

MINUTES OF THE WARNFORD PARISH MEETING AGM held on 25 May 2023 at 7.45pm in Warnford Village Hall.

The AGM took place after a presentation by the Meon Valley Partnership.

Chair: Mark Rogers

Clerk: Lucy Hutchinson

Papers relating to the meeting had been posted on the website in advance, some copies were available at the meeting.

1. Apologies: Billy Bennett, Fi Beresford, Pam Eastwood, Stuart Forsyth, Holly Larrett, Cllr Hugh Lumby, Andrew Sellick, William Thuillier.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November 2022: proposed by Stephen Short and seconded by Gerry Corden, these were approved and signed.

3. Chair's report: The Chair thanked those who do so much for the village, including Derek Chapman (rights of way, highways), Andrew Baynes (website), Phil Chadder (Parish Lengthsman), Pauline Swan and David Corbett (defibrillator) and the Clerk. He also thanked all those who had been involved in the Coronation celebrations.

4. Financial

a) Accounts for the year to 31.03.23: proposed by Andrew Baynes and seconded by Peter Short, these were approved.

b) AGAR 2022/23: the Clerk took the meeting through these papers.

The Certificate of Exemption was approved.

The Meeting received and noted the Internal Audit Report.

The Annual Governance Statement was approved.

The Accounting Statements were approved.

The Chair confirmed that the date for the exercise of public rights is 14 June 2023.

c) Further expenditure:

-The defibrillator pads need to be replaced shortly, the November 2022 Meeting had included £100 for them in the budget, however the price is now around £150, the Meeting approved this increased cost.

-Payment of £20 to David Taylor for repairs to the Parish Noticeboard was approved, his work on this was much appreciated.

-The November 2022 Meeting had approved expenditure of up to £200 on the Coronation celebrations. About £33 had been spent on bunting etc. The Chair and Clerk suggested that payments be made to the Playground (£50 for use of the Playground), the Village Hall (£50 for use of its chairs and tables, and booking it to the Parish Meeting so it was available if it was too wet to use the

Playground) and the Church (£30 for use of tables, chairs and a gazebo). These payments were all approved.

5. Election of Officers: Mark Rogers (Chair) and Lucy Hutchinson (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) were re-elected unopposed. Karen Cornelius was reappointed unopposed as the WPM rep. on the Village Hall committee.

6. Planning:

a) Applications etc. within the parish: The Clerk took the meeting through the schedule, focussing on the three applications made since the last meeting. Concern was raised about the fence down the side of the George & Falcon's car park and its lighting. The Chair said these would be looked into.

b) Parish Priorities Statement: The Clerk explained the background to this and what it involves. The Parish Meeting should consider if it wishes to complete this, full details will be put on the website. The Chair and the Clerk would welcome comments from as many as possible, whether in favour or against completing it, and in the former case with suggested responses to some/all of the questions. If necessary a meeting will be convened in the autumn solely to discuss the PPS, the deadline for which is in October.

7. Rights of Way/Highways: Derek Chapman, who is moving out of Warnford, was thanked for all his work on these over the years.

a) Rights of Way

He referred to his Rights of Way report and focussed on two issues which need attention, the very high stiles up Pinks Hill and the hydraulic gate closures on Beacon Hill (bridleway 11), the latter may be sorted out by the landowner soon. He spoke about one possible long term improvement ie replacing the two awkward stiles on footpath 7 with gates. A grant may be available for 50% of the cost, any application would need the support of the Parish Meeting. The Meeting confirmed support for such work, noting that currently it is not clear who could/would do the work/apply for a grant.

b) Highways

SID (Speed Indicator Device): it had not been possible to download the data from the last session so WPM currently has it on a free session. Data obtained can be examined to see if can be used to highlight the dangers of crossing the A32 by the bus stop. Andrew Baynes has agreed to take over SID from Derek.

The Chair asked for a volunteer to take over Rights of Way.

8. The Village Hall: In the absence of Billy Bennett, Derek Chapman reported. Pre covid the income generally matched day to day outgoings, but not now, giving a likely annual loss of £2000. Covid grants will help for the next two or so years but the Hall does need to increase its income. It also needs more volunteers to help run it, in particular someone with social media skills and someone to take over from Derek as Treasurer. He encouraged all to use the Hall.

9. WCC Councillors:

a) Neil Bolton agreed to send his written monthly reports so these can go on the Warnford website. He reported on the Average Speed Cameras, currently being installed and a discussion followed, it is hoped they will have some good effect. The problem of potholes and the failure to repair these was raised, many are very dangerous. They are the responsibility of HCC (not WCC), which has been given £6m to deal with them. Neil encouraged people to report them. The Chair will contact our HCC Councillor, Hugh Lumby, on this issue. Another Highways matter, how to get HH to remove 'Ice' signs was raised, the Clerk will see if she can help with this.

b) Jerry Pett: He was welcomed to this, his first Warnford Parish AGM. He has concerned about the lack of transparency as regards planning and how SDNPA and WCC work together. He is now on the SDNPA Policy & Resources Committee.

10. A O B

a) a message from Pam Eastwood was read out about her wish to set up a conservation volunteers group to work on the River Meon;

b) Following a consultation after the November meeting, Neighbourhood Watch has closed;

c) The Chair and the Clerk were thanked for their work for the Parish meeting;

d) The Chair is in touch with Vitacress and hopes to hear about its plans for the watercress beds soon; and

e) The Chair thanked those who had organised and taken part in the litter pick.

11. Date of next meeting: 14 November 2023

The Meeting closed at 8.55pm