

**TICHBORNE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting of Tichborne Parish Council held at**  
**Grange Farm Tichborne at 7.00pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

Prior to the meeting commencing all councillors present had signed their acceptance of office declarations in the presence of the Clerk.

The Clerk also issued each councillor with an election expenses form to complete with a nil return.

**23/01) To elect a Chairman of the Council for the municipal year 2022-23.**

The retiring Chairman sought nominations for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council.

Cllr Kinder proposed Cllr Raimes with Cllr French-Brooks seconding this nomination. There were no other nominations received.

By a show of hands Cllr Raimes was **elected** Chairman of the Parish Council for the municipal year 2022-23.

Having been duly elected Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Raimes signed the acceptance of office declaration.

Cllr Raimes welcomed everybody to the first meeting of the Parish Council after the recent district and parish elections. He paid tribute to Mrs Georgia Hugh for her service as a parish councillor over the past eight years. He also paid tribute to Mr Laurence Ruffell after his retirement as a district councillor after many years of service.

He then welcomed all of the current councillors to the meeting and said he looked forward to working with them on behalf of the community of Tichborne. Finally, he congratulated District Cllr Neil Bolton on his recent election as a Winchester City Councillor for the Upper Meon Valley ward.

**23/02) Apologies.**

Mr A McWhirter	Councillor
Mr A Stewart	Councillor
Mrs S Tattersall	Councillor

Mr H Lumby	District Councillor
Mr R Humby	County Councillor

**Present.**

Mr R Raimes	Chairman
Mr R Foot	Councillor
Mr J French-Brooks	Councillor
Mr N Kinder	Councillor
Mr N Bolton	District Councillor

Mr B Gibbs	Clerk
------------	-------

One member of the public.

**23/03) Declarations of Interest.**

a) None recorded.

**23/04) Public Session.**

The member of the public present did not wish to speak during the public session.

Chairman's signature ..... date.....

### 23/05) Reports by the County and District Councillors.

CLLr Bolton introduced himself to the Parish Council and said that this was the first time he had served as an elected member of any authority. He then introduced a number of news items from Winchester City Council.

The local elections took place on 5th May. Due to the purdah rules, no major decisions were permitted to be made by Winchester City Council during the election campaign, so this report is by necessity rather short.

Following the elections, the Liberal Democrats remain in control of the council, with the make-up of the council comprising 27 Liberal Democrats, 15 Conservatives, 2 independents and one Green Party councillor.

Hampshire County Council continues to work with Winchester City Council and key local partners to enable the provision of immediate support and assistance to Ukrainians arriving in Hampshire under the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme.

The focus remains on conducting necessary safeguarding and wellbeing checks via home visits, distribution of financial support, in collaboration with public sector partners, and ensuring key information is shared with guests and sponsors efficiently.

### 23/06) Finance and Orders for Payment.

a) To pay all approved grant applications for the year 2022-23 as follows.

V650 Dembay Property Maintenance and Contracting (K6 Phone box repainting) £768.00

V651 Grange Farm Partnership Room Hire (May 2022). £25.00

V652 HMRC PAYE/NIC Mar-Apr 2022. £40.40

b) To pay all approved grant applications for the year 2022-23 as follows.

i) Tichborne Park Cricket Club. The Parish Council of Tichborne noted that the statutory basis for this item is the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 19.

Tichborne Parish Council having previously considered the grant application for the year 2022-23 from the Tichborne Park Cricket Club **approved** the payment of a grant of £300.00.

ii) St Andrew's Parochial Church Council. The Parish Council of Tichborne noted that the statutory basis for this item is the Local Government Act 1972, Section 137.

Tichborne Parish Council having previously considered the grant application for the year 2022-23 from the St Andrew's Parochial Church Council **approved** the payment of a grant of £300.00.

iii) The Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service. The Parish Council of Tichborne noted that the statutory basis for this item is the Local Government Act 1972, Section 142.

