

## THE PARISH COUNCIL OF NEWLANDS



### MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER 2020 USING A SCHEDULED ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE CALL COMMENCING AT 7.30 pm

<u>Members:</u>	Cllr D Crichton (Chair)	(P)	Cllr O Barneveld	(P)
	Cllr A Berry		Cllr A Carden	
	Cllr A Kirby	(P)	Cllr J Parry	(P)
	Cllr L Price	(P)	Cllr M Read	(P)
	Cllr F Tingle	(P)		

Also on the call were C/Cllr P Stallard and D/Cllrs C Brook, N Cutler and M Read. Also presents were Katie Bone, HBC Community Officer, Jenni Upstill, Community Development Manager – Grainger Trust and Tony Daniells, Clerk to the Council and no members of the public.

**098/21C Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllrs A Berry and A Carden.

**099/21C Declarations of Interest:** Cllr M Read declared an interest as he was the Ward Councillor for Winchester City Council.

#### **100/21C Minutes**

The minutes from the Council Meeting held on 19 November 2020 were received. **It was RESOLVED by a majority that the minutes of the council meeting be accepted as an accurate record and were duly signed by the Chairman.**

#### **101/21C Matters arising and outstanding matters from Previous Minutes**

- a) Vandalism at Auger Way: The Clerk reported that he had contacted TW regarding keys to bollards and been referred to their Technical Dept. A reply was awaited. The locked bollards impacted upon the Fire Service accessing the open space to deal with a motor cycle that had been set alight. Bollards at end of Angus Way and Radnor Way were unsecured. It was also reported that padlocks at the Ayrshire Road end have never been present.
- b) Industrial Land at Wellington Park. A meeting had been held with the developer and objections and comments raised with them. The developer had been receptive to these comments. The notes from the meeting had been made public. It was agreed that these notes were sufficient to inform residents and no further action was needed until a planning application was submitted.

**102/21C Public Participation:** There was no requirement for a public session.

#### **103/21C County and District Councillors Reports**

- a) C/Cllr P Stallard had submitted a written report which had been previously circulated and is appended to these minutes. She reinforced the help available to children and vulnerable adults through the connect4communities Programme. Free plug-in slow cookers were available and the County Council were setting up food pantries. The Chairman asked to pass on the thanks from the Parish Council to all the officers at Hampshire who had worked so hard during the pandemic.
- b) D/Cllr Brook had listed all of the 24/7 helplines and published this on social media. A case for a doctor's surgery on the development would be resubmitted to the NHS this month. Covid vaccinations were imminent in the vicinity but to wait to be contacted by the surgery.  
D/Cllr N Cutler advised that budget option had been presented to Cabinet and were now out for consultation. He urged residents to participate by visiting the WCC website. It was difficult to predict income during these times. Cllr Cutler summarised the Winchester Council Tax Reduction Scheme and the amendments to this would be put to Council. Additional housing requirements in the Local Plan had been scrapped with a return to the original algorithm. The new but different Covid tiers on the border was causing problems, especially in the hospitality sector.

#### **104/21C Parish Matters**

- a) Development and adoptions: Written reports had been received and circulated from both Grainger and Taylor Wimpey.  
Jenni Upstill added that

- Phase 9c would be known as Kentidge Coppice
- A shrine to Anthony Bessy at Newlands Meadow would be replaced with a bench if the family agreed to this
- Parking at the school was an issue. She would meet with the school to discuss options.

Councillors asked that Redrow be reminded of restricting construction traffic at the school at busy times. This was causing issues with the volumes of traffic at school drop off and pick up times. The footpath on the Barrett development had been closed for some weeks and this was causing pedestrians to use roads without any footpath. Jenni Upstill would follow up with the developer. The Chairman referred to the update from Taylor Wimpey. The only update he had was to give progress on the cycle path.

- b) Community Plan: The Community Officer reported that the winner of the photo competition had received his gift voucher. She was now looking at ways to engage the community and an option was some sporting activity on the Town Park when permitted. Funding would be sought and it would be useful if match funding was available. The Chairman replied that this would be considered at the next Finance Committee meeting in January.
- c) HBC Land: The Chairman reported that he had contacted with HBC regarding adoption of the open space in Wellington Park within HBC. This should be funded from commuted sums for maintenance. He would follow this up with HBC as they were legally bound to take on this land.

