

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SELBORNE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN THE PAVILION, SELBORNE RECREATION GROUND**  
**ON WEDNESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2023 AT 7.30 PM**



**Present:** Cllr D Ashcroft, Cllr S Bennett (Chair)  
Cllr C Bridger, Cllr G Earney  
Cllr H Grosvenor, Cllr C McMeekan  
Cllr N O'Donnell, Cllr W Megeney  
Cllr M Turner

**Absent:** Cllr S Heaselgrave, Cllr C Joyce, Cllr D Littell

**Also present:** Liz Ford, Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public

**23.85 Apologies for Absence**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllrs Heaselgrave, Joyce and Littell (proposed Cllr Megeney and seconded Cllr Earney with all voting in favour).

**23.86 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chair reminded Councillors that the meeting was for the Council to undertake the business on the agenda. If issues arose which were not on the agenda Councillors should ask the Clerk to record them for consideration at a future meeting, but in doing this Councillors should please note that it was important not to delay the business of the meeting.

The Chair advised on the Council Recording of Public Meetings policy and that the Clerk would be making an audio recording of the meeting.

**23.87 Declarations of Interest - None**

**23.88 Approval of Minutes**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023 (proposed by Cllr McMeekan and seconded by Cllr Grosvenor with the majority voting in favour. Cllrs Bennett and Megeney abstained as not present at the meeting. Cllr Earney also abstained).

**23.89 Public Questions**

***The meeting was adjourned for public questions***

A resident informed the Council that the disabled parking bay on the Council land at the Plestor was found to be in use for a significant amount of the time so that no disabled parking was available for other users. The Clerk would include a proposal on the agenda of a future meeting to make one of the other of the parking spaces into a second disabled parking space.

***The meeting was reconvened***

**23.90 Financial Report:**

- a) To note bank balances, earmarked reserves and payments and receipts since the last meeting  
This item was deferred.
  
- b) To approve bank reconciliation  
This item was deferred.

c) To approve the proposed schedule of payments

It was **RESOLVED** to adjourn the meeting (proposed Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Bridger with all voting in favour).

Councillors left the meeting venue to inspect an item of play equipment in the adjacent children’s play area (the spinner table) which had had a new top installed in the previous week. Councillors found that the repair was of an acceptable standard.

It was **RESOLVED** to restart the meeting (proposed Cllr O’Donnell and seconded by Cllr Earney with all voting in favour).

Cllr Earney checked the invoices against the schedule of payments presented at the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the schedule of payments as included below (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Earney with all voting in favour. Cllrs Ashcroft and Megeney abstained).

Invoice Date	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Gross
30/6/23	Dell UK	To extend laptop warranty to 4/3/25	49.80	9.96	<b>59.76</b>
5/9/23	P J Grace	grass July & Selborne weed clear April & July	1,080.00	216.00	<b>1,296.00</b>
7/8/23	Green Play Project Ltd	final invoice for new playground following replacement of damaged spinner top	3,524.80	704.96	<b>4,229.76</b>
		<b>TOTAL FOR 9 August 2023</b>	4,654.60	930.92	<b>5,585.52</b>

d) To consider the first Quarter Accounts

The Finance Working Group had met on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August to familiarise themselves with the first quarter accounts, Council budget and Council finances. The expenditure was within budget limits with three quarters of the budget still available for the remainder of the year apart from key “up-front” items such as the annual insurance premium and the other six items for which the 2023/2024 budget had been adjusted at the June meeting (see minute 23.49 c).

Cllr Turner requested that forecasts of the final annual budget spend were provided every six months. This was routinely presented as part of the preparation of the next year’s budget. It was noted that the first quarter accounts had been discussed and were in order.

**23.91 Planning Applications:** To consider and agree a response to the following planning application(s):

SDNP/23/03133/TCA	Paddock Burn High Street Selborne GU34 3LG	Felling of a White Poplar, as exposed roots have invaded the ground in front of the house. Management of branches of other trees growing in garden which overhang the boundary and rest on the roof line by approximately 5.5m.	<b>Comment by 24/8/23</b>
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The application was discussed and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit the comment to object on account that there had been no comment from the landowner, there was no arboricultural report and no building engineering report on the likely damage to the drains (proposed by Cllr Earney and seconded by Cllr Grosvenor with all voting in favour. Cllr Ashcroft abstained on account of also being a District Councillor. There were four other abstentions).			
22371/007	Brackens, Drift Road, Whitehill, GU35 9EA	Single storey rear extension, elevated deck and side extension to replace existing.	<b>Comment by 16/8/23</b>
The application was discussed and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit the comment of no objection but it was requested that, if the Planning Authority was minded grant permission, the protection of the SDNPA Dark Skies was considered in the lighting design (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Turner with all voting in favour. Cllr Ashcroft abstained on account of also being a District Councillor and Cllr Megeney abstained).			
60081	28 St Andrews Road, Whitehill, GU35 9QN	Two storey rear extension & installation of 2 dormer windows following demolition of existing rear conservatory. N.B. Just outside border of Parish	<b>Comment by 28/8/23</b>
The application was discussed and it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to submit the response of no comment (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Megeney with all voting in favour. Cllr Ashcroft abstained on account of also being a District Councillor).			

