

WOOLBEDING WITH REDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 25th January, 2023

In Redford village hall at 7p.m.

Present: Cllr A. Hearle (Chairman)  
Cllr H. Talbot-Baker  
Cllr. P. Hansford  
Cllr. T. Causer  
Elizabeth Robinson(Clerk)

David Elliott (NT)

There were 2 members of the public attending

**1. Welcome and Chairman's Remarks**

The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and said he had nothing special to report.

**2. Apologies**

Cllr. Burton, Cllr Kate O'Kelly (WSSC) and Cllr Judy Fowler (CDC) sent their apologies.

**3. Public Question Time**

There were no questions.

**4. Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**5. Local Reports**

5.1 Kate O'Kelly (WSSC)  
Her report is below.

**Transport and Infrastructure**

I have received lots of frustrated emails on the topic of potholes and poor repairs that are not lasting through the recent torrential conditions. I have asked for the committee at the County to scrutinise more formally the quality of the remedial work as there is clearly a significant problem.

**Cycling**

I attended WSSC member cycling group in December – heard from Hampshire CC active travel leaders – they explained how if the culture changes then more cycling grant money can be received from Gov and better schemes can be delivered achieving the national standards, WSSC are way behind – still only paying lip service

on active travel, the culture change needs to be embedded in the organisation our group will continue to push for this in 2023.

### **Housing and Communities**

#### **Damp and Mould**

The District Council have produced a new leaflet with detailed advice on mould and how to tackle it

[www.chichester.gov.uk/media/36430/Damp-Leaflet-Nov-2021/pdf/Damp\\_leaflet\\_No v2021.pdf](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/media/36430/Damp-Leaflet-Nov-2021/pdf/Damp_leaflet_No v2021.pdf)

The District Council have been advising those who rent their home and are experiencing issues with damp and mould, to report this to their landlord as soon as possible. If the problem worsens, or they don't hear back from their landlord they should contact the CDC housing team by emailing [housingstandards@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:housingstandards@chichester.gov.uk) or by calling 01243 534565.

#### **Local Plan**

The District Council have published their long-awaited Local Plan – they aim to start the technical consultation in Feb with a view to submitting for inspection in the Summer.

Very challenging as evidence on transport and flood risk keeps on changing and the signals from Government mean there is likely to be more changes to the numbers required.

#### **WSCC Full Council**

Our group had a motion that went to Full Council in December on Voter ID – we called for a delay for the implementation of the new law that requires everyone to take photographic ID to the polling station, asking the Cab member to write to Michael Gove. In addition asking the District Council teams to prepare more info for residents on details of how to get free voter cards and postal vote forms and to send this out with the council tax letters should the plans to change the process proceed. Unfortunately this was voted down. Recommend residents without photo ID are encouraged to arrange a postal vote. Forms can be downloaded at [Apply for a postal vote - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-a-postal-vote)

#### **5.2 Judy Fowler (CDC)**

Her report is attached.

Our CEO has described 2023 as a very busy year to come, commencing with the adoption of the new Local Plan which is undergoing inspection at the time of writing. Once the Plan has been adopted by the Council later this month it will be submitted to a Planning Inspector for independent examination on behalf of the government. More on this can be seen at [www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanreview](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/localplanreview).

The Council has welcomed the news that Government intends to hand back control to local councils over the number of houses to be built. Changes to the National

Planning Policy can be viewed at Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill; reforms to national planning policy – GOV.UK([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)).

### Contract Services

The GMB have cancelled their plans to strike following constructive negotiations. CDC has awarded the streets and waste teams a 5% allowance in recognition of the challenging conditions of the work (unsocial hours/handling unpleasant materials/working outside in all weathers). This has been accepted so no disturbance to the service has been necessary.

### Bathing Water Results

DEFRA announced the results just before Xmas and Bracklesham Bay, Selsey and WestWittering were all classed as excellent.

### Parking in Chichester & Bosham

A new parking strategy has been approved for the next 4 years, taking into account the changes in the way people shop and use the high streets in the district following Covid. Removal of 120 spaces and the introduction of a permanent events/market space is being considered for the Cattle Market car park; a feasibility study is being done to reorganise the layout of North Street car park to improve its connection with the city centre and visitor attractions; a feasibility study on Bosham car park to improve traffic flow and layout; and more electric charging bays in all car parks. Also there is a review of the parking payment options across the district's car parks.

### Minimum energy standards for Privately Rented Property

CDC has worked with Adur DC to reduce the number of privately rented properties classified as 'cold homes' and applied for Government funding to pass on to landlords. Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards target properties with an energy rating of F or G. Any property privately let as a home must have a rating of E or above. Minimum energy efficiency standards can be seen at:

[www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-private-rented-property-minimum-energy-efficiency-standard-landlord-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-private-rented-property-minimum-energy-efficiency-standard-landlord-guidance).

