

# Sway Parish Council Parish Council Meeting

**DRAFT**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Sway Parish Council held on Thursday 15th December 2016 at the Jubilee Field Pavilion, Station Road, Sway at 7:30pm**

## **Attendance:**

Barry Rickman (Chair)  
David Golby (Vice Chair)  
Peter Dance  
Ted Fleat  
Hugh Marchant  
Alex Pepper  
Melanie Seacombe  
Stephen Tarling  
Len Thomas  
Graham Turner  
John Warden

*Italics indicates not present.*

**Also in attendance:** Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer David Edwards, representatives from the Lymington Times and ten members of the public.

## **PC 16/140 Apologies**

The Clerk advised that he had received no apologies.

## **PC 16/141 Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th November and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 24th November 2016 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

## **PC16/142 Report by County Councillor Ken Thornber**

Councillor Thornber was unable to attend the meeting due to ill-health.

## **PC 16/143 Chairman's Report**

The Chairman advised members that the deadline for electors to request a by-election to replace Anita Gresham Hale was due to expire on 16<sup>th</sup> December. In order for there to be a by-election a minimum of ten electors need to submit a

request for one. The Chairman suggested that if any Councillors become aware of anyone seeking to be co-opted onto the Council, they should ask that person to write to the Parish Clerk setting out why they are interested in becoming a parish councillor.

The Chairman had been contacted by Lliam Warren from the Ambulance Service who was keen that the Parish Council should consider siting a defibrillator in the phone box on the corner of Church Lane and Set Thorns Road which has been earmarked for closure and removal. The Chairman had advised that there were already four defibrillators in Sway but agreed to seek the views of the Parish Council at the next meeting. The Chairman asked the meeting if anyone was in favour of locating a defibrillator in the soon to be disused phone –box on the corner of Church lane and Set Thorns Road. No-one came forward and the Clerk was asked to reply to Lliam Warren on behalf of the Chairman to advise the position.

A leaflet produced by the New Forest District Council entitled “The Great British Spring Clean” was circulated. The Great British Spring Clean is a campaign from keep Britain Tidy that aims to give the country a tidy up over the weekend of 3 to 5 March 2017. New Forest District Council could provide support for a litter pick and the Chairman advised that he would be putting this on the agenda for the January meeting with a view to discussing possible ideas for something in Sway over the week-end of 3 to 5 March.

The Chairman asked that any councillors wishing to abstain in a vote on a resolution should make their position clear. At the previous meeting it had been assumed that a number of councillors had voted in favour of a resolution when it subsequently emerged that they had intended to abstain. Although the outcome was not affected, it is important that abstentions are properly recorded.

### **PC 16/144 Correspondence and Clerk’s Report**

The Clerk advised that the new tractor that had been ordered had arrived.

NFNPA had written to advise that the Parish Council’s S.106 application had been successful and a cheque for the grant would be shortly forthcoming.

### **PC 16/145 Finance**

#### **To receive and approve the budget for 2017/18**

A draft budget for the twelve months beginning 1 April 2017 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Total income was budgeted to be £74,423 and total expenditure £70,792 Councillor Turner proposed that the budget be adopted and this was seconded by Councillor Golby and unanimously approved.

#### **To receive and approve the three year forecast**

It was agreed to defer adoption of the three year forecast until the next meeting.

### **To receive and approve the application for the 2017/18 precept**

The Clerk advised that New Forest District Council had requested that Sway Parish Council send in their precept application for 2017/18 by no later than January 16<sup>th</sup> 2017. A draft application had been prepared for a precept that was unchanged from the previous year at £58,695. Councillor Turner proposed that the draft precept application should be approved for submission and this was seconded by Councillor Golby. Councillor Tarling advised that he was concerned that the precept proposed was insufficient to cover contingencies that might arise and proposed an amendment to Councillor Turner's motion to increase the precept for 2017/18 to £59,695. This equated to a 1.9% increase for a band D Council Tax payer. Councillor Tarling's proposal was seconded by Councillor Marchant. Councillor Golby spoke against the proposed amendment. He felt that it was unfair on taxpayers in Sway and contingencies were already adequately catered for in the budget. When the amended resolution was put to the vote there was a majority in favour with two councilors voting against the amendment.

### **To receive and approve the December payment schedule**

The payment schedule had been circulated prior to the meeting. Councillor Turner proposed that the Schedule be approved. This was seconded by Councillor Dance and unanimously approved.

### **PC16/145 Consultation in relation to Sway Community Facilities**

The Chairman invited Ian Gale to say a few words about the consultation exercise he had undertaken. The purpose of the consultation was to obtain feedback on three proposals to enhance the public facilities in the village as follows:

- The construction of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) at Jubilee Field.
- The re-development of the Jubilee Field Pavilion.
- The Re-development of the village hall.

