

## **SOUTHBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the meeting held at St John's Church Centre, Southbourne on 13 December 2016

**Present:** Mr C Bulbeck (Chairman), Mr Brown\*, Mrs M Bulbeck, Mr Feltham, Mr Hayes\* Mr Hicks\*, Mr Jennings, Mr Lane, Mrs Russell and Mr Withers.

\*Also District Councillors for Southbourne.

4 members of the public

### **Part I**

#### **District Council By-Election Result**

164. Members congratulated Mr Brown on his election as a District Councillor for Southbourne.

#### **Apologies for Absence**

165. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Ferguson and the Clerk, Mr Davison.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

166. None

#### **Minutes**

167. Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8 November 2016 be approved as a correct record and that they be signed by the Chairman.

#### **Open Forum**

168. A member of the public informed the Council that a proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on junctions of Lumley Road, Pagham Close and Sadlers Walk had been rejected by the South Chichester County Local Committee as there had been 9 objections. However, she had raised a 173 signature petition showing support but unfortunately this was after the TRO had been rejected. She therefore requested that the Parish Council made an application for a TRO to put double yellow lines on these junctions and each for a distance of 10m from the junction.

169. It was reported that the barbed wire by the public footpath along the foreshore at Prinsted still had not been removed.

#### **County Councillor's Report**

170. County Councillor Ms James gave a verbal update report covering a number of different issues. She reported that she had raised a number of questions for the County Council Meeting to be held on the Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

2016. One area of particular concern was the number of duplicate payments which had been made to suppliers by WSCC in the period 2012 – 14. Before then there was no available data and since 2014 the payment system had been improved. However in the period in question significant duplicate payments had been identified running into a seven-digit figure. The question was asked whether the suppliers had owned up to the duplicate payments. Cllr Ms James stated that it did not appear to be the case and in addition some of the suppliers had now ceased trading.

171. It was reported that the level of Council Tax was due to increase in 2017/18 to support the number of youngsters in the care system, currently standing at 683. Cllr Ms James was asked what actions were being taken to address the problem. She identified that there was a shortage of Social Workers and carers across many parts of West Sussex, but particularly in areas such as Crawley and East Grinstead.

### **District Councillor's Report**

172. Mr Hayes reported that the waste recycling rate had increased from 38.9% to 48% and noted that the more that Southbourne Parish could do as a community the better to help increase this rate further.

He reported that a publican in Wisborough Green had been fined for a Health & Safety Breach following an explosion due to an unserviced boiler which caused serious burns to a member of staff.

At the recent Bosham Neighbourhood Plan Referendum, 90% had voted in favour and the Plan had now been made at full council.

There was now a new public complaint system on the CDC website.

It was reported that Careline had experienced a very busy month. Careline offered a very good support service for the elderly, disabled and infirm who at one time would have had local family support.

In response to a question Mr Hayes advised that it was planned that the Southbourne Ward would decrease from a three member to a two member ward from 2019. His personal viewpoint was that this decrease had not taken into account the fact that Southbourne was expanding in size and that the number of district councillors representing the ward should remain the same. Mr Hayes extended his congratulations to Mr Brown on his recent election as a district councillor for Southbourne.

### **Finance**

173. Street Lighting Project – SSE had advised that the approximate cost of updating Parish Council owned street lights, including columns and new LED lights, would £1100 each, although not all columns needed replacing and they would simply need the lamps updating. SSE had surveyed all the lights and they had reported that two lights were unsafe. The Clerk in consultation with the Chairman had to take action on two lights to make them safe. It was not proposed to change lights in Prinsted as they were relatively new. On that basis, it was therefore recommended that £10,000 reinstated in the street lighting budget in 2017/18. With the £10,000 available in the current year and £10,000 in an earmarked reserve, this would enable nearly half the street lights to be upgraded to LEDs over the next year.

174. Resolved – (i) that £10,000 be reinstated in the street lighting budget for 2017/18.

(ii) That the upgrade include the provision of LED lights.

175. Recreation Advisory Committee – the Council received the report of the Recreation Advisory Committee. It was remarked that at present the Recreation Ground lets Southbourne down and that the proposed plans for updating the enclosed play area for younger children should make it fit for purpose. A question was raised as to whether the proposed upgrading and enlargement would be suitable for users and it was noted that whilst the last time the area was upgraded decisions were made by an individual officer in CDC, this time the Parish Council had received advice and recommendations from three companies who were specialists in their field.

