RFO will coordinate the administrative and financial processes.

The next visit to the parish of the Lengthsman is 5<sup>th</sup> May. All Councillors to advise Cllr Salmon of jobs requiring attention.

## **50/22      QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE – JUNE 2022**

### **Resolved**

The following costs were agreed: £500 for staging.

Proposed: Cllr Hyland      Seconded: Cllr Turner      All Agreed

## **51/22      PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **Resolved:**

To approve & forward to WCC/SDNPA the recommendations of the Planning Working Group, previously circulated, in respect to the following planning applications:

a) [Use of two former chicken shed buildings for B8 storage](#) 

Beriton Heath Road Soberton SO32 3QH

**Ref. No: 22/00668/LDC**

Comments agreed:

*The area served by this site has a number of buildings which are assumed to be owned by the Applicant, however there is no blue line plan to indicate this. We would wish to have confirmation that all the land served by the access is within one ownership.*

*We note that the Statutory Declarations say that the chicken sheds have historically been used for storage but the business has been slowly contracting. We are therefore concerned about any potential future B8 use for the site and would request that WCC require the Applicant to provide details on the estimated future number and type of vehicles.*

b) [Dwelling House](#) 

Flintwell Southend Lane Soberton SO32 3QB

**Ref. No: 21/03021/LDC**

Comments agreed: *No comment*

c) [Two storey extension following rationalisation of outbuildings.](#)

Follow up pre-app to SDNP/19/03674/PRE and SDNP/21/01046/PRE

Cherrywood Lodge Webbs Green Soberton SO32 3PY

**SDNP/22/01594/PRE**

Comments agreed: *No comment, we look forward to seeing the full application.*

d) **Discharge of conditions 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 of planning application SDNP/20/01710/FUL**

South Downs Trekking Station Road Soberton

Ref. No: **SDNP/22/01717/DCOND**

Comments agreed:

**South Downs Trekking Discharge of Conditions**

*The Parish Council object to the details provided to discharge the planning conditions for the following reasons.*

**Construction Method Statement (CMS)**

*We consider that the details provided in the CMS are not sufficiently detailed to ensure that the construction is undertaken in a satisfactory manner for the following reasons (references relate to the CMS paragraphs):*

*3.2 We would expect details of the temporary signs to be provided in order to ensure that they are clear and of the appropriate size, specifically at the bridleway entrance due to the limited area available.*

*3.2 There should be more details provided at the access on Station Road to prevent vehicles stopping on or near the road at this location. This is also related to the sign design and the information provided.*

*3.2 No details are provided on the turning circle of construction vehicles in Appendix A. Given the small site area there is a danger that vehicles may reverse at some point.*

*3.5 The comment that wheel washing will only be provided 'if necessary' is too vague, this should be provided as a matter of course.*

*3.6 Similarly dust control will only be proved 'where possible' is vague and could result in it not being undertaken if the contractor deems it is not possible,*

*3.7 The working hours are too extensive. A weekday start time of 0700 is too early as Station Road is a residential road and the close proximity of houses, we would suggest 0800 at the earliest. We object to any working on a Saturday. Not only are there houses near the site, the bridleway is an important leisure facility at weekends for many users, including horse riders, and construction activity would detract from its use.*

**Additional Points**

*In addition to the above points we consider the CMS is deficient on the following matters:*

- 1. We could not see any specification of the construction of the access track, how will it be constructed and with what material to ensure that drainage and surface water run-off is contained.*
- 2. There is no indication of information being given to contractors, such as access routes, times and location of site access.*
- 3. There should be an estimate on the number of vehicles per day.*
- 4. No information is provided on how access at Station Road will be constructed, including suitable visibility and signing.*

- e) **Chestnut tree - Fell due to large area of rot. Tree is becoming dangerous. Replant in same location one silver birch or lime.**

Treetops Liberty Road Newtown Fareham PO17 6LD

**Ref. No: 22/00798/TPO**

Comments agreed: *This is the replacement of a rotting tree. Not sure it is significant. Suggest WCC tree officer to decide (i.e. no comment).*

