

Council Meeting 13 December 2021

Minutes

Hamble Parish Council, Parish Office, 2 High Street, Hamble, Southampton SO31
4JE

Present

Members: Cllr Cohen, Cllr Cross, Cllr Dann, Cllr Hand (Chair), Cllr Lehneis, Cllr Jones, Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Thompson and Cllr Underdown

Staff: Clerk

1. Welcome – Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
 - a. Apologies – Cllr Ryan
 - b. Declarations of interest – none
 - c. Minutes of 8.11.2021Proposed: Cllr Underdown
Seconded: Cllr Cohen and the minutes including the exempt minutes for November were agreed unanimously.
2. Public participation – none
3. Grant Applications – Carols in The Square and Speed Watch
The council noted that the Carols in The Square had been cancelled due to the current restrictions and the Speed Watch was deferred until January 2022. over until January 2021. Clerk was asked to write thanking them for their efforts to date and also put posters up in the notice boards to spread the word.
4. Cemex – Strategy and next steps:
Chair outlined a number of issues as follows:
Recruitment of consultant – A number of consultants have been approached including the consultant who had worked for RAGE in the previous campaign. It was decided to appoint Steve Tilbury who has local knowledge of the key players and has already carried out work as part of the training exercise. Council agreed to delegate the contract details to the Clerk with a view to securing a strategy for dealing with the application. This stage of work should not exceed £3,500 with the remainder of the money being set aside for retaining specialists where the strategy recommends it.

Working with Partners – The team meeting highlighted the importance of joint work with EBC and neighbouring parishes although also recognising that we have a lead role given it is within the parish. An officer meeting has been set for the 31st January 2022 to discuss next steps although the Councils paper which it was agreed would be sent to partners might bring forward action especially if the planning application goes live early in January. Chair also highlighted the positive discussions with Hampshire County Council's lead officer and also the MP Paul Holmes.

Initially the Groups suggested in the paper were agreed (acknowledged they might need to change once the application is in) and members were asked to confirm which group they would join by the end of the week. The groups are as follows:

- Infrastructure Group - Cohen
- Operational Impacts Group - Lehneis
- Fact Finding Group - Trevor Dann, Craig Palmer,
- Restoration Group- Lehneis

All councillors are expected to get involved.

Lastly a request was made for FAQ's so that Councillors could give a consistent response to questions when asked.

Proposed Cllr Hand

Seconded Cllr Underdown and all agreed to accept the principles in the report and the way forward.

5. Allotments – request to closure allotment pathway

The Council considered the report and the recommendation from the Allotment Working Group which on balance felt that the path should remain permanently closed to the public. This recognised the concerns and issues raised by the two objectors but on balance felt the request from the allotment holders and the improvement in site security justified the closure.

Proposed: Cllr Thompson

Seconded: Cllr Cohen

and the recommendations from the report were agreed by the majority. One member voted against it and one member abstained.

6. Publication survey – outcome and recommendations

Cllr Nicolson outlined the key findings from the survey and the work of the Communications Group to now develop a further iteration of the newsletter – slightly larger publication, with a different blend of advertising and the inclusion of local contact numbers – if the recommendations were agreed by Council.

Proposed: Cllr Nicholson

Seconded: Cllr Lehneis

and the recommendations from the report were agreed unanimously.

7. Project updates – Foreshore benches, Roy Underdown Works, Digital Transformation – website and migration
Members were updated on the key projects and the next steps and welcomed the progress with them.

8. Purchase of ICT hardware – linked to transformation project
Clerk outlined the rationale for the additional expenditure as part of an extension of the transformation project. Generally things had progressed well although there was a need to do the following:

- Arrange the second training event for Councillors for Teams
- Arrange the training for Decisions for staff in January 2022 followed by training for Members in Feb.
- Purchase the use of meeting equipment.

To bring all of the ITC under one roof the Council were asked to now replace leased equipment with outright purchase with Cloudy IT linking all the devices into their support service. At this stage it was difficult to assess the impact of the change on the annual charges as the basis for operating was different but the issue was also about upgrading our use of technology with a focus on remote working.

As part of the discussions Council were also asked to confirm the purchase of equipment to enable broadcasting of meetings recognising the need for this in the light of the Cemex application. To enable work to continue:

Proposed: Cllr Nicholson

Seconded: Cllr Hand and all approved the

- a) Acquisition of new office equipment including Microsoft Business Voice (telephony) outlined in quote 1998 for £10,902.90
- b) Terminate the current contract with Carrera and transfer the contract to Cloudy IT
- c) To purchase of equipment for hybrid meetings but defer the decision on which product but request a demonstration of both to enable the decision to be taken.
- d) To approve a top up to the Ear Marked Reserve to fund the expenditure for equipment purchase.

9. Recommendations from Working Groups and Committees
Nothing to report

10. Feedback from EBC Team Meeting
Chair confirmed that EBC would be looking to roll out charging in non-charged for Car Parks in New Road Netley and in part of the Station Car Park at Bursledon.

11. Payments and Bank reconciliation for November 2021

The information was not available for the meeting – for which the clerk offered her apologies. Council was asked to delegate the decision to the Chair and Clerk to sign the reconciliation as soon as it was complete. The Payment list would be published and again approval delegated assuming no issues were raised with the list so that suppliers could be paid prior to Christmas. The Clerk confirmed the current account stood as follows:

Start balance £103,256.31

Money out £35,367.29

Commission charges £17.91

Money in £5,742.86

End balance £73,631.88

Proposed Cllr Underdown

Seconded Cllr Jones and all agreed to delegate approval of the bank reconciliation and payment list to the Chair and Clerk for the November reconciliation and the December payment list.

12. Monthly accounting reports

The reports were not available but would be shared via Teams as soon as they were.

13. Budget scenarios

These were to be discussed at the next meeting.

Meeting ended at 20.35