#### 105/21C Communications

- a) Website: There was no update to receive. The Clerk advised that he had requested the maps showing areas of responsibility from TW so that he could import this into Parish Online. The Clerk would follow up on the adoption of areas 3 & 4 with WCC.
- b) Newsletter: A newsletter from the Community Officer had been distributed to all residents on the development. Grainger were also to distribute a newsletter with updates on their developments at Berewood.

#### 106/21C Outside Bodies

- Southern Parishes: The meeting scheduled for 7 December was cancelled. The next meeting is planned for 11 January 2021. If any Councillors has matter they wished to have raised, they should pass these to the Clerk..
- Aquind: There was no specific update but public awareness and interest had risen following involvement of the allotment society in Portsmouth.
- West of Waterlooville Forum: Cllr M Read gave an update. The Forum was likely to evolve but the need for joint meetings to consider planning applications affecting the development and for a Forum to decide common issues was still needed. To receive any update on the future and format of the Forum. The Chairman was authorised to write to both WCC and HBC to reinforce the continued need for the Joint Planning Committee and Forum.

#### 107/21C Finance

- a) Orders for Payment: **It was unanimously RESOLVED that the payments detailed on the Orders for Payment (list 11) should be RAFIFIED in the sum of £924.50 including VAT and that NIL receipts are noted.**
- b) Bank Statement: The November bank statements had been previously circulated. The statements were reviewed and the balances as at 30 November 2020 were agreed. The statement would be signed at a later date by the Chairman. **NOTED.**
- c) Accounts: The accounts for November had been prepared and circulated. **NOTED.**
- d) 2021/22 Budget and Precept
- The tax base for Newlands Parish was **NOTED.**
  - The budget figure had been amended to £33,670. This would give a Band D equivalent of £40.57 on a Council Tax bill. Amenities budget still had to be agreed by that Committee but it was envisaged that any spend would be taken from Reserves or commuted sums. This would be considered at the next Finance Committee in January to meet WCC's dates for submission. Costs for NPC's portion of utility bills, election expenses and fire extinguisher maintenance were awaited. It was agreed to use a budget figure of £33,670. **It was RESOLVED that the budget figure of £33,670 was used and a precept demand of £33,670 was submitted to WCC.**

- e) External Audit: The report from the External Auditor was received. A comment had been passed on timing of posting public notices and this was caused by uncertainties due to Covid. **It was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the report.**

**108/21C Meeting Schedule 2021:** The Clerk reported that the schedule to May would follow the format as of today. If Council agreed a Highways and General Purposes Committee then meetings would change to a six weekly cycle. Councillors would then choose which committees they wished to sit on so they would not need to attend every committee meeting. The schedule was **NOTED** and would be further considered after the Annual Council Meeting. Planning Committee meetings would be scheduled as needed.

**109/21C Policies**

a) The following policies had been circulated for consideration.

- b)
- i. Employee Code of Conduct
  - ii. Sickness and Absence Policy
  - iii. Disciplinary Policy

There were no comments raised against any policy. The policies followed guidance from HALC.

**It was unanimously RESOLVED to adopt all three policies as received.**

**110/21C Other Reports:**

- i. The Chairman advised that if residents need to know which tier they were now in they should check who they paid their Council Tax to.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm  
The next meeting will be held on 21 January 2021

Please note minutes of meetings are published as soon as possible on the website to help residents. However, they do not become the formal record of the meeting until agreed or otherwise at the next meeting. Therefore, you should always check to see whether any amendments have been made.

## **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL report to Newlands Parish Council – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020**

I make no apology that this month my report is about an extremely important announcement about what support is available for vulnerable children and families in need. At two of my most recent Decision Days I have approved the following measures to help those people most in need. Please help to spread the word about the range of support available to people.

### **Connect4Communities**

The County Council has launched a new community project to tackle COVID-19 hardship. The ‘connect4communities’ programme is community-based and driven by Hampshire County Council - working with community partners such as schools, colleges and Early Years providers, as well as voluntary and charity organisations. Funded by the £2.89 million Winter Grant Scheme, awarded to the Authority by the Department for Work and Pensions, the scheme comprises a planned programme of supportive measures mainly, but not exclusively, targeting families on low incomes with children over the winter and beyond.

