

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 14th APRIL AT 7PM via ZOOM

Present:

David Caukill (Chair)

Simon Dixon

Charles Louisson

Geoff Brighton

Jo Humphrey

Russell Oppenheimer

Liz Bucket

Susan Sinclair

Peter Sutton

Charlie Butcher

Madeline Allison

11 Parish residents

Also attending: Katherine Horton (Clerk)

Minutes

1) Welcome

The Clerk welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting, confirmed how the meeting would be conducted and the agenda items.

2) Apologies for absence

David Large had shared apologies with the Chair.

3) Acceptance of minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held 8th April 2020 (adjourned) & 6th May 2020.

These were proposed and seconded as a true record. Chair to sign at next possible opportunity.

4) Chairman's Annual Report

The Chair shared his report for 2020/21 which is attached as an appendix. The report noted thanks to all the Parish Councillors for their commitment and attention to parish matters over the past 12 months. Sue Harwood was also thanked for her years of service and wise words of counsel to the Parish in her role as Clerk. The Parish Councillors have worked on a range of varied projects and tasks over the year with notable achievements being securing improved road signage, renovating the phone box on Lower Green and engaging the South Downs National Park to request a review of the use of BOATS.

5) District Councillor Charles Louisson's Annual Report

Councillor Louisson thanked attendees for the opportunity to share a review of the year and noted much had still been achieved despite the impact of Covid including a review of the national/regional housing requirement and the launch of the 2024 SDNP Local Plan. Councillor Louisson also noted he had been happy to support Hawkley's signpost refurbishment through his devolved grant. Full report in appendix.

Q. Why is there so much rubbish along the roads and street litter remaining uncollected?

A. Councillor Louisson asked Councillor Oppenheimer to respond as East Hants organise the litter picks. Councillor Oppenheimer confirmed this was the case for the A3 but B roads now have to be cleared as part of community initiatives. It was noted that the easing of lockdown did see an influx of visitors to the area who did not take litter away with them and any backlog will be caught up with.

6) County Councillor Russell Oppenheimer's Annual Report

Councillor Oppenheimer advised those attending that he had been impressed with the speed at which residents had organised a support network when the Covid lockdown first happened and had been pleased to support the efforts financially through his devolved grant.

Councillor Oppenheimer then shared a report clarifying the work that he has been involved with in the wider area and Hawkley parish over the past 12 months. Report is attached as an appendix

Q. What powers will the new South Downs Partnership have in relation to assigning TROs and standing up to the Green Lane lobby?

A. The authority of the group is being clarified but it is anticipated they will be able to draw on the statutory process and if not then Councillor Oppenheimer would request that they outsource the matter to CC as it needs to be dealt with.

Q. How will Project Gigabyte be rolled out?

A. 5,000 homes will be involved in Hampshire and Councillor Oppenheimer intends to lobby for local involvement but exact details are to confirmed.

Q. Why is the phone mast in Hawkley only linked to EE and not shared with other providers?

A. Councillor Louisson advised that the mast in Hawkley has been set up for emergency service cover and as such the mast does not have to be shared between providers.

7) Presentation by Cannon Peter Sutton on the Proposed Expansion of St Peter & Paul graveyard

Peter Sutton thanked the Parish Council for the opportunity to engage the local community on the subject of expanding the graveyard at Hawkley. It was noted that there is still much work to be done in relation to surveying the land, clarifying boundaries and access and drawing up proposals but it is hoped that early feedback from residents will help in making a formal plan and ensuring a suitable solution. The current area being considered would provide 1,000 graves and serve the community for 300 years.

Peter Sutton confirmed he would welcome feedback and ideas from residents following a consideration of the proposal.

8) Presentation by PC Liz Buckle and Madeleine Allison (Tree Warden) on the Trees Working Group

Attendees were informed that the role of Tree Warden has existed nationally for over 30 years but the climate emergency and recent lockdown has seen the subject of local environment rise to the forefront. Madeleine shared a report from the Tree Working Group and outlined four areas of possible focus: Hollow lanes – their planting and stabilisation, Ash dieback and engaging local landowners in felling strategies, making best use of fallen timber and a Parish tree nursery. More details will be shared at the upcoming Parish show and a planned Tree Forum in Hawkley during the Autumn. Full presentation attached as appendix.

9) Open Forum

A question was raised about the drainage of water on the road from Hawkley to Doscombe. The Chair offered to meet with the resident to confirm the drainage point causing concern and then agree next steps.

10) Date of next meeting – May 5th 2021, 19.30 Hrs – Parish Council's AGM

Meeting closed: 20:45