

Warnford Parish Meeting – 4th November 2021

held in Warnford Village Hall at 7.30pm

Chair: Mark Rogers

Clerk: Andrew Baynes stood in for Lucy Hutchinson

The papers referred to had been posted on the website, hard copies were available in the meeting.

- 1. Apologies:** There were apologies from three parishioners, and also from the Assistant Rector, Cllr. Hugh Lumby (HCC and WCC) and the Clerk.
- 2. Minutes of the 4th May 2021 Annual General Meeting:** Proposed by Clare Swinstead and seconded by Peter Short, the Minutes were approved.
- 3. Chair's Report:** The Chair thanked those involved in Parish matters, including Phil Chadder for his ongoing work on the Parish Lengthsman scheme, Andrew Baynes for maintaining the village website and also standing in for the Clerk by taking the minutes of the meeting, Pauline Swan in relation to the defibrillator, and the Clerk.
He brought to the meeting's attention the booklet that had been compiled of WW2 recollections of parishioners, copies of which were available from Stephen Short, and TH Chair thanked Stephen and the rest of the team involved in producing the booklet.
- 4. Finance:** The **half year accounts** and the proposed **budget** for 2022/23: The budget tabled showed the precept (income) at £1,4000 however the Chair suggested that the meeting might wish to consider if this should be raised since there had been no increase to the precept for the past few years. The proposal to raise the precept to £1,500 was approved, proposed by Derek Chapman and seconded by Peter Short. The budget, including the addition of £50 in relation to Sheepbridge (see below), proposed by Peter Short and seconded by Clare Swinstead, was approved. Proposed by Clare Swinstead and seconded by Stephen Short, the half year accounts were approved.

The Clerk's expenses of £50 were also approved by the meeting, proposed by Stephen Short and seconded by Clare Swinstead.

- 5. Grants:** On behalf of the Village Hall committee, Derek Chapman advised the meeting that, following the receipt of a number of grants during the pandemic, the Village Hall was currently financially secure and had not therefore made a grant application. However, in view of the additional costs being incurred by the Playground committee for tree maintenance, he suggested that the meeting might consider awarding the £300 that had historically been granted to the Village Hall to the Playground this year. The meeting approved the grant application from the Playground committee for £450 and an additional one-off £300, £750 in total, proposed by Peter Short and seconded by Tricia Chapman.
No application had been received from the Parish Magazine and the Chair noted that the questions raised at the previous meeting had not yet been addressed.
- 6. Planning:** The planning schedule was considered. An application had been made by the new owners of the George and Falcon for illuminated signs and the Chair invited anyone who wished to

comment on this to do so as part of the Parish response if they did not want to make a comment in their own name.

A new application had been received since the list was published and this related to the Hampshire Hogs cricket club. Derek Chapman observed that there had previously been some problems raised by Malcolm Issacs as the cricket ground was adjacent to his property.

It was brought to the attention of the meeting that the Old Calf Shed property was being actively marketed even though the planning application to make the conversions had not been approved. Andrew Sellick updated the meeting on the progress of finding a new use for the Manor Farm dairy yard. Two site visits had been arranged and many parishioners had attended and put forward suggestions. The next step is to discuss with the Highways Dept to understand any restrictions on site access as this will have a major influence on any proposed use. Any conversion of the site is likely to happen in a 2 – 5 year timeframe.

7. Sheepbridge:

Derek Chapman reported on progress with the restoration of the Scheduled Monument (Saxon boundary bank and Bronze Age bowl barrow) at Sheepbridge, following damage caused by the creation of a BMX track. Use by bikes now seems to have ceased following posting of police notices etc and Scheduled Monument Consent has been obtained from Historic England (HE) for the restoration. This involves flattening ramps and using the surplus material to fill pits. The work is provisionally planned for February and the Parish will be asking for volunteers to wield a spade. The pits need to be lined with geotextile (as instructed by HE) to ensure that any archaeological investigation can identify them as modern. A budget of £50 was requested and agreed to cover this.

