

MINUTES OF THE WARNFORD PARISH MEETING

held on 14th November 2023 at 7.30pm in Warnford Village Hall.

Chair: Mark Rogers

Clerk/RFO: Lucy Hutchinson

The papers referred to had been posted on the parish website in advance.

In addition to the Chair and the Clerk, there were 19 parishioners in attendance, plus WCC Cllrs. Neil Bolton and Jerry Pett.

1. Apologies were received from four parishioners and from HCC Cllr. Hugh Lumby.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 25th May 2023: Proposed by Anne Corden and seconded by Clare Swinstead, these were approved and then signed.

3. Chair's Report: He thanked those who helped with parish matters including the Clerk, Andrew Baynes (website). Phil Chadder (Parish Lengthsman) and Pauline Swan & David Corbett (defibrillator) plus Derek Chapman, who did so much and has now left the village.

He warned about the dangers of the Asian hornet, anyone seeing one should contact him.

Hugo Fox now charges for the website, in order to keep it WPM had had to start making monthly payments of @£10+VAT (the cheapest monthly tariff) before being able to put this to a Meeting. The Meeting ratified the payments already made and agreed that the monthly payments should continue for the rest of the financial year and into the future (these charges are included in the Budget).

He asked the Meeting to consider whether to continue with the Speed Indicator Devices (SID), WPM has not paid for any this year. Previously it had been thought that the data from them would be useful in seeking to persuade Highways to decrease the speed limit on the A32. However, doubt was now cast on this. The Meeting regarded the SID's main value as deterring speeding drivers for the periods the SID was up. It was suggested that we might have signs on entering and leaving the village asking drivers to /thanking them for obeying the speed limit, however, the cost of this would be an issue. Cllr. Pett said it was not possible to extend the average speed cameras south of West Meon due to the changing speed limits on the A32.

4.Financial: a) Half year accounts to 30/09/23: Proposed by Clare Swinstead and seconded by Gerry Corden, these were approved.

b) Budget, Precept and Grants for 2024/5: the anticipated expenditure listed, including for the website was approved.

The Meeting approved the **Playground's** grant application of £500, the **Village Hall's** one for £300 and the **Parish News's** one for £200. The Parish News will consider if it could save money by using lower quality paper.

Following on from the discussion earlier about SID, the Meeting voted by a show of hands to spend £200 on four period of two weeks.

In view of the approved expenditure the Meeting approved an increase in the **Precept** of £400, to £1900.

The **Clerk's expenses** of £50 were approved as was the Budget, on the basis of the matters approved.

5. Planning: The Clerk referred to the schedule of applications etc., explaining the she had been in touch with the planners asking them to ensure the pub's lighting was compliant with Dark Skies' rules. The Meeting saw no reason to object to the application relating to the ESSO pipeline hedge works.

The Chair confirmed that after consultation the Planning Priorities Statement had been submitted to SDNP, and is available on the parish website.

6. Cllrs. Reports: WCC-Our WCC Cllrs send monthly reports which are posted on the parish website. They mentioned the Rural Prosperity Fund which gives grants for environmental projects, details are on WCC's website. It will be some time before DIY waste can be disposed if free as this requires legislation. Following the last Boomtown festival, they were keen that in future traffic arrangements are flexible, that the local community receives more benefit from the festival, and there is more clarity on net bio-diversity gain.

HCC: in Cllr Lumby's absence, the Chair referred to his report and asked for feedback on the effect of the average speed cameras on the A272 and A32. It was generally agreed that they were having a positive effect.

7. A O B:

a) The **Chair** said that as he is planning to move away, he is looking for a successor, please refer any suggestions to him;

b) The Care Group: the Clerk thanked Vera Short, who had run it for so many years. She outlined what it does, including arranging Life Lines, anyone

wishing to use the Care Group or volunteer should contact her or Virginia De Cosson, who now runs it, contact details are on the parish website.

c) Stiles on Footpath 7 (over the fields to West Meon): This had been raised at the AGM. The Parish Meeting cannot do work on the stiles, it can support the idea of such works being done (by others) and had done so at the AGM, that is the extent of its involvement. In the discussion it became clear that the landowner has been waiting for a long time for works to be on stiles on his land in Corhampton and he will not look at the Warnford position until those works have been completed satisfactorily. Cllr. Pett will consider if another parish, with a Council rather than a Meeting, could do work on the relevant stiles.

d) Stephen Short said 2024 is the **Playground's 50th anniversary**, plus there will be national D-Day 80th anniversary celebrations. The Playground may organise some celebrations, perhaps on the playground or a bonfire, this idea was welcomed.

e) Clare Swinstead gave a brief outline of the Parish Pollinators Pledge, the Garden Club can organise participation in the scheme, anyone interested in being involved should contact her. If there is enough interest she will arrange a meeting where the scheme organiser, Karima Smith, can explain more about it.

7. The next meeting will be the AGM , on 23rd May 2024.