

Public time:

- a. There were no public comments

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Charlie Seligman

In attendance: Bob Hough, Jo Probut, David Ellis, James Bretel, Andrew White, Diccon Harvey

2. **Declarations of interest** Bob: Men's Shed & Freefolk car park, David: PCC & Millennium Green, Diccon: archery club
3. **Signature and approval of minutes** of PC Meeting on 8 Sep 2020.
4. **Bombay Sapphire Update** – B.S. re-opened just after their July PC meeting attendance, with steady numbers but lower than pre-covid. They've had no major hiccups with their limited visitor centre offering. The bus service ceased on 30 Sep and will be reviewed in the New Year. B.S. have not been doing any development (no planning applications). The PC commented that the brick wall by the tank farm was still damaged. Sam will pick up with Paul McHardie. Sam met with the RCEF Overton reps and the project consultant. They have solar panels on site with scope for more but other things have been a priority recently and it is difficult getting corporate attention. Diccon thanked BS for supplying the hand sanitiser for the community. Production has slowed to a trickle but BS are happy to supply or produce to order if needed.
5. **Approval of 30mph B3400 proposal** Andrew went through speed survey results: 58 responses received from c. 150 households = c.39% response rate. 83% supported reduction from 40 to 30 mph. Others commented if drivers don't stick to current speed limit how will they stick to 30 mph. Numerous people mentioned footpaths being too narrow, flooding causing people to cross the road, crossing the road was too difficult with no designated points, lots of vehicles speeding, geometry of roads, junction with Laverstoke Lane/cars coming down Rotten Hill, pulling out in the Watership Down Inn area. There were also comments about cyclists and cars manoeuvring around them dangerously. 81% of respondents had witnessed an accident in the past year. The question of traffic calming was more divisive. Overall, the survey was to ascertain if residents are happy to support the speed reduction proposal and the majority of respondents agreed they were.

Tom Rainsbury spoke about the draft document circulated to council discussing the 'dry' area of rules. HCC (mainly) is responsible for setting local speed limits, with wide discretion that makes it difficult to predict prospects. They must exercise their discretion in accordance with published policies. The main one being a 2013 Circular on Setting Local Speed Limits that highlights: 1. a rule specifying that speed limits in villages should normally be 30mph and 2. general factors that the council applies. So Tom and Andrew have been trying to establish that both L&F are villages. In 2011 HCC previously declined to reduce the speed limit. Andrew & Tom have been gathering evidence of accidents from 3 or 4 sources and have tried to piece the info together with history of collisions, road geometry, junctions/access, points hazards, sharp bends and humpback bridge all considered. The most speed survey (2015) showed an average of 34-37mph i.e. lower than prevailing speed limits.

It was discussed that if we do get a reduced speed limit how will it be enforced. Signs and road markings will probably be needed. It was confirmed that a punchy strong tone should be used as previous PC attempts had been unsuccessful in the past.

It was then discussed that if 30 wasn't achieved the village approach would need to look different (gates/rumble strip), safety improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists given current poor condition of footpaths and sign post of flood risk area. It was felt a more pedestrian-friendly look to the area would show drivers it was appropriate to drive more slowly. It was suggested to get BS on side as the major business in the villages.

John Buckley from Whitchurch PC explained that they currently have 14 traffic schemes being developed. Of particular relevance is work on a traffic calming build out as you enter Whitchurch past Bere Mill lane. They are requesting HCC extend their current 20mph limit a bit further east. John felt that if we go for proposed 30 it should work well with their plan for 20 extension (However, Wells-in the-Field is 40mph and not in L&F). John also mentioned his Sustrans involvement. He is pushing for a link from north/south National Cycleway 246 National, west of Whitchurch to Basingstoke. Rotten Hill is a critical issue in joining Andover and Basingstoke. He also said Overton has suggested use of S106 to improve the link.

Approval of the speed limit reduction proposal and letter to be sent to HCC was proposed by Diccon and seconded by James. All agreed. Diccon thanked Tom for his legal time on this impressive document.

6. Maintenance Items

- 6.1 There is a village clear up at 10.30 on Sat 31st Oct. meeting in the Quiet Garden.
- 6.2 Fly tipping - Litter pick went well with 10 bags collected with 10 people participating. We found 4 separate fly tips which B&D have now collected but massive continuous nuisance and a blight on the area close to the A303 bridge. James suggested continuous surveillance might be good with remote camera and monitoring or fake signs. Diccon mentioned Ashe Warren seemed to have the same problem in one area and had installed cctv and multiple big yellow signs. It looks like this has worked well as there was no litter. **Action:** follow up with relevant PC clerk and look into feasibility with B&D BC.
- 6.3 Moles are actively digging up the archery field – **Action:** suggest Archery club speak to Judd Rolfe
- 6.4 Re-walling opposite Manor Cottages. Laverstoke Park are on the case but struggling to get people to quote
- 6.5 Bob was thanked for producing the grind rail on the kick-about-court.
- 6.6 Nicky has spoken to Gary Boom about the summer littering at the weir and has forwarded feedback to the Councillors **Action:** request landowner re-instates the old sign (Private Land, No swimming). The old board has foliage in front of it and has an official A5 sign danger, deep water stuck on it.
- 6.7 Part of an LRH lobby ceiling tile became sodden and fell. Two Day Roofing have been out to review and are coming out to fix leak
- 6.8 Clerk has asked Dan from BES to quote for electrical work for hall resulting from the fixed electrical test that was done upstairs. **Action:** get quotes for all the work with view to work being done in Christmas break if possible
- 6.9 New smoke detectors and zone chart in LRH - Southern Fire have proactively quoted for replacement of our 10 smoke detectors and installation of a zone chart at £580. This seems excessive but It is important for the fire brigade in case of fire and isn't just the printing of a chart, it is a 2-man job. James says he can do a plan

but on balance thinks it would be better if S Fire did it all as one job. James proposed and Jo seconded the spend. All agreed.

- 6.10 Contribution to Playground safety checks – the playground is checked weekly by B&D and they are going to start charging Parish Councils £500 p.a. to do this from 2021. The playground is owned by the Millennium Green but is supported by the PC. It was discussed that this charge is effectively a double taxation by B&D – charging for something tax is already paid on/towards. We used to get a small grant towards it but no longer. It was felt we should object to the process with other councils. The Millennium Green have discussed. They already have an independent annual external inspection which will continue. David has checked the recommendation for weekly checking. It can be done by local people – there is no requirement for a formal inspector. The Millennium Green would like to take up B&D's offer of training and get people involved in a rota. The decision deadline is end Dec. If no one comes forward then we may have to go with B&D for a year and the PC may be asked for 50% contribution. In the long run it was felt the village needed to do it ourselves. A weekly inspection by B&D is uneconomic (less than £10 a week for inspection!) and it is anticipated that on that basis it would have to be increased annually. In order to take it on 8 – 10 people will be needed in a rota. There is no high-risk equipment e.g. hire wires. It was felt that if the precept was in danger of being increased people may volunteer! **Action:** determine how many can go on the inspection course and whether it is online and being recorded for future use. Ask Overton and Whitchurch what they are considering. Nicky to liaise with David.
- 6.11 It was felt that with bandwidth issues on this video call a paