

WELLOW PARISH COUNCIL
Wellow Village Hall – 5 September 2005
(7.47p.m. – 10.36 p.m.)

PRESENT: Mrs Perry (Chairman); Mr Austin, Mr Bailey, Mr Browning, Mr Gentle, Mr Moody, Mr Noble, Mr Pointer, Mrs Simpson and Mr Windell

An apology for absence was received from Mrs Eddlestone

47. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2005 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

48. **MATTERS ARISING**

Ragwort (33(d)/7/05): The owner of Wellow Vineyard had taken action to clear ragwort from his land. It was noted that ragwort at Pottery Farm, Romsey Road had also been cleared.

49. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

There were no interests declared for this meeting.

50. **COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor Perry reported on the following:

- the need to protect the war memorial in the context of the proposed new footway from the new affordable housing scheme.
- ongoing correspondence with Inter Route concerning the unsatisfactory condition and maintenance of the A36 Canada roundabout
- the proposal of HCC to withdraw subsidy on the X71 Southampton to Salisbury bus service
- the implications of the new housebuilding targets for South East England

Councillor Gentle referred to activity in relation to Test Valley planning and the New Forest National Park.

51. **CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) *Public payphones:* A BT consultation paper proposed a rationalisation of public payphone facilities. Subject to an Ofcom review, the intention was to convert two payphones in Wellow (those in Hamdown Crescent and Danes Road, Shootash) to cashless boxes. Members agreed to raise no objection.

(b) *Reductions to supported bus services:* A letter from HCC referred to the proposed withdrawal of bus services exceeding the £2.50 maximum subsidy per passenger journey criterion. This affected service X71 (Southampton to Salisbury on Sundays) from the beginning of October. It was agreed to oppose the withdrawal on the basis of the number of passengers affected (4490 per year).

(c) *Applications for grant:* RESOLVED that grants be approved as follows:

Hampshire County Youth Band Association	£100
Vitalise (formerly The Winged Fellowship Trust)	£50

(d) *Other correspondence:* Members noted receipt of the following:

- (i) Letters from HCC and a consultation document from SEERA on the public consultation regarding district-level housebuilding targets in the South East (agreed, consider at the Council meeting on 3 October);
- (ii) A consultation document from the South West Hampshire Primary Care Trusts on community services for older people in New Forest, southern Test Valley and Eastleigh (on circulation) (members to submit comments to the Clerk who will agree response with the Chairman);
- (iii) An invitation for nominations for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2006 (suitable candidate identified);
- (iv) Notice of the HAPTC AGM on Saturday 8 October 2005, including schedule of resolutions;
- (v) Other correspondence as shown in the list accompanying the agenda.

52. HIGHWAY MATTERS

Members noted the following:

- (a) a letter from the Highways Agency confirming that they were considering options for improving the appearance of Canada roundabout;
- (b) a letter from HCC on the following outstanding matters:
 - (i) Ryedown Lane – verge outside Tudor Lodge confirmed as privately owned
 - (ii) Romsey Road – highway authority unable to instruct Oakridge Timber to widen its access but proposal in hand to kerb the grass triangle opposite
- (c) a letter from Hampshire Constabulary confirming proposed “policing” of the vehicle obstruction outside Shangri-La, Maurys Lane;
- (d) re-siting of the Wellow Golf Club sign from the Ryedown triangle to the opposite verge;

Members also requested the following:

- (i) further enquiries concerning the proposed footpath in Romsey Road between Buttons Lane and Barnes Close;
- (ii) details of scheduled and actual grass cutting operations in Canada Road.

53. PLANNING MATTERS

- (a) *Planning and General Purposes Committee:* RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 4 & 18 July and 1 & 22 August 2005, shown as appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4 respectively in the minute book, be received and approved.
- (b) *Rockingham Arms, Canada Road – variation of premises licence:* A letter from TVBC advised that notices advertising this application had included incorrect information. The Parish Council was now invited to attend the Licensing Sub-Committee meeting on 9 September albeit the Parish Council's standing as an interested party would be considered on the day.
- (c) *TVS.10747, 2 Gurnays Mead:* A letter from a neighbouring resident complained about the proximity of the proposed development to his property. The application had been discussed by the Planning & General Purposes Committee on 22 August and the Clerk would therefore respond accordingly.

54. DELEGATES' REPORTS

Mr Browning reported on a meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel on 1 September which had included the following topics:

- the New Forest Commons archaeological and landscape survey
- a proposed new runway at Southampton Airport and its effect on neighbouring areas
- Clean Sweep events in the New Forest
- proposed winter closure of selected New Forest car parks

55. **NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK**

Members received reports 3 and 4 from Bob Morris, the Parish Group 4 representative on the National Park Authority. Mr Morris would be attending the Council's Planning and General Purposes Committee meeting on 24 October 2005.

56. **WAR MEMORIAL, ROMSEY ROAD**

As reported to the Planning and General Purposes Committee on 22 August, the approved plans for the affordable housing scheme in Romsey Road included a new footway from the site entrance to a point east of the Romsey Road/Buttons Lane junction. Discussions had been held with all parties concerning the route past the war memorial but no final decision had yet been made. A further site meeting was being arranged and it was agreed that all Parish Councillors should be invited to attend. As discussed in the public session prior to the meeting, it was important to preserve the sanctity of the memorial.

57. **POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

(a) *Committee meeting:* Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2005 (minutes 1 to 9), a copy of which appears as appendix 5 in the minute book. With regard to item 6 (Quality Parishes), it was noted that no parish in Test Valley had yet acquired QP status.

RESOLVED that the minutes be received and the recommendations therein contained be adopted.

(b) *Committee membership:* The Council reviewed the membership of the Committee, particularly in the light of the recent Chairmen appointments to other Committees.

RESOLVED that the membership remain unchanged for the time being.

58. **NEW PAVILION, LOWER COMMON ROAD**

(a) *Council requirements:* Discussion took place on the Council's own requirements in respect of the proposed new pavilion at Lower Common Road, including a possible Parish Council office. In this respect, other options were considered including use of the doctors' room at the Village Hall. The Chairman agreed to raise this at the next meeting of the Village Hall Committee. The Council would then review the position further at the Council meeting on 3 October.

In the meantime, Mr Overton-Hore had prepared a revised layout for Cricket Club purposes. This would be presented to the next meeting of the New Pavilion Working Group, which was likely to be re-arranged from 20 September to Thursday 29 September. As discussed in the public session prior to the meeting, Mr Biddlecombe and Mr Jarrett would be invited to represent The Royal British Legion.

(b) *The Royal British Legion:* Members considered a letter from Michael Jarrett, Chairman of the Wellow and District Branch of The Royal British Legion. The letter referred to the statement in the recent Parish Newsletter that the RBL had agreed to build its new headquarters at Plaitford, whereas no final decision had been made. It was agreed to publish a clarification in the Council's next update on the scheme.

59. SPORT AND LEISURE

- (a) *Hatches Farm football pitches:* The Clerk referred to an earlier proposal for use of the junior pitch at Hatches Farm by a new Tyro league team. However, this was not now proceeding.
- (b) *Monthly report:* Mr Austin reported on the following:
- Hatches Farm pavilion: The Football Club were presently carrying out internal decoration of the changing rooms. The showers were in need of attention.
 - Hatches Farm entrance gates: Specification now prepared. Agreed, tenders to be invited from Advanced Fencing, Andrew Austin and New Forest Fencing.
 - Lower Common Road pavilion: The Cricket Club had carried out satisfactory alterations to the bar area and would be carrying out internal redecoration during the close season.
 - Play area: Repairs had been carried out to the entrance gate and fencing. The climbing board would be refitted to the multi-play unit shortly.

60. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

- (a) *Environment Committee:* Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held on 20 July 2005, a copy of which appears as appendix 6 in the minute book. An update was provided as follows:
- Item 4(a) (Horse gate, Canada Common): Urgent repairs were required
 - Item 4(c) (Notice boards): The highway authority had approved proposals for a new Council notice board at the entrance to the Brookfields estate
 - Item 7 (Wellow Common – bracken clearing): This was still being pursued with English Nature but it was unlikely that any work would be carried out this year
 - Item 8(b) (Canada track): Following a further inspection, the use of dragons teeth instead of logs was likely to be the preferred option.

Members also discussed the following:

- Land near Greenwood Cottages, Woodington Road – further land raising activity – agreed, raise with HCC
- Gate to Wellow Common opposite Maurys Lane – latch sticking – Mr Bailey to attend
- Chainsaw – Mr Browning to purchase suitable machine and safety equipment
- Footpath 22 (Foxes Lane to Scallows Lane) – blocked by spoil deposits

- (b) *New Forest Commons archaeological and landscape survey 2005:* A copy of this report was on circulation to all members. It was agreed to ask Jack Sturgess for comments on ways of protecting the identified sites.
- (c) *NPA literature:* It was agreed to order supplies of literature on dog walking, cycling, horse riding and walking.

61. PARISH COUNCIL PUBLICITY

No publicity items were identified at this meeting.

62. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCES

- (a) *Income:* Members noted income received since the last meeting, as shown in appendix 7 in the minute book.

(b) Expenditure: RESOLVED that authority be given for the new payments listed in appendix 7 cheques (2164 to 2167).

63. **CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that, by reason of the confidential nature of the business, publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest.

64. **CLERK'S SALARY AND CONTRACT**

Consideration was given to minute 10 of the Policy and Finance Committee meeting held on 18 July 2005, a copy of which appears as appendix 8 in the minute book.

RESOLVED that the minute be received and the recommendations therein contained be adopted.

65. **BURIAL GROUND – CREMATION STONES**

A letter from a local resident requested permission to raise the cremation tablet on plot G17 (JB) onto a concrete plinth to assist future maintenance. Members agreed the request.

The Clerk referred to a maintenance problem regarding the tablet on plot G11 (LS) which might also require attention.

The following matters were discussed during the public participation period, with action agreed as shown:

New pavilion, Lower Common Road (Mr Biddlecombe and Mr Jarrett, Royal British Legion, to be invited to next meeting of the New Pavilion Working Group)

War memorial – new footway (further site meeting being arranged)