Tichborne Parish Council having previously considered the grant application for the year 2022-23 from the Olive Branch Christian Counselling Service **approved** a grant of £300.00.

iv) Citizens Advice Winchester District. The Parish Council of Tichborne noted that the statutory basis for this item is the Local Government Act 1972, Section 142.

Tichborne Parish Council having previously considered the grant application for the year 2022-23 from the Citizens Advice Winchester District **approved** the payment of a grant of £300.00.

v) Hampshire & Isle of Wight Victim Support. The Parish Council of Tichborne noted that the statutory basis for this item is the Local Government Act 1972, Section 142.

Tichborne Parish Council having previously considered the grant application for the year 2022-23 from the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Victim Support **approved** the payment of a grant of £100.00.

Chairman's signature .....

date.....

c) Alresford & District Agricultural Society (A&DAS). The 2020 & 2021 Alresford Show had both been cancelled as a result of the pandemic. Consequently, the Parish Council had earmarked the £600.00 set aside in the 2022-23 budget so that this money could be carried over to support the A&DAS in 2022.

Cllr Raimes proposed and Cllr Foot seconded the proposal that the £300 allocated to the Alresford & District Agricultural Society at the January 2022 meeting (for the financial year 2022-23) be withdrawn and re-allocated to a suitable charity in the Winchester district to support efforts to help Ukrainian refugees here.

This proposal was **resolved** unanimously.

**23/07) Internal Audit - Financial and non-financial risk assessment. To complete the annual review of existing systems and controls.**

**a) Standing Orders**

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council manages its affairs according to the National Association of Local Councils Model Standing Orders. These were first adopted in July 2014 (minute reference 15/08) and were later amended in March 2015 (minute reference 15/71).

It was requested by the Internal Auditor that the Standing Orders be reviewed in 2022-23.

**b) Financial Regulations**

The Standing Orders mentioned above contain Financial Regulations but the adoption of the list below would clarify important items for the Council:

- cheques – 2 signatures from any of the Parish Councillor designated signatories.
- A statement shall be prepared for the late autumn meeting and presented to the Parish Council to allow for consideration of the financial situation before setting the 2023-24 precept in January 2023.
- Chairman’s Fund – The Chairman may use a fund, not exceeding 5% of the precept or an agreed amount to pay for expenses and entertainment relating to his duties and special expenditure of the Parish Council not covered under another heading.
- Currently, the value of the Chairman’s fund is £250.00
- Members’ Travelling Expenses – Members shall have the right to claim petrol/mileage allowance when undertaking Tichborne Parish Council approved business at a rate of 45 pence per mile.
- Expenditure under the Section 137 power is limited to £8.82 per registered elector (2022-23). As of 31st March 2022 there were 187 electors in Tichborne making the total fund available for the year as £1,649.34
- Insurance – The policy was last reviewed in 2016-17 [minute reference 17/69(d) 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017] to ensure that adequate cover was provided.
- A minute should be recorded that the 2022-23 insurance schedule has been revalued by Zurich Municipal following the updated fixed asset register being passed to them. This has resulted in a £75 increase on the yearly premium.
- Review – these regulations are to be reviewed annually, usually at the Annual Council Meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Foot, seconded by Cllr Kinder and **resolved** by the Parish Council to approve the financial regulations for 2022-23.

**c) Clerk’s contract & salary**

Chairman's signature .....

date.....

At present, the Clerk is employed to work ten hours per month at a rate of £10.10 per hour. The pay scale used is as follows.

National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) Pay Scales 2016-18.

Salary Scale LC1 SCP 20 £10.099p per hour.

It is proposed that the Clerk's salary and conditions should be reviewed in 2022-23.

#### d) **Treasurers Account**

No interest is currently paid to the Parish Council's bank account and to date no enquiries have been made about interest paying accounts so that a proportion of the funds held could gain interest.