### Mould in Homes

CDC is advising people living in rented accommodation who are experiencing issues with damp and mould to contact their landlord. If they do not hear back in a reasonable timescale or the problem worsens they should contact CDC Housing Team by email on [housing/standards@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:housing/standards@chichester.gov.uk) or on 01243 534565.

### Homelessness

After a Government grant of £47,500 CDC is piloting a scheme to help long-term homelessness. Up to 20 clients will be referred to BEAM, a social enterprise

organisation which helps with people who have experienced long-term homelessness to gain employment.

#### Sewer Flooding

Exceptionally heavy rainfall in the last 3 months has resulted in some sewage discharges. Southern Water is responsible for the public sewer network and residents should contact them in the first instance

<https://www.southernwater.co.uk/help-advice/sewers-and-drains>. If there is no resolution to the problem contact OFWAT's advisory body, the Consumer Council for Water at <https://www.ccwater.org.uk/>.

CDC's Environmental Health department have powers to deal with defective private drainage, e.g. a landlord or neighbour that fails to attend to a blocked or surcharging foul drain.

#### Avian Flu

There is an on-line system for reporting dead wild birds, see

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-dead-wild-birds>

#### Independent Retailers Grant

9 applications were approved to be allocated funding from a total of £27,279.15. Locally one of these is in Midhurst and one in Petworth (4 in Chichester, 1 in East Wittering).

### **5.3 David Elliott (NT)**

Majority of the current work is about tree safety management and ash die back. He hopes the ash die back work will finish towards the end of this year. It concerns public safety around car parks, roads etc. Trees affected where they aren't a danger will be left to die.

The 25 acres of Ashfield wood is a woodland creation project for positive natural regeneration. There will be a small amount of tree planting and tree seed planting. He said it was early days but there are already a few oaks and he is hopeful it will be a success.

There has been scrub clearing, mostly around the bowl on Older Hill and there will be more subject to contractor availability. The council should have received details of a consultation on South Downs woodland management plan. He apologised that the council hadn't received this and said he would send it later in the evening. He said there were no surprises. The trust has signed up to UK Woodland Assurance which is similar to FSC. It means that the Trust won't have to apply for a felling licence in future.

The Trust is in discussion with WSCC Highways and the Environment agency to install a safe crossing for otters underneath the A272 near Stedham where there is a culvert under the road. Some otters have been run over trying to cross over the road. He is

hoping a manhole ledge will be installed. He is very keen to protect the otters as they will get rid of mink which predate water voles.

He had nothing to report on Woolbeding Farm yet and he has agreed to speak at the Annual Meeting.

#### **6. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November were approved and signed.

Proposer: Cllr Hansford    Seconder: Cllr Talbot-Baker

#### **7. Finance**

The RFO reported that the finances are in a good state.

Two cheques were signed:

Cheque No 842 Mrs. E. Robinson (clerk's salary ) £216

Cheque No 843 Redford Village Hall                      £ 25

#### **8. Planning**

There were no applications to discuss

#### **9. Highways**

There are still potholes which need to be reported.

Cllr. Hearle said he was still waiting to hear about the new policy from WSCC on 30 mph speed limits.

#### **10 Speaker Annual Meeting**

David Elliott has kindly agreed to speak. Cllr. Hearle explained that it didn't need to be that long and people would be allowed to ask questions afterwards. He explained that this is more of a social occasion.

#### **11. Winter Plan**

It was agreed that the council needs to find a contractor who will clear roads if needed.

#### **12. Parish Council Election**

This will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> May. More information will be sent out in March.

#### **13. St. Cuthmans**

Cllr Hearle declared an interest.

Cllr Hansford explained the proposed plan had been displayed at an open day 21<sup>st</sup> December but no planning application has been received yet. The clerk was asked to send an e mail to all parish addresses giving an outline of the proposals and asking residents to say if they would like to be kept informed as this application will involve the community.

The group who were involved in the Durand application have agreed to re-convene once the application is received.

It is likely that this group will work in tandem with Stedham parish council. An e mail address has been set up for residents to sign up to if they want to be kept informed.

**14. South Downs Cycling Event**

The clerk has e mailed the organisers to ask if roads will be closed. She has sent details of the event to the council members. Once more is known about the effect it will have on local roads she will e mail the parish with details.

**15. Litter picking event**

This had been very successful in 2022 and repeat event was suggested for the week ending 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023. This was agreed

Proposer: Cllr Hearle Seconder Cllr Talbot-Baker

Further details will be announced later.

**16. Training Days**

There were no suitable ones.

**17. Correspondence**

There was none.

**18. Any other business**

The clerk asked the meeting is there were any plans for celebrate the coronation.

It was agreed that at the Annual Meeting the Chairman would ask the meeting if anyone would like to organise an event.

**19. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March.

The meeting ended at 19.40

Signed ..... Dated  
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