- f) **(AMENDED DESCRIPTION, PLANS and INFORMATION - Rec'd 17/03/2022) Erection of 2 no. single storey log cabins for tourist accommodation**

Land at Kingsmead Wickham Hampshire

**SDNP/20/03460/FUL**

Comments ratified:

*The Parish Council maintains its objection to this Application. We still have concerns regarding the site access, particularly as HCC have noted that visibility is substandard. Kingsmead is a small rural road but very close to the A32, consequently we consider that the addition of traffic movements in and out of this location, combined with movement by non-motorised users along the road, is unsafe.*

*We are also concerned about increased lighting in this rural area.*

Proposed: Cllr Hyland      Seconded: Cllr Masterman      All Agreed

- g) **SDNP/22/01717/DCOND** South Downs Trekking Station Road Soberton.

Council was inadvertently left off the consultee list for the discharge of conditions, with a closing date 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

**Resolved:**

The Clerk to respond in consideration if the known position of the Council, in consultation with Cllr Masterman

Proposed: Cllr Hyland      Seconded: Cllr Masterman      All Agreed.

## **52/22                  FINANCE**

- a) **Receipts:** Precept £19,584.50

**Expenditure** proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Masterman:

Clerk's salary, HMRC £344.07, Swanmore Parish Council – ACSO £83.95, Ampfield Traffic £100, E Manship Locum Clerk Services £462.50, E Manship Expenses £28.38, Google 53.56, Poo Bags £35, Cllr Marland – Keys for Pavilion £13.50.

- b) **Finance update:**

Approved spend £1,684.91

Cash in Bank £30,720.00 (31/03/2022)

50% Precept received £19,584.5

## **53/22                  CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**Hampshire Passenger Transport Forum – Wed 18<sup>th</sup> May or Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022.**

**Resolved:**

Cllr Findlay to represent Council.

Proposed: Cllr Hyland      Seconded: Cllr Masterman      All Agreed

## **54/22 ELECTIONS**

The Chairman confirmed the results of the uncontested elections for Soberton:

- a) Soberton Ward – Neil Findlay, John Hyland, Sam Marland
- b) Soberton Heath & Newtown Ward – David Cleeve, Rachel Cole, David Salmon, Jonty Sherwill, Arabella Turner and Vicki Weston.

This leaves 2 vacancies for the new Council to take forward.

## **55/22 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- a) The **AGM** is to be held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- b) The Chairman offered his thanks to Councillors who have chosen not to stand for re-election, Cllrs Kevin Lamport, Jane Masterman and Bob Stranks. Their hard work and support over the years had been very much appreciated.
- c) The Chairman offered his thanks to Mrs Jenny Clarke for her commitment and all her work for Council whilst Clerk. This was endorsed by all Members present.

## **56/22 ITEM FOR NEXT AGENDA**

Usual Items, Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Support to Ukraine

## **56/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

AGM – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm in Soberton Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8pm

### **Appendix A – Comments from Resident (Public Session)**

#### **Speed Indicator Device (SID) and Road Traffic Signs:**

The SID has been noticeably affective in Church Road, we await the collected data to compare with last year's Traffic Survey Speeds.

Deployed across 8 sites, with the planned 4 weeks in each road it could be 20 weeks/5 months before it returns. Concerned too long to help control excessive speeding. What is planned by the Parish Council to invest in more units?

#### **a) The 20's Plenty initiative**

I look forward to seeing this being heartily supported by the Parish Council, as advised by the Chairman at the APA. Please can you supply the PC's response to HCC. Supported by both Flick Drummond MP and Donna Jones PCC on behalf of Hampshire Police, when implemented this will be a welcome reward to the hard work of the Community Speedwatch Group. Please can this be on the next agenda to support further discussion and formal minuting of decisions.

#### **b) Village Gates**

A number of residents have raised the possibility of having visible Village Gates to alert drivers they are entering the more residential areas. I believe the argument against the gates is weak. I have created designs that I look forward in due course to presenting to Council.

#### **c) Statutory Speed Signage and Road Markings**

Action is needed to ensure the statutory speed signage and road markings are regularly maintained and kept more visible by HCC.

End of Record of Meeting.