#### e) **Insurance**

To note that a policy schedule was included from 2008 to include cover for Libel & Slander, Fidelity indemnity and for personal accident for Councillors from ages 75-85.

A further change to the schedule now includes cover for personal accidents to all Councillors and Employees aged 16 to 90 whilst on approved duties.

It was proposed by Cllr Raimes, seconded by Cllr Kinder and **resolved** by the Parish Council to approve the financial regulations for 2022-23.

Cllr Raimes proposed and Cllr Kinder seconded the proposal that **all** councillors be on an approved duty if they are engaged in litter picking, verge and hedge trimming and all other **non-highway** maintenance within the civil parish of Tichborne.

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve this proposal. This approved duty will be reviewed at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2023.

#### **23/8) Councillors' responsibilities.**

It was agreed by those present the Councillor responsibilities remain the same for this year.

- Lengthsman scheme - Cllr Raimes & Cllr French-Brooks
- Planning and Licensing - Cllr McWhirter, Cllr Raimes & Cllr French-Brooks
- Highways and Environment - Cllr French-Brooks & Cllr Stewart
- Website and Broadband - Cllr Kinder
- St Andrew's Church liaison and Longwood - Cllr Foot
- Alresford Show - Cllr Raimes
- Tichborne Park Cricket Club liaison - Cllr Foot & the Clerk
- Bakeland Gardens - Vacant

#### **23/9) Employee Responsibilities.**

At present, the Parish Council meets six times a year with meetings arranged once every two months. These meetings have traditionally been held in January, March, May, July, September and November of each year.

With the Council only meeting every other month there have been occasions when planning applications are received and are not discussed in time to provide a response to the Local Planning Authority (Winchester City Council or the South Downs National Park Authority) before their deadlines are reached.

It was proposed by Cllr Raimes and seconded by Cllr Foot that the Clerk be given delegated powers under Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 to respond to planning applications that are received between meetings for the duration of the municipal year 2022-23.

Chairman's signature .....

date.....

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve this. This power will be reviewed at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2023.

**23/10) Planning & Licensing.**

a) Planning applications and decisions received from the South Downs National Park Authority.

SDNP/21/00290/FUL Matterley Farm Alresford Road Ovington Winchester Hampshire SO24 0HU

A change of use of land from agriculture to mixed agriculture and holding of one music festival event for a number of attendees not exceeding 75,999 (plus 1,000 attendees on the Sunday for local residents) in any calendar year including retention of wooden structures within woodland and minor alterations to existing access on A31, both associated with festival use. Storage containers (storage use associated with music event) on site throughout rest of the year.

This application has a further period of consultation due to further information being received by the SDNPA on the 5th April 2022.

The Parish Council of Tichborne wishes to raise a **strong objection** to most recent consultation.

This application is inconsistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2019) which requires in paragraph 170 that planning decisions “contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by protecting and enhancing valued landscapes in a manner commensurate with their statutory status”.

It is clear that the application cannot be said to protect or enhance the landscape (and Cheesefoot Head as a valued landscape). Paragraph 172 stresses that great weight must be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks (such as the SDNP) and areas of outstanding beauty, which have the highest protected status.

Major Development (which the SDNP accepts this application constitutes) in these areas must be refused other than in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated that the proposed development is in the public interest.

Paragraph 172 requires any application for development in a National Park to include an assessment of:

- the need for the development including the impact of allowing or refusing it on the local economy;
- the cost of and scope for development elsewhere outside the area; and
- any detrimental effects on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.

It appears to us that the application does not satisfy these criteria and must therefore be refused. No evidence is produced in this application to indicate exceptional circumstances, to demonstrate the need for this development in the SDNP, or to demonstrate that it would be in the public interest.

The proposed development does not comply with a number of other policies in the Local Plan including Strategic Policy SD6: Safeguarding Views and Strategic Policy SD7: Relative Tranquillity. These points have been more fully explained in other objections such as those made by Cheriton Parish Council (which we fully endorse) so we do not elaborate further on them here.