As the County Council’s Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services and Young People I had no hesitation in agreeing, on behalf of the County Council, that we proceeded with the proposed package of measures. 2020 has been a really tough year with unprecedented challenges for everyone but there are many people for whom it has been especially hard. As a result, some people find themselves facing difficulties that they could not have imagined. ‘connect4communities’ is not a hand-out, but a helping hand for Hampshire families who are struggling to pay for basic essentials, like food and fuel to keep their homes warm. The aim is to support those in need, particularly during the school holidays, and help ensure vulnerable children and young people do not go without the necessities. We have several exciting projects in the pipeline, which will roll out over the coming months. Each one will address specific areas of need and help build resilience in communities affected by COVID-19.

At least 80% of the total funding will go towards families with children, with up to 20% allocated for other households in need, including individuals such as young carers and care leavers. The ‘connect4communities’ scheme will be delivered across the County by a range of sources including schools and voluntary groups and will comprise:

- **Providing food vouchers**
- **Providing vouchers/payment cards for fuel, energy and water bills**
- **Expanding the Christmas school holiday support, for the school holidays in 2021 to include providing a daily hot meal and fun, educational activities/playschemes**
- **Supporting the establishment of Community Pantries**
- **Supporting organisations to provide direct help to vulnerable households through community grants**
- **Providing slow-cookers to families without basic cooking facilities**
- **Setting up a ‘connect4communities’ online directory for residents to search by postcode to find where they may be able to access financial and other support and subsidised food**

### **Food Voucher and Discretionary Grants Schemes**

‘Connect4Communities’ builds on the County Council’s previously announced Food Voucher and Discretionary Grants schemes, which will help feed children and young people including young carers and care leavers, over the Christmas holiday fortnight. Through the Discretionary Grants Scheme, schools and colleges have access to funding to help families who may not be immediately eligible for the free food vouchers but find themselves struggling financially; for example, where a parent has lost their job due to COVID-19.

The County Council will be expanding the schemes to provide activity programmes for the forthcoming Spring Half Term Holiday (February 2021), Easter Holidays (March/April 2021) and Summer Holidays (July/August 2021).

Thanks to a kind donation by the Book Trust, free books and activity packs will also be given to Hampshire families with Early Year children eligible for the food voucher scheme. This will provide an extra Christmas gift that will help children enjoy reading and improve literacy.

## **Community Pantries**

'Connect4Communities' will also fund plans to ensure there is at least one Community Pantry in each of the 11 districts in the Hampshire County Council local authority area – either by supporting an existing Community Pantry or establishing a new Pantry. Community pantries offer those in need the chance to buy food at a lower cost than at the supermarket, on a weekly basis.

## **Helping community groups to support vulnerable families**

Other support to be provided by the initiative includes grants for community and voluntary organisations, such as Citizen's Advice. These grants will support families in need with food, energy and water bills. They can also be used for essential items such as warm clothing and bedding, as well to supply slow-cookers to households who do not have basic cooking facilities. Voluntary and third sector organisations, who know their communities best and are in the ideal position to provide support, are encouraged to apply for grants via the website: [connect4communities.org](http://connect4communities.org)

## **To summarise –**

- If your child already receives free schools meals you will receive [from the school/college/early years providers] additional food vouchers, value £15 per child per week] for the Christmas holiday and February half-term 2021.
- If you do not receive free school meals but are suffering genuine hardship as a result of covid 19 eg loss of employment, and are struggling to provide food for your children – contact your child/children's school[s] and explain the situation. Each school has a contingency fund.
- If, because of covid19, you are suffering loss of income eg unemployment and cannot pay essential fuel bills, please contact the nearest Citizens Advice Bureau as the County Council has devolved funding to them for this purpose.
- If you know of anyone with children to feed who does not have essential cooking facilities please let me/Citizens Advice Bureau know and we can arrange the distribution/delivery of a slow cooker
- Community Food Pantries are being set up, details will be advertised in the Press and on the Council's web page – [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)
- Community Grants will be available for local organisations who might wish to apply to buy warm clothing/bedding for known local families in need or food to cook in a local community kitchen. See details on the website

*Let's make sure that no child or young person is left feeling cold or hungry this Christmas holiday, so please spread the word.*

## **And finally .....**

May I wish you all a very Happy Christmas – and a brighter New Year!

Patricia Stallard  
Executive Lead Member for Children's Services & Young People  
Hampshire County Council

Divisional Member for Winchester Southern Parishes  
[Newlands, Denmead, Boarhunt, Southwick, Wickham, Knowle, Soberton, Newtown]

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