8.Highways:

Derek Chapman referred to the note available on the website and explained the response that had been received from HCC Highways Dept to problem of vehicles damaging the bridge on **River Lane**. A weight limit would not be supported by HCC(H) for the reasons given in the note and providing guidance via satnav is considered impractical. Bollards are still under consideration by the Parish, but HCC(H)'s preferred option is to erect "Unsuitable for HGV" signs at either end of the road, subject to the agreement of the Parish Meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that a sign at the Lippen Lane end would be ineffective because once a driver has come down Lippen Lane, the only way out is by turning over the bridge so the sign would be ignored. A sign at the A32 end of River Lane might have some effect. A "No through route for HGVs" sign at the A32 end of Lippen Lane was suggested. Bollards were also considered well worth pursuing further. The Chairman agreed to take the issue back for further consideration and discussion with HCC(H).

Derek Chapman reported on progress with deployment of **Speed Indicating Devices on the A32** as a means of controlling vehicle speed. Corhampton PC is prepared to hire its portable device to Warnford. Sites at both approaches to the village have been identified and approved by HCC(H). Periods of deployment in April and July 2022 are proposed with a two week period on each approach in each period. The question of the long-term effectiveness of such devices was raised. HCC suggest that the positive impact gained by using such systems may only last a few weeks and limits deployment to three weeks at a time. Derek advised that the system logs the speed of every passing vehicle which can be downloaded subsequently. This could be useful data for building evidence to support a change of speed limit. The meeting supported the inclusion of £200 in the budget to meet the hire fees from Corhampton PC.

9. Public Rights of Way

Derek Chapman advised that the Ramblers' Association had identified as part of its "Don't Lose Your Way" project four possible "lost" rights of way within the Parish boundaries. Any such cases need to be evidenced and registered (if valid) before 2025 which is the cut-off date for errors in the 1949 Definitive Map.

- a. From North Lodge/Manor Farm to the Church
- b. From Coronation Cottages, behind the houses in Lippen Lane and the Old Grain Store, across the Pinks Hill track, behind Gardeners Cottage and Warnford House and along the top of the bank above Wheely Down Road, coming out a couple of hundred yards short of the woodyard.
- c. From the Old Calf Shed, running diagonally north west across the arable land to a junction with the footpath on Pinks Hill
- d. The case for which an application has already been made, from the A32 to Beacon Hill Cottage through Malcolm Isaac's garden"

The situation will be monitored to see what evidence is brought forward.

10. Touchet Trust: Jeremy Barber (WPM's rep on the Trust) reminded the meeting that the Touchet Trust is available to help fund any suitable educational course for residents of West Meon or Warnford.

11. Queen's Platinum Jubilee: This is scheduled for June 2022 and it had been suggested that a village bonfire might be held on Andrew Sellick's land (Pinks' Hill). Volunteers are being sought to help with this event and should contact Lucy Hutchinson. The meeting was reminded that the Golden Jubilee had seen a street party held in River Lane which had been very successful.

12. Parish Lengthsman Scheme: Phil Chadder advised that under this scheme there are 5/6 visits per year with the purpose of keeping the village tidy. Any suggestions (excluding work along the A32 which is not covered by the scheme) should be directed to Phil.

13. Any Other Business:

- a. The Chair drew attention to the report from Cllr. Lumby (HCC and WCC) and Cllr. Ruffell (WCC) which is on the village website, and particularly mentioned point 5, ie flu jabs are now available to anyone over fifty, as are Covid boosters.
- b. The new Rector is looking for a volunteer to help with admin work for around six hours per week. Anyone interested should contact the Rector directly.
- c. Noise camera update. These are now capable of capturing front and rear number plate information, previously a problem with these cameras, and dashcam footage is being used by the police in successful prosecutions.

14. Next Meeting: May 2022, date to be fixed

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.