

SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held at St John's Church Centre, Southbourne on 11 October 2016

Present: Mr C Bulbeck (Chairman), Mr Brown, Mrs M Bulbeck, Mr Feltham, Mr Ferguson, Mr Gowlett, Mr Hayes* , Mr Lane and Mr Withers.

*Also District Councillors for Southbourne.

Part I

Apologies for Absence

102. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Ferguson, Mr Hicks*, Mr Jennings and Mrs Russell.

Declarations of Interest

103. None

Minutes

104. Resolved that the minutes Part I of the meeting held on 13 September 2016 be approved as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

Open Forum

105. No items were raised.

County Councillor's Report

106. Regarding the A27 consultation, County Councillor Ms James reported that her original preference was for Option 2 but overall she felt that the proposal was not robust enough. She had therefore asked for it to be reinvestigated and the possibility of a northern route with tunnelling to be investigated.

107. At a meeting of the Police Crime Panel the consensus had been that with the removal of a number of PCSOs, low level crime was likely to increase. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) said she would reconsider the matter if enough parish councils wrote to her about this. The Council agreed to write to the PCC requesting that the previous system of PCSO allocations be reinstated.

108. The household waste site at Hambrook had closed. C Cllr Ms James was still awaiting a feasibility study from the Cabinet Member into turning the site into a recycling facility.

109. It was noted that an application had been submitted by UK Oil and Gas (UKOG) to the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) for drilling for hydrocarbons at Markwell's Wood in Stoughton Parish, West Sussex. There were potential implications for the ground water supplies for a large part of the population below the South Downs arising in part from the novel proposals for

extraction of the hydrocarbons. It was noted that a number of parish councils outside the SDNPA area were likely to submit comments. Members agreed that the application should be considered by the Planning Committee on 18 October 2016.

110. C Cllr Ms James reported on the financial position facing the County Council with increasing pressures on budgets for children in care and school funding amongst others.

District Councillor's Report

111. The District Council's Members' bulletin had been circulated in advance of the meeting and was taken as read.

Notice of Casual Vacancy

112. There had been no call for a Parish Council by-election and therefore a notice had been posted on 5 October 2016 to advertise the casual vacancy to be filled by co-option with a closing date of 31 October 2016. Applications would be considered by the Council on 8 November 2016.

Council Committees

113. Members agreed that the size of the Finance Committee and Recreation Committee should be reviewed at the next meeting.

114. The Council considered the report of the Clerk regarding the Events Committee.

115. Resolved

1. That the Events Committee be discontinued
2. That the Council's remaining Committees and steering groups run evens as necessary in support of the Council's work.
3. That the Finance Advisory Committee review the grants process and funding to ensure that it can support the events run by local groups.

Finance

116. Payments – Resolved that the following receipts be noted and payments for October 2016 be approved:

Receipts

AFC Southbourne	September matches	£100.00
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Payments

G Burley & Sons	Grass cutting (September)	£463.20
SSE Enterprise	Street light repairs 617995	£442.54
SSE Southern Electric	Pavilion (D Debit)	£2.61
SSE Southern Electric	Unmetered Supply - Street Lights	£1,391.81
Jt Burial Committee	Q3 Payment	£5,953.50
Viking	Office supplies	£125.76

Viking	Office supplies	£164.44
Mr A Dawkins	Re-imbusement of Planning permission fee for Lumley Road Flood Defences (EMR Op Watershed Lumley)	£339.00
Elite Playground Inspections Staff	Quarterly Inspection Aggregate salaries	£56.70 £2,322.35
HMRC	Quarterly payment	£1,909.32
	Total	£12,708.03
Transfer from Savings Account	For current payments	£12,708.03

117. Bank Reconciliation –The reconciliation as at the 30 September 2016 was noted.

Council Tax 2017/18 and onwards

118. The Council noted the Government’s proposals to require larger Local Councils with precepts over £500,000 to hold a referendum if they proposed an increase of more than 2% and the possibility of this requirement being rolled out to all Local Councils at some point in the future.

119. Members also noted that the Council Tax Grant provided by the District Council would be phased out from 2017/18 to 2019/20 as the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) for the District would be cut significantly in 2017/18 and cease altogether in 2018/19. The District Council’s Cabinet was continuing the the grant support beyond the end of the RSG.

120. Resolved – that the Council write to NALC setting out its opposition to the referendum principles put forward by the Government for the following reasons:

1. The possibility of the principles being rolled out to all local councils in the future
2. Councillors carefully considered the implications of any tax rises
3. the cost of such a referendum
4. that there was already a means for people to express their displeasure with a local council through the council elections
5. turnout was likely to be low for a referendum.

Neighbourhood Plan

121. New Homes Bonus (NHB) Funding - Members were pleased to note that the Council had been awarded £8000 in NHB Funding for advice in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan review and an extension to Westbourne cemetery. It also noted that £2000 was being retained by the District Council pending confirmation of where the additional £1500 for the cemetery extension would

come from.

122. Resolved – that the NHB funding be accepted and the Clerk authorised to accept the terms and conditions of the award.

123. Public Art – It was noted that an artist had prepared a design for the art installation for the Gosden Green site but a location had yet to be finally decided. Members supported the design. Members also welcomed the support from both Crayfern and the District Council in progressing this installation. The process was a useful learning experience as it was possible that there would be other art installations arising from other developments in the future.

124. Infrastructure Business Plan (IBP) Consultation – It was agreed that comments on and projects for inclusion in the IBP would be submitted to the Clerk by no later than 7 November. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group would also be invited to comment on the IBP to ensure that no projects were missed off the approved list for Southbourne.

125. Steering Group – Mr Lane reported on the discussions he had had with the local Boots the Chemists store. The position was noted. Mr Lane would try and arrange a meeting between Boots and the local GP surgery.

Environment Steering Group

126. A 'Greening Southbourne' event was being held on 26 November 2016 in the St John's Centre to encourage residents to become involved in green initiatives in the parish. A press release had been published in the Village Magazine and another press release about the event would be submitted for the November copy.

Lumley Road Flood Defence Works

127. The Parish Council was pleased to note that Graham Attrills would be commencing work on the flood defences at the Rose Cottages in the week commencing 17 October 2016. UK Flood Barriers would also be carrying out work to the properties to install flood barriers.

Community Land Trusts

128. It was agreed that a presentation on community land trusts should be arranged for the January 2017 meeting of the Council.

Community Wardens

129. It was agreed that a presentation on community wardens should be arranged for the February 2017 meeting of the Council.

Southern Water's Stakeholder Workshop

130. Resolved – that a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group be invited to attend the Southern Water Stakeholder Workshop in Southampton on 31 October 2016 together with the Clerk. If necessary the reasonable

travel expenses of the Steering Group member be reimbursed.

Items for Future Meetings

131. None raised.

Date of Next Meeting

132. 08 November 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

Exclusion of the Press and Public

133. Resolved - That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Summary of Items discussed in the absence of the Press and Public

The Council agreed the minutes Part II of the meeting on 13 September 2016 and the method of calculating staff pension contributions.

Chairman

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m.