

TICHBORNE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Tichborne Parish Council held
at Grange Farm at 7.00pm on Tuesday 29th March 2022.

Prior to the meeting commencing, Cllr Raimes paid tribute to former councillor Simon May who had passed away on the 3rd February 2022. Simon was a member of Tichborne Parish Council for just under eight years up until 2018. Cllr Raimes asked for a moment's reflection to remember Simon and said that he would be greatly missed by all who knew him.

22/46) Apologies.

Mr N Kinder	Councillor
Mr A Stewart	Councillor
Mr H Lumby	District Councillor
Mr L Ruffell	District Councillor
Mr R Humby	County Councillor

Present.

Mr R Raimes	Chairman
Mr R Foot	Councillor
Mrs G Hugh	Councillor
Mr J French-Brooks	Councillor
Mr A McWhirter	Councillor

Mr B Gibbs	Clerk
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One member of the general public.

22/47) Declarations of Interest.

a) None recorded.

22/48) To approve the minutes the last ordinary meetings of Tichborne Parish Council held on 20th October 2021 and the 19th January 2022 (Previously circulated).

Cllr Raimes proposed and Cllr Hugh seconded the proposal to approve the minutes of ordinary meetings of Tichborne Parish Council held on 20th October 2021 and the 19th January 2022.

22/49) Public Session

a) Mollie Francis spoke again about speed issues through the village. She asked if there had been any progress on the items that were recorded in the minutes of the January meeting. Cllr Raimes said that correspondence would be received during the next agenda item and a decision could be made about commissioning a parish traffic survey working with Hampshire County Council (HCC).

22/50) Reports by the County and District Councillors.

Cllrs Ruffell and Humby had sent their apologies. Cllrs Lumby and Humby had previously circulated their written reports that were **noted** by the meeting.

22/51) Environment, Highways & Transport.

a) Cllr Raimes said that he had been in touch with Mr Pete Mabey of HCC about graffiti at the A31 viaduct. Both of them were working to resolve any issues with land access to the viaduct supports.

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b) It was reported that the clearing of roadside grips was still under discussion.

c) The Lengthsman scheme would continue into 2022-23 under new administration.

d) Cllr Raimes commented that in response to Mollie Francis's concerns about speeding (and following the receipt of an item of correspondence from Cllr Humby) it seemed reasonable to take up HCC's kind offer of a parish traffic survey. This would cost £200 and would have to be paid for by the Parish Council.

Cllr Raimes proposed and Cllr Hugh seconded the proposal to commission a parish traffic survey from Hampshire County Council at a cost of £200.

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve this.

22/52) Finance and Orders for Payment.

a) The Clerk proposed the following orders for payment as follows:

V643 The Petersfield Forge Jubilee Bench (2nd Tranche) £1,250

V644 Zurich Municipal Insurance revaluation fee. £11.70.

V645 Zurich Municipal Insurance annual premium. £321.34.

V646 Grange Farm Partnership Room Hire (Mar 2022). £25.00

V647 Mr J French-Brooks expenses. £11.50.

V648 Mr B.V.Gibbs expenses April 2020-March 2022. £163.96

V649 Mr B.V.Gibbs salary July 2021-Feb 2022. £646.40

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve these orders for payment.

b) Tichborne Parish Council Budget 2022-23

The Clerk presented a draft budget for discussion and approval.

He began by saying that the Clerk's salary costs totalled £1,212 in 2021-22 with the salary costs being calculated at a rate of £10.10 per hour with 10 hours work each month. The Clerk has requested a salary review in 2022-23 and asked that at least £1,400 be set aside in the budget for this year.

It was agreed to allocate a budget of £230 to cover the cost of the Parish Council's Internal Audit in 2022-23.

The January 2022 meeting had received grant applications from the St Andrew's Church PCC, Tichborne Park Cricket Club, The Oliver Branch Christian Counselling Service, the Alresford & District Agricultural Committee, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Victim Support and the Winchester Citizen's Advice Bureau.

It had been resolved to allocate each of these organisations a total of £300 (three hundred pounds) each except for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Victim Support where £100 was set aside.

Other expenses that would normally to be considered are the room hire costs for each meeting, the fees relating to membership of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) and the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) annual registration fee. Consequently, the figures £160 for the HALC fee and £40 for the ICO fee were allocated to each of these items.