The three proposals had been displayed in the Village Hall on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and members of the public had been able to come along, view the proposals and ask questions. Those attending were invited to complete a questionnaire and 82 questionnaires were completed. In addition to seeking views on the three proposals the questionnaire also asked some basic demographic information such as age, sex etc. Ian Gale provided some analysis of the results but readily admitted that the survey was very small and could not be regarded as representative of the village as a whole. Views were also quite polarized with supporters of the village hall tending to be opposed to development of Jubilee Field Pavilion and vice versa. Overall, the proposal with the greatest support was the re-development of the village hall but this was based on a very small survey.

Ian Gale also advised the Council Meeting that a preliminary estimate of the cost of the three projects was in region of £850k. The trustees of the social club were in a position to contribute up to £500k and he was of the view that it would not be unrealistic to raise the balance from other sources, although some professional fund-raising help might be required.

The Chairman noted that the village hall proposals might involve new facilities for the scouts and this might result in a release of funds as a consequence of the re-development of the site of the current scout hut. Ted Watts spoke in support of the three proposals and also suggested that Stanford Rise be considered part of the mix. He was of the view that what was required was a small project team that could take this forward, ideally involving some younger people.

Ian Gale did not disagree with this and agreed to see if there was support for a single village enhancement scheme involving a variety of parties.

The Council thanked Ian Gale for his report which was duly noted.

### **PC16/146 S.106 Funds**

Councillor Seacombe had produced a note summarizing the available funds and expenditure to date. Councillor Seacombe also reminded the Meeting of the resolution passed at the Parish Council Meeting held in February when it had been agreed to prioritise expenditure on Stanford Rise with any balance being used towards the MUGA. Councillor Seacombe advised that the total amount of S.106 funds originally raised was £59,943.94 pooled contributions and it has already been agreed that a third of this could be set aside for maintenance. This left a balance of £40k capital of which £26,976 ex VAT had already been committed. Realistically, she did not anticipate much more than around £5k would be available for the MUGA.

Councillor Golby suggested that if a commitment of £5k could be made, it might be possible to release a further matching £5k from reserves. This suggestion was met with general agreement and accordingly it was suggested that a formal resolution to this effect be put forward at the next Parish Council Meeting.

### **PC16/147 Treeworks Application**

Councillor Seacombe advised that an application to fell twenty five trees at Lepe House, Flexford Lane, Sway, Lymington, SO41 6DN had been received with a deadline for a response of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016. The application had come in too late to be considered at the Planning and Transport Committee Meeting that had been held earlier this month. Arrangements had been made to view the property and subject to Councillor Seacombe circulating her comments to the rest of the Planning and Transport Committee authorization was given to enable Councillor Seacombe to respond on behalf of the Council.

### **PC 16/148 Planning and Transport Committee Report**

Councillor Tarling reported on the Planning and Transport Committee Meeting which took place on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2016. The Minutes of the Meeting had recently been put up on the website.

The Committee had considered five new planning applications and their recommendations were as follows:

Application No 16/00874 was for a field shelter at Mill Lane. The Committee were happy to accept the decision reached by NFNPA's officers.

Application No 16/00940 was for a single storey extension at Sway House Cottage. The Committee recommended that permission be granted for this application.

Application No 16/00910 was for permission to retain an extension which had previously been refused. The Committee recommended refusal.

Application No 16/00958 was for a renewal of permission for a storage container outside of the Sway Youth Centre. The Committee recommended that permission for this should be granted.

Finally, Application 16/00949 was for the installation of automatic gates at Plovers on Station Road. The Committee did not feel these were consistent with the Sway Village Design Statement and recommended refusal.

Councillor Tarling also updated the meeting on some further developments which had occurred since the Planning and Transport Committee Meeting as follows:

Application No 16/00842 at The Silver Hind for extensions and rooflights (which the Planning Committee had recommended for refusal with a 4, with a suggestion for a more modest proposal) has been refused.

Looking at the publically available files at the NFNPA 16/00886 Dwelling on the land at the rear of 37 & 38 Set Thorns Road (which the Planning Committee had recommended for refusal with a 4) it seems likely that this application will be refused.

No Sway applications are to come before the December NFNPA Planning Development Control Committee leaving only last month's application at the site of the Old School House and the misplaced menage at the rear of Toby Cottage which could come up in January

Councillor Tarling attended a NFNPA training session on Permitted Development, the 30% rule (of DP10 and DP11) and Parish Briefing Notes and will arrange for the PowerPoint files to be circulated to Planning and Transport Committee members (and anyone else who wants them). In addition Councillors Marchant and Thomas attended the Hampshire Speedwatch Focus Meeting.

#### **PC 16/149 Items for the Next Agenda**

There were no items for the next meeting but it was suggested that at the Annual Parish Meeting the Council should consider discussing a list of priorities.

**PC16/150 Any Other Business**

Councillor Marchant confirmed that he had removed the wreaths from the War Memorial.

Councillor Pepper advised that the Parish Council now has a new Facebook page.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 26th<sup>th</sup> January at 7:30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

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Chairman

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Date