

Wield Parish Council
Meeting – Thursday 8 August 2024
Wield village hall

Those present: Alwin Hutchinson (Chairman), Kate Gibbons, Lorna Timmis, Roland Richardson, and Jean Frost (Clerk).

No apologies received

1. Minutes of last meeting

Were signed as a true and accurate record.

2. Matters arising

- **2.1** re 3.2 – **red phone boxes** – No progress, Cllr Hutchinson will speak to Phil Pullinger
- **2.3.** Cllr Timmis will be asked to investigate installing metal stiles – a grant from EHDC maybe available.

3. Financial report

- **3.1** The accounts were circulated and approved. It was noted that all regular payments have been made and only grass cutting for the remainder of the year will be invoiced.
- **3.2 Precept** – The clerk circulated a paper on the options for the precept. Many members agreed that any increase would make a very small net amount, and it should not be considered. Cllr Richardson argued strongly that it should be increased. The chair reminded the committee that the matter had already been decided at the AGM in favour of not making any adjustment to the precept amount.

4. Planning applications

- **4.1** - Planning application for Oxdrove Farm (goats). Result of planning application – Cllr Hutchinson will investigate.

Feedback from the case officer at EHDC. As the applicant is seeking to erect a rural worker dwelling on the site, EHDC have consulted an external and independent consultant to scrutinise the requirement for such a dwelling. They will assess the proposal against the relevant policies relating to rural worker dwellings and look at things such as finances, to ascertain whether the business is viable and whether the need is in fact there that may justify the dwelling.

EHDC anticipate receipt of the report from the consultants next week.

Recent decisions in relation to Ox Drove Farm (2):

NOTICE OF PERMISSION: 57603/004 (Mon 25 Oct 2021) which states:

4 Notwithstanding any indication shown on the approved plans and notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Reference No: 57603/004 Page 3 of 7 Permitted Development) Order 2015 (or any order revoking, re-enacting or modifying that Order) the development hereby permitted shall be used only as private, non-commercial, stabling and for no other purpose. Reason - To prevent the stables from being used for commercial purposes to the detriment of the locality with respect to increased activity and vehicle movements.

Fri 21 Oct 2022 Following a further planning application permission was granted for Removal of conditions 3 (restriction on number of horses on site) & condition 4 (Notwithstanding condition) on 57603/004. (Further highways information received 21/12/22). Reference 57603/005

5. Footpaths.

- **5.1 –Footpaths** have been well maintained in the area and landowners have obliged by cutting back excess growth in the spring.
- **5.2 - BOATS** - Cllr Timmis attended a meeting about BOATS, Meon Valley PC has a big problem with the use that is detrimental to surfaces etc. HCC have proposed a new ‘traffic light’ system for those open or closed. Consultation is still in progress. A Byways Operational Procedure is in motion and parishes are endeavouring to create more criteria which will broaden the scope in order to protect BOATS in East Hampshire.
Hampshire has more BOATS than other counties which makes them attractive to bikers from all areas. Cllr Timmis will update when appropriate.

6. Roads/drains

- **6.1** - Many recent discussions about the ‘bund’ outside Harrow Cottage. It was put in place to prevent flooding as in previous years. HCC are reluctant to intervene. Ditches and culverts need more regular maintenance, but so far no-one takes responsibility. The culvert at Battle corner is blocked and the ditch is quickly filled with water that runs from Barton House down to Battle corner and has nowhere to go from there.

7. Any other business

- **7.1 website** – Cllr Richardson will add a link to WET
- **7.2 Speed watch rota** - Now back in sync. and all will make sure it stays that way.
- **7.3 Playground** - Child's rocking horse is out of action but plans are in place for it to be repaired or replaced.
- **7.4 Community Transport** – nothing available unless funded – no funding available. Cllr Gibbons is in contact with a group from Basingstoke and will update when appropriate.
- **7.5 HGV notices** – not happening
- **7.6 20 MPH signage** – not happening
- **7.7 CIL payments** - £3366.00 received. Council agreed to donate £3,000.00 to Village Hall committee to assist repairs to village hall.
- **7.8 Bench for Village Green** – it was agreed to purchase a Teak Memorial Bench Seat (called 'Sandhurst') from Memorial Benches UK, at an approx.. cost of £550.00.
- **7.9 Retirement** Cllr Hutchinson announced that he will resign from the Parish Council at the next APCM.

Date of next meeting Wednesday 6 November at 7.45pm