Currently, the Parish Council is using accommodation at the Grange Farm Partnership to hold their meetings at a cost of £25 per meeting. The hope is to return to Alresford Golf Club's meeting rooms later on in 2022 once these have been refurbished.

Following a full review and re-valuation of the Fixed Asset Register (see item d below) it was agreed to allocate a budget of £350 to cover the cost of the Parish Council's insurance policy in 2022-23.

The Parish Council's main assets are its two bus shelters, two benches (including the new Platinum Jubilee bench) and three notice boards. It was noted that the Parish Council has earmarked the sum of £1,200 for any repair

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necessary to the shelters (min ref 16/65 b). The Clerk asked that this sum continued to be carried forward as an earmarked reserve.

During 2021-22 the sum of £867 had been drawn down from the earmarked reserve of £1,000 to provide for a new notice board at Ladycroft. The Clerk asked that the sum of £200 be set-aside to top up this earmarked reserve in 2022-23. It was also agreed to consolidate the sum set aside for notice board repairs into this earmarked reserve.

This would result in an earmarked reserve of £433.

Other maintenance line items that were discussed included the provision of an earmarked reserve to maintain the Cheriton Play Area (£300) and an earmarked reserve to maintain the community defibrillator (£100). As Cheriton Parish Council has drawn down £300 in 2021-22 it was recommended to commence a new earmarked reserve with an initial set-aside of £100. The community defibrillator's earmarked reserve will continue.

The cost of a contested election is accrued over the four-year period between elections. In January 2017 It had been resolved that the Parish Council should ring-fence the sum of £1,000 to cover the potential costs of a contested election (min ref 17/60 b). In May 2018 the election was not contested and as a result the earmarked fund will be carried forward in readiness for the 2022 election.

The Chairman's Fund is used to cover the costs of refreshments at the Annual Parish Assembly and other sundry items. It was agreed that this figure would remain at a level of £250 for 2022-23 despite there being no Annual Parish Assembly in 2020 or 2021.

The Parish Council discussed a request from Cheriton Parish Council for it to consider setting aside a sum of money to cover costs incurred in responding to major planning applications within the SDNPA Concerns were expressed that setting aside money to pay for future legal action may result in a significant and unaffordable commitment being made by the Parish Council.

However, on the basis that it may be prudent to obtain a legal opinion (as opposed to engaging in litigation) in the future regarding any such planning application it was agreed to set aside £500 for this purpose.

A resolution of the Parish Council will be required before this sum is released.

It was proposed by Cllr Raimes and seconded by Cllr Foot that Tichborne Parish Council approves a working budget of £6,431 for the year 2022-23.

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve this.

c) Financial Risk Assessment 2021-22.

The Clerk said he would be updating the Financial Risk Assessment for uploading on to the Parish Council's website once the Parish Council had accepted the amendments made to this year's document. These included listing the S137 fund at £1,572.67 at a rate of £8.41p per elector multiplied by the number of electors (187). He also said that a VAT claim for £153.89 has been submitted.

The Parish Council **resolved** to approve the amendments and publish the document on the website.

d) Fixed Asset Register 2021-22.

As part of the work to be done for the Internal Audit, the Clerk commented that he had undertaken a re-valuation of the Parish Council's fixed assets as follows:

Two bus shelters are to be found on the B3047 road to Itchen Stoke (assumed east) £5,475 and on the B3047 road to Itchen Stoke (assumed west) £5,475

Two Jubilee seats are as follows: the Diamond Jubilee bench by St Andrew's Church £1,000 & the Platinum Jubilee bench at the village green £5,000.

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There are three notice boards as follows: at the Old Post Office £850, at Sevington Farm £850 and at Ladycroft £850.

Together, the replacement value of these assets equals £19,500. The 2022-23 insurance policy has been updated to reflect these changes.

The Parish Council **noted** the changes to the fixed asset register.

22/53) Planning & Licensing.

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

SDNP/22/01333/CND Matterley Farm Alresford Road Ovington Hampshire SO21 1HW

Variation of condition 2 relating to planning approval SDNP/18/06249/FUL for an extension to setting up and dismantling period from 9 to 14 weeks.

The Parish Council of Tichborne raised a Strong Objection to this application using the following material planning considerations to support this.

We object to the application for an amendment to Condition 2 of the original approval of an event at Matterley (SDNP/18/06249/FUL) for the reasons set out below.

