

Minutes
Hamble Parish Council Meeting
Full Council

Date 09/01/2023
Time 19:00 - 21:30
Location Roy Underdown Pavilion, Baron Road, Hamble
Present Clerk - Hamble Parish Council, Projects, stevejtisbury@gmail.com, Andy Thompson, Michelle Nicholson, Tony Moody, Chris Jones, Ian Underdown, Malcolm Cross, Sarah Lehneis, Sheelagh Cohen, Simon Hand, Tony Ryan, Trevor Dann, Mark Venables, Steve Tilbury
Absent Claire Price
Note Taker Clerk - Hamble Parish Council

Agenda

1 - Welcome

Apologies for Absence - Claire Price.

Cllr Jones will join remotely but will not take part in any votes

Dispensations and Interests - Cllr Dann, Lehneis and Underdown declare dispensations on Cemex application and Cllr Underdown also on the fees and charges as they relate to the Dinghy Park.

2 - Minutes from December 2022

Approve the minutes from December 2022

Decision: Approved unanimously by those at the meeting.

3 - Public participation

Opportunity for members of the public to raise issues with the Council. The session last no more than 15 minutes.

A member of the public attended and asked for clarification from the Councils Planning Consultant on the weight that Hampshire County Council (HCC) Planners would attach to errors or flaws in Cemex's evidence identified by members of the public.

The response was: HCC would consider all responses made and it is worth picking out errors where they occur as it creates doubts about the credibility and professionalism of the organisation providing the evidence. However, where residents are raising issues about the soundness of a widely accepted methodology that has been used, this is unlikely to gain traction. Much of the work is carried out to pre agreed standards and approaches and changing this would require a change in government policy.

A supplementary question was asked about what the situation would be

if the inputs into modelling are wrong? If something is fundamentally wrong then identify it in your response.

4 - Future of Hamble Airfield - Cemex application

Participated: Steve Tilbury

The purpose of this item is to receive an update on:

Work of the Coordination Working Group

- report from Cllr Jones

Feedback from Planning and Highways consultants

- update from Steve Tilbury

Format, Agenda and Confirmation of public meeting

To seek delegation for the Coordination Group and the Clerk to submit the draft response to the application with the final copy being approved at the February Council meeting.

Steve Tilbury opened the session by updating Councillors on the current situation with the application and the statutory consultation responses that have been received. The most significant responses remain outstanding from the Highway Authority, the Flood Authority and Natural England. Each of these are likely to be significant and will form part of our final response.

On the Highways position RGP have sent through their draft report which highlights a number of issues with the junction modelling within the Transport Assessment as well as the safety audit. The Transport assessment data and the conclusions drawn from the data do not marry up. The data shows that the junctions are congestion and at or above capacity. As a result, any additional trips will have a detrimental impact on the performance of the highway. Also, the safety audit highlights a number of shortcomings with the entrance design that when coupled with the vulnerable age group is likely to present a risk at a level that is unacceptable. The design of the entrance does not allow for any margin of error entering or exiting the site nor does it manage the potential impact of traffic backing up Hamble Lane as a result of HGV's waiting to access the site while pedestrians and cyclists cross.

Steve then went on to talk about the importance of people every day experience being heard by the Regulatory Committee. For this reason people shouldn't feel the need to make detailed technical responses unless they have a particular skill in the area.

Councillors were then given the option to speak and the following points/questions came up:

Might not be relevant to challenge the weaknesses with modelling at this stage - but we should consider using it at some future point.

The public meetings were a good opportunity to let people have their say.

On a trip to Southampton a councillor had witnessed a number of lorries queuing on the road to access the aggregate depot. What is to stop this happening at Hamble if approved - A management plan would be developed to ensure that HGVs were managed coming to site to avoid this

What confirmation has been received about the safety of the rail bridge - HCC have specifically asked this question to Network Rail following our concerns and a response is pending - although nothing has been raised by them in prior responses.

Detailed work has been done on the highways evidence and a consensus is emerging that the analysis of the evidence by Cemex is incorrect. The junctions are at, or above capacity and further trips will cause further problems. Also concerned about the types of vehicles to be used and the correlation to air quality as well as the impact of HGVs on the road and future maintenance.

Discussion about the need to keep the public meeting uncomplicated
Concerns about the use of social media driving people concerns in and around issues that are unlikely to be significant in the consideration of the application and people missing the more important issues as a result.

The meeting was then asked to:

Note the use of delegated powers by the Clerk in consultation with the Chair to place a contract with RGP for £895 + vat for a pedestrian survey at the site entrance.

Decision: To approve delegation to submit the draft interim response prior to Council formally approving it at 13th February 2023 meeting - Proposed Cllr Hand and Seconded by Cllr Nicholson and resolved.

Decision: Agreed to request HCC to extend the deadline for consultation comments on the Cemex Planning Application, Reg 25 response until the 31st of January 2023 - proposed Cllr Hand seconded Cllr Cohen and resolved.

5 - Budget 2023/24

The councillors considered the information available to them and the recommendations made by the Clerk in the budget report which set out the challenges facing the Council in setting the budget this year with

inflation impacting on all supplies and services, the national pay award and the additional costs that have arisen from responding to the Cemex planning application.

Given this the recommendation is to adopt several invest to save projects throughout the year to either reduce costs or increase income, to set the precept at 10% and to use reserves to support the gap in the budget in this financial year.

The discussion also considered the fees and charges. Several minor amendments were discussed and agreed as well as setting the fees for the parking permit and the dinghy storage fees for 2024/25. It was agreed that a charge of £25 would be set for the parking permit and £200 for the Dinghy Storage Park. It was agreed that as part of this uplift £20,000 from the dinghy storage Park would be set aside as an earmarked reserve for future years maintenance.

Decision: Cllrs Hand proposed, and Cllr Underdown seconded the Council resolved to agree the budget including a 10% increase in the precept and the revised fees and charges as recommended. It was resolved by majority with one abstention.

6 - Financials

To approve the bank reconciliation for November and December 2022

Decision: Proposed Cllr Cohen and seconded Cllr Thompson and unanimously resolved to approve the financial information for November 2022.

7 - Exempt Business

To consider passing a resolution under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it is/they are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1, 2, 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act. The Schedule 12A categories have been amended and are now subject to the public interest test, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This came into effect on 1st March 2006. It is considered that the following items are exempt from disclosure and that the public interest in not disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.