

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE PARISH OF FAWLEY

Wednesday 25 April 2018 in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley, 7pm.

Present: Cllrs A Alvey (In the Chair), B Coyston, A Glass, B Hall, S Milgate, K Smith, B Thorne.

In Attendance:

Steve Postlethwaite, Clerk to the Council
Sue Markides, Deputy Clerk

Also Present: Hampshire Police Community SpeedWatch Co-ordinators, Angela Johnson and Katie Strange, District & County Councillor Alexis McEvoy, Alison Jones, Community Affairs Manager ExxonMobil, Anna Bedford, Manager Lepe Country Park, Lisa Carr, Fawley Parish Council Youth Worker, 28 members of the public.

The Vice - Chairman, Cllr Alan Alvey welcomed those present to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr S Read, Cllr C Reece, Cllr B Spearing, Teresa Blakeley, Age Concern New Forest East, Angharad Vaughan, Community Affairs Advisor ExxonMobil, Blackfield & Langley Football Club, Ruth Rankin, Editor The Herald.

Appointment of Clerk to the meeting: RESOLVED: That Steve Postlethwaite be appointed as Clerk to the meeting.

To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 26 April 2017: RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2017 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Presentation by Guest Speaker, Angela Johnson, SpeedWatch Co-ordinator for Hampshire:

Angela Johnson informed the meeting regarding how the SpeedWatch Scheme is set up/managed; speeding is one of the main complaints that the Police receive but due to a lack in numbers of officers and time constraints the setting up of a SpeedWatch group is often a way that this can be addressed.

Community SpeedWatch is not able to do any enforcement; groups can only collect data which is then used to educate drivers with the result, hopefully, of a lower speed of vehicles.

Local volunteers run the group using equipment provided, inputting the data and then passing the information on; with multiple offenders being contacted either by letter, telephone or a visit.

It was noted the "kit" required to set up a group is already in place having been purchased by the Parish Council from funds received from ExxonMobil. It is easy to use although it does not show the speed to the oncoming vehicles i.e. the driver sees the speed and a smiley face if travelling at the correct speed or a glum face if they are not.

Application forms to join a group can be obtained here tonight and once a group of volunteers is formed help and support is available.

A question and answer session took place.

It was queried how many volunteers were required to run a group. It was suggested that a minimum of six members was a good start as three people are necessary for each session for safety reasons and for checking of the data collected.

A member of the public who had recently tried to set up a local SpeedWatch group advised of the difficulties they had faced – although a group of 9 volunteers, co-ordination of members being available to run a session first thing in the morning and at weekends when the speeding is considered to be at its worst, was found to be impossible. A crash at Lime Kiln Lane where they monitored the traffic had also frightened the group and so whilst still concerned about speeding traffic the group had stopped attending and he considered they had failed in their initiative.

Angela Johnson advised that no group, even whilst attending at an accident hotspot, had experienced an accident themselves. Current restrictions mean that volunteers cannot run a session on roads with speed limits of 40mph although this is presently being reviewed. She reiterated that for safety reasons the minimum size of a group running a session should be 3 and whilst the equipment does work in the dark members do need to be seen (winter hours are therefore usually between 9am-4pm). She advised of other successful groups in the New Forest who have the same issues but perhaps only run one session a week – this does act as a deterrent and benefits are seen.

The Clerk to the Council suggested that it may be possible to get SpeedWatch set up in a couple of areas within the Parish; get several groups of perhaps 6-9 members who can all help each other and overcome a shortage in numbers?

The member of the public considered addressing speeding concerns was the responsibility of councillors; however Cllr Alvey advised that it is the Police /HCC matter.

A question relating to how the advertising of a new Community SpeedWatch group was completed was asked – this group had canvassed the close where they live, 86 houses and 8 people had joined. It was thought that perhaps a Facebook page may gain access to a wider area and an offer was made to assist in setting this up. Angela Johnson offered to assist with sessions outside of her normal working hours if the group are willing.