### 23.92 To confirm second Parish Councillor for the Blackmoor Edge Ward

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Heaselgrave would be the second Councillor representing the Blackmoor Edge ward (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Ashcroft with all voting in favour).

### 23.93 To confirm additional member(s) of the Planning Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllrs Bridger and Joyce would join the Planning Committee (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Ashcroft with all voting in favour).

### 23.94 To confirm additional member(s) of the Finance Working Group

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Joyce would join the Finance Working Group (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Ashcroft with all voting in favour).

### 23.95 To confirm additional member(s) of the Policies Working Group

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Bridger would join the Policies Working Group (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Earney with all voting in favour).

### 23.96 To confirm additional member(s) of the Engagement Working Group

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Megeney would join the Engagement Working Group (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Bridger with all voting in favour).

### 23.97 To confirm Parish Footpath Lead(s)

It was **RESOLVED** that a resident volunteer, John Elder, would be the Parish Footpath Lead. Mr Elder was already a Hampshire County Council footpath volunteer (proposed by Cllr Ashcroft and seconded by Cllr Bennett with all voting in favour).

**23.98 To agree the method of circulation of the Climate (& Nature) Working Group questionnaire**

It was **RESOLVED** that decision on the circulation of the Climate (& Nature) Working Group questionnaire would be deferred until the Parish Priority Statement was completed and included on the agenda of the November meeting (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr O'Donnell with all voting in favour).

**23.99 To consider the public consultation to be carried out in the preparation of the SDNPA Parish Priority Statement – the statement is to be submitted to the SDNPA by 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Parish Priority Statement (PPS) introduction document and survey form with the proposed changes. The amended document would be circulated to Council with any comments to be made by 5.30pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August with the Clerk to finalise before printing on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August for hand delivery by Councillors to all Parish households in the weekend of Sat 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August. (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Grosvenor with all voting in favour). Hard copies would also be provided to community groups and businesses in the Parish. There would be Open Days in the Parish on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August to provide more information on the PPS and the survey form. These would be followed by public open meetings for residents to discuss and provide comment on a draft PPS. The final version of the PPS would then be considered at a Parish Council meeting ready for submission to the South Downs National Park Authority by the closing date.

There was further discussion of the closing date for original submission of the survey forms. Cllr O'Donnell would request permission for a Parish Council stand at the National Trust "Cricket on the Common" event at the beginning of September to facilitate the completion of more survey forms particularly by younger members of the Parish community.

**23.100 To consider a proposal received regarding the grant application for a Saturday morning drama/yoga class for children at the Pavilion, Selborne Recreation Ground**

Cllr Earney having declared an interest at the last meeting as the husband of one of the applicants (see minutes 23.67 and 23.78) elected not to take part in the discussion of the item and to abstain from voting. It was **RESOLVED** that a second grant provision to a maximum amount of £2,000 would be made to fund up to twenty places for Parish children on the Saturday morning drama/yoga class for children at the Pavilion. Payment would be made for each Parish child that joined the class subject to the course provider giving free places for a maximum of ten additional Parish children in the event that twenty Parish children had joined the class (proposed by Cllr Grosvenor and seconded by Cllr Ashcroft with the majority voting in favour. Cllrs Bennett and O'Donnell abstained and Cllr Earney also abstained on account of having declared an interest. Cllrs McMeekan and Turner objected).

**23.101 Update on planning for enhanced community engagement by the Parish Council**

It was **RESOLVED** to defer discussion of this item until the next meeting (proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Grosvenor with all voting in favour. Cllr Bridger abstained).

**23.102 To reconsider projects for EHDC S106 Generic Funding in light of cost and ownership implications for proposed footpath works above the Lionsmouth, Selborne village**

Cllr O'Donnell confirmed that the Parish Council did not own the land of the footpath and provided detailed indicative costings for a boardwalk and other path treatment options or the whole length of path from the Lions Mouth to the edge of the woodland area and a cheaper option for works on only the initial third of the path. These costs and alternative approaches were discussed and based on the new information it was **RESOLVED** that a grant application for EHDC S106 generic funding for the proposed footpath works above the Lionsmouth, Selborne village would not be made (proposed by Cllr McMeekan and seconded by Cllr Bennett with the majority voting in favour. Cllr O'Donnell abstained. Cllrs Earney, Grosvenor and Earney objected).

### **23.103 District Councillor Report**

The revision of the East Hampshire Local Plan was progressing with the next round of public consultation expected to be held in the middle to the end of September 2023. Cllr Ashcroft suggested that the Parish Council should carry out a Housing Needs Survey. He had attended a Community Fund panel that week at which £300K of grant funding was awarded. The closing date for the EHDC speed camera applications was the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2023. Cllr Megeney noted that community views on housing needs would be part of the SDNPA Parish Priority Statement.

### **23.104 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would be Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm in Oakhanger Village Hall.

**The meeting closed at 9.31 pm**

<b>Signed</b>	
<b>Chair of Selborne Parish Council</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

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