The application should be refused on the above grounds alone. However, there are a number of technical problems with the application that also mean it must be dismissed. These are set out in paragraphs 1-3 and 6 of the objections of Cheriton Parish Council submitted on 11 May, 2022 which we also fully endorse.

We do not consider that the application supplies objective photographic evidence of the effect of the Boomtown event on the landscape and countryside. This point has been highlighted in other objections including that of Mr Templeman and Mr Techer Jones and we consider that this application cannot be considered fairly without photographic evidence which sets out the true extent of the effect and impact of the Boomtown event on the landscape and countryside. Mr Templeman provides additional photos which show the disruption and despoiling

Chairman's signature .....

date.....

of the landscape but we consider the SDNP requires a much more complete picture of the impact of this event before it can be in a position to make an informed judgement on this application.

Again, the application should be dismissed on this ground.

We have also seen the objection made by Mr Techer Jones and agree with the points he makes (and with his reasoning) that the Landscape and Ecology Plan must not be considered as part of this application and as to the inadequacy of the non-technical summary to the Environmental Statement. We are also grateful to him for his time and expertise in carrying out a survey of the impact of the Boomtown event on ground nesting birds. As far as we are aware no other such survey has been undertaken and its conclusion that past Boomtown events have resulted in a significant reduction in skylarks is alarming and should be a concern to the SDNP.

We also adopt his comments on the impact the Boomtown event seems to be having on corn buntings (a red listed bird whose population has apparently dropped by 90% in the last 50 years and one of the two core breeding grounds for these birds in Hampshire is on the Matterley estate). This application should not be permitted in view of the dangers it poses to such endangered species.

We also note that the actual wording of the planning application (for permanent change of use of agricultural land) does not mention the Boomtown event or the length of the Boomtown event (although the Environmental Statement is largely concerned with Boomtown only but does not attempt to address the likely environmental impact if full implementation of the permission occurred on the full 444 hectares). Therefore, it seems that if the permission was granted there would be nothing to prevent a different, larger and longer lasting event on the 444-hectare site.

Conditions attached to any permission would likely be ineffective as the conditions attached to the past permissions have readily and frequently been relaxed at the request of the applicant.

In summary, we object to this application because we do not consider that this application satisfies the requirements of the applicable planning laws or supplies the information needed by the SDNP in order to enable the SDNP to make an informed judgement to consider the application.

At the most basic level it is obvious that a music festival attracting around 75,000 people over a period of about 5 days (with all the loud music, footfall, traffic, rubbish, lights, disruption to footpaths etc) is wholly inconsistent with a tranquil and beautiful landscape and its plant and wildlife and will not enhance or preserve either.

b) Planning applications and decisions received from Winchester City Council.

22/00516/HOU The Crooked Billet Alresford Road Tichborne Hampshire SO24 0PN: Proposed Conservatory to the south elevation.

The Parish Council has **no objection** to this application.

### **23/11) Environment, Highways & Transport.**

a) The 2022-23 Lengthsman scheme is in place and a visit is now due. Cllrs French-Brooks and Raimes will be managing the contract on behalf of the Parish Council.

### **23/12) HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.**

The Platinum Jubilee Bench has been installed and will be officially unveiled at 5pm on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>. Meanwhile, the K6 phone box has been repainted. Efforts to adopt the phone box will take place later in the year.

### **23/13) Reports that the Chairman deems urgent – NO DECISIONS to be made.**

There were no reports to receive.

There being no further business the Annual Council Meeting closed at 8.04pm.

Chairman's signature .....

date.....

Members of the Tichborne Parish Council are summoned to the next meeting of the Parish Council to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at Grange Farm Tichborne commencing at 7.00pm.

**Brendan Gibbs**  
**Clerk to the Parish Council of Tichborne.**

Chairman's signature .....

date.....