Another member of the public informed the meeting of his concerns relating to speeding near his home – peak time being between 10pm and 3am and between the shift change 5am-6am and considered that reducing police numbers by 30% prevented previous regular patrols. Cllr Alvey advised that the Parish Council had raised its concerns to the police and suggested it was a matter to raise with the local MP and the Police & Crime Commissioner. The member of the public advised he had already done so; he considered the Parish Council could also exert pressure on the police from the bottom up.

Speeding in the village of Fawley, in particular by cars considered to belong to Exxon employees along Church Lane leading to School Road was raised by resident who lives close by. She thought that Exxon should take measures to stop this.

Alison Jones, Community Affairs Manager for Exxon advised that the company has paid for the purchase of the SpeedWatch equipment for the parish and asked their staff to volunteer. This issue was first discussed at a public meeting over a year ago – whilst Exxon

does realise there is a problem it is not wholly Exxon staff. We discussed this with the local council, the Police and the District Council who undertook a survey – the statistics showed that speeding is occurring throughout the day, not just at shift change times, which is why we agreed that there would be a benefit in a SpeedWatch group and agreed to purchase the kit. She considered the community should come together to address this; the Clerk agreed that several attempts have been made to get this going whilst the last letter/invitation sent out around the parish asking people to take part had received no response at all. Alison further advised that when there are events on the majority of Exxon staff enter at the Hardley end of the refinery.

It was queried why traffic units are not seen on the A326; Angela Johnson advised that the collation of data provides information on where the issues are and the van is directed to these areas. Vans may be sent to areas on a rolling basis although the more complaints that are received for a particular area would most likely result in an increase in visits to that site.

Cllr Alvey thanked Angela and Katie for their informative presentation.

Chairman's Report

Vice Chairman of the Council, Cllr Alvey advised that the Chairman, Cllr Bob Wappet had recently passed away and he would report in his place.



Fawley Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting
25 April 2018

Vice Chairman's Report

Opening Remarks

- I know had the Chairman Cllr Wappet still been alive he would have had great pleasure in welcoming you all to our annual parish meeting, its been my privilege to have been the Vice Chairman for last year
- I would like to congratulate the Clerk on the work and progress he and his officers have made over the year especially around reducing the Councils overall operating costs.
- In particular I would also like to thank Exxon Mobil for their continued funding to support community events and projects in the Parish
- I want to thank those members of the public that take the time to attend our meetings, those who have attended tonight and our Guest Speaker Angela Johnson.



A thriving Youth Club with over 100 members

Last year we funded in partnership with Hampshire County Council and Dibden Allotment Fund to provide local children with **FREE** Holiday Club meals and Cooking Classes over the school holidays.



Some Other Achievements this year

- We held another Successful and Enjoyable Armed Forces Day and a Firework Event
- Supported the Planting of forget-me-not plants at All Saints Church to raise awareness of Dementia
- A well supported Annual Nifty Fifties Tournament
- Secured £38,000 from developers contributions to improve disability access at 4 of our play areas (which has now been completed)
- Planning approved to convert an old compound unit at Gang Warily into the provision of the **FIRST** Mens shed in the New Forest.
- Regular praise of the councils ground staff for the excellent quality of Blackfield & Langley's football pitch.
- A new Fitness Instructor to support Gang Warily Members
- Secured a 30 year lease agreement with Fawley Rugby Club on Council land at Newlands Park

This year 'Parish in Bloom' was extended to Fawley, with plans for 2018 approved to place 4 planters on Kennels Corner roundabout, and daffodils planted along the Long Lane service road. Funded by Fawley Parish Council, Exxon and Local Businesses including Sandra's Florist, Oakdene Dental Surgery, Holbury Tool Hire,



Warren Cope and Holbury Manor Pond

Hampshire Independent
13 April 2018



Families enjoy Forest's first wild play area

Den building, natural crafts and a scavenger hunt were just some of the activities enjoyed by families to launch the first permanent wild play site in the New Forest.