176. Resolved - that £10,000 be confirmed in the 2017/18 budget for play equipment.

177. Budget 2017/18 – the Council received the report of the Finance Advisory Committee. It noted that the Council Tax grant for 2017/18 was £4295.60 giving a precept of £136,654

178. Resolved – (i) that with the addition of £10,000 for street lighting as proposed by the Clerk (minutes 173-174/2016 above refer) the budget of £141,750 be approved.

(ii) that the District Council be advised that the precept for Southbourne Parish Council in 2017/18 will be £136,654.

179. Receipts and Payments – The Council noted the receipts and approved the payments as follows:

Receipts

WSCC	Nutbourne Drainage Investigations - Operation Watershed	£20,000
AFC Southbourne	October Matches	£100
Community Reparatations	For the pavillion lights	£100

Payments authorised under Minutes 309-310/16 for Lumley Rd Flood Alleviation

Graham Attrills C Engineering Ltd	Iterim payment no.2 Invoice 102475 EMR Op Watershed	£37,929.00
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Payments made

HMRC	Tax & NI	£77
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Payments

G Burley and Sons Ltd	Grass cutting - November	£463.20
SSE Enterprise Lighting	Street light fault Invoice 625564	£292.62
Chichester DC	Dog bin repair Invoice 100130646	£96.71

JDS	Pavillion repairs Invoice 3039	£111.00
JDS	Prinsted car park gravel Invoice 3040	£40.00
S/bourne VHMC	6 months office rent	£1,000.00
BT	Internet	£125.00
Viking	Office and pavillion supplies	£112.12
Staff	Aggregate salaries and expenses	£2,332.07
	Total	£4,572.72
Transfer from Savings Account	For current payments	£4,572.72

180. Bank Reconciliation – the item was deferred to a future meeting.

### **Lumley Road & Pagham Close – Traffic Regulation Order**

181. Members considered the report of the Clerk and the representation made in the Open Forum about this matter.

### **The proposed expansion of primary and secondary schools in West Sussex from September 2017**

182. Mr Hayes declared an interest as Governor of Bourne Secondary School. The Parish Council noted the proposals for the expansion of the school and that the Headteacher was in favour of the proposed increase in pupil numbers. It was agreed that Members could submit individual responses before the end of the consultation period on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

### **The Purple Bus – Mobile Youth Club**

183. The Council received the report of the Clerk. In response to a question about whether the Purple Bus attracted significant numbers of young people, Mr Hayes commented that given the current limited provision in the Parish them the Purple Bus could prove to be attractive.

184. Resolved – (i) that the Parish Council recommend to the Trust that it used the Village Hall car park to locate the Purple Bus on a Wednesday evening from 7-9pm.

(ii) that the Chairman sign the partnership agreement

### **Neighbourhood Plan - Southbourne Development Trust**

185. Mr Ferguson was absent from the meeting and so unable to report on the establishment of the Southbourne Development Trust.

186. Concern was expressed that a number of challenges were being made by developers against existing neighbourhood plans around the country and the example was cited of the village of Newick in East Sussex where it's Neighbourhood Plan would appear to have been overturned in a key planning decision. It was noted that whilst neighbourhood plans are not designed to stop

development they provide direction and control in order to get the desired development and style. It was understood that neighbourhood plans will continue to come under attack by developers as pressures increase to meet the demands for new housing. The example of Breach Avenue was given as an example of how the Southbourne Neighbourhood Plan had proven effective in halting development proposals on an area of land which had been identified in the plan as ancient orchard.

### **Environment Steering Group**

187. Mr Brown reported on the recent Greening Southbourne Event held on 26<sup>th</sup> November. There had been approximately seventy people in attendance who all appeared to really enjoy themselves. Stall holders reported that their representation at the event had been of benefit to them. It was apparent that many individuals had limited knowledge of what was included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **Consultation**

188. The Council agreed that there was no merit in keeping the telephone box at the junction of Hartland Close and Stein Road and it was agreed that it could be removed.

### **Items for Future Meetings**

189. Website  
Lumley Road & Pagham Close  
Community Land Trust  
Southbourne Development Trust  
Environment Steering Group

### **Date of Next Meeting**

190. 10 January 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

### **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

191. 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 to a contract for installation of new play equipment on the Recreation Ground and to a new contract for the provision of telephone and broadband at the Council office.

Chairman