This is a Section 73 application under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to allow the applicant to proceed with an amendment to one of the conditions attached to its existing planning permission. The applicant's request is to increase from 9 weeks to 14 weeks the period allowed for setting up and dismantling the infrastructure required for the Boomtown music festival.

This is the second time that the applicant has attempted to vary Condition 2 in the original approval (SDNP/19/06160/CND was the first attempt). This was withdrawn after the planning authority informed the applicant's agent that Section 73 was inappropriate and that a full planning application was required, which should be supported by an environmental statement. Such an application was submitted in January 2021 (SDNP/21/00290/FUL) and has not yet been determined.

The requested amendment from 9 weeks to 14 weeks is a 56% increase, which no reasonable person would describe as minor. It would permit ecological disturbance, disruption of tranquillity and visual intrusion for over one quarter of the year, in addition to the period when the festival takes place and any rehearsals. As this is not a minor amendment, it is therefore evident that a Section 73 application must still be inappropriate now.

Furthermore, the planning authority has evidently decided that the activity currently allowed under SDNP/18/06249/FUL should in fact be treated under Schedule II of the Environment Impact Assessment Regulations as a development requiring an Environmental Statement. As SDNP/22/01333/CND is seeking to vary a condition of the temporary approval that should have been dealt with as a development requiring an Environmental Statement, it seems logical that this new application should also be treated by SDNPA as a development requiring an Environmental Statement. This application SDNP/22/01333/CND appears to have none.

We are at a loss to understand why the organisers of the Boomtown event, seasoned as they are in holding an immense outdoor event, cannot circumnavigate what the applicant states is a temporary supply chain issue with scaffolders. Boomtown Festival UK Ltd should adapt their plans for the 2022 event to take account of any supply chain issues they have and SDNPA should not agree to vary Condition 2.

The covering letter from the agent quotes government statements about how planning authorities should try to help recovery from Covid in the construction sector. However, Boomtown Festival UK Ltd is not in the construction sector, but in the arts/cultural sector, which enabled it to receive a grant of almost £1 million in 2021 from the Arts Council England's Cultural Recovery Fund. Thus, government statements about the construction sector should be ignored as they are irrelevant.

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In conclusion, it is clear that the applicant should not be permitted to make use of Section 73 for the purpose of a major change to a condition of consent, in respect of an original planning decision that should in any case have required an Environmental Statement. We therefore ask that the SDNPA reject this application.

22/54) Village matters.

a) Jubilee Bench

Cllr Raimes was happy to announce that the Platinum Jubilee bench has been delivered and will be installed in the days immediately following the meeting. He said that this would be a fitting tribute to Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee and would last long in to the future.

He said that it has cost the Parish Council £2,050 excluding VAT and that this money had come from the Boomtown Community Fund. This fund had now been completely exhausted. He hoped that everyone in the village and beyond would make good use of it whilst at the village green.

b) It was also suggested that the village's K6 phone box could be refurbished as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Amongst other ideas put forward was one from Cllr Raimes to consider adopting the phone box as a community asset.

It was proposed by Cllr Raimes and seconded by Cllr Hugh that Tichborne Parish Council considers the adoption of the village phone box and that it be re-painted in time for the Platinum Jubilee weekend.

A budget of £800 was proposed to be taken from the general reserve.

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve these proposals.

c) Jubilee gathering.

Cllrs Raimes and French-Brookes agreed to assist in the organisation of village event to celebrate the Jubilee. It was agreed that an event would be held on the afternoon of Sunday 5th June 2022. Both councillors would work with the Parochial Church Council in order to ensure the event was fully inclusive.

d) Mrs Francis said that the Tichborne 2000 publication has sold all but three copies. One of the remaining copies would be donated to the St Andrew's PC in due course with the cost being met by the Parish Council.

22/55) Reports that the Chairman deems urgent – NO DECISIONS to be made.

a) Cllr Raimes informed the meeting that the Parish Council was meeting for the last time before it reaches the end of its four-year term in May. He said that the Clerk would be working closely with officers at Winchester City Council in order to work through the election timetable so that a new Council can be created in May.

If necessary, a poll will take place on Thursday May 5th 2022.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Members of the Tichborne Parish Council are summoned to the Annual Council Meeting to be held on 11th May 2022 at 7.00pm at Grange Farm Tichborne.

Brendan Gibbs,
Clerk to the Parish Council of Tichborne.

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