Warren Cope, in Holbury near Fawley, is the first of three wild play sites to be built within the New Forest. From

increased hunting and following on logs, to stick crafts and hula and waka, wild play activities are free and use the natural environment as inspiration for families to discover more about local wildlife.

These unique spaces will help families discover and connect with their surroundings.

- Successful Partnership Funding Bid from the National Grid - Landscape Enhancement Initiative.

• **£30,000**

- To create a unique space for families to get active in their local surroundings.
- The funding will also provide additional woodland management, improvements to footpaths and information boards, and an upgrade to the surfacing of the car park at Holbury Drive.

Significant Reduction in Council Operating Costs whilst delivering Improved Services

- A projected year end overall reduction of £115,000 (13%) of budgeted operating costs.
- A change in focus has enabled us to maintain our 'Open Spaces' more regularly and continue our expansion of 'Parish in Bloom' into Holbury
- Improvements at 4 play areas with new equipment for people with disabilities
- The new 'Wild Play' area at Warren Cope
- A range of new 'Outsourced' community classes hosted at Gang Warily, Jubilee Hall and QE11

To Summarise

- The rises in - The National Living Wage, Pension Contributions and National Insurance continue to impact on our budget expenditure.
- We still have some challenges especially with maintaining our play areas but we are working hard to address the problems.
- We have started to investigate how we support people suffering with 'Social Isolation' (Mens shed)
- We have just started to formulate our working groups with local residents and organisation so if you are interested in helping us understand our communities needs - please let us know?
- We are here to support you our residents in delivering local services for local people.

In Memory of Cllr Bob Wappet



Chairman 2011 - 2018

Presentation of Chairman's Cup: And now for the pleasurable event of the evening!

I am very pleased to announce that the winner of the Chairman's Cup this year is Doreen Hosey. A few words about Doreen.....

Doreen has lived in Fawley since before the war (over 80 years) where her father had a butchers shop. She was born in Blackfield so is a real local!

Doreen, ably assisted by her husband Arthur and other helpers over the years, started on her fund raising selling goods outside Fawley Post office. As they did not have a car they transported the donations, baked items etc., by wheelbarrow which she still does.

Doreen was nominated by Fawley Parish Council for her MBE in the New Year's Honours list in 2010 in recognition of her fund raising works, and received her medal from the Queen.

Since then Doreen has continued to raise money for Oakhaven Hospice and has now reached the grand total of £100,000 after 15 years of sterling effort selling to villagers and other residents in the parish. Rather than putting her feet up and taking things easy, she has started collecting for a new charity, the Air Ambulance. The first sale will take place on 09 June.

I don't pretend to understand how Doreen has avoided winning this Chairman's Cup before, but I suppose the MBE made up for the lapse in some way. Anyway we are now able to rectify the omission, and have great pleasure in awarding the Cup for 2018 to Doreen Hosey MBE.

Doreen advised that she was very honoured to win the Chairman's Cup for doing something that she loves doing. She thanked her family and the six ladies that help her as without them she couldn't do it. She had originally started raising funds for the Diabetic Society 20 years ago – she was corrected – in that it was 35 years ago!

The Clerk suggested that certificates of appreciation be arranged for Doreen's helpers.

Any other matters to be raised by Parishioners:

A member of the public advised he had forwarded to the Parish Council an item for inclusion on the agenda and referred to premises at Gang Warily which have recently been the subject of a planning application with approval granted for change of use - to be used as 2 x commercial units and one unit for use as a Men's Shed. He considered previous leasing arrangements had not been correct and that the building should only be used by young people under the age of eighteen.

The Clerk advised that the request for an item to be included on the agenda had not been received.

Cllr Alvey suggested as the matter may be complicated he should contact the Clerk to the Council direct. The comments made had been noted.

The member of the public continued – he wished to propose a motion that the building is only let to young people.

Another member of the public advised that the building concerned was originally an old stable block of the nearby farm. An extra small building was added on to it; this is the building used previously by the Venturers Group.

Cllr Alvey suggested that the item is taken up outside of the meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.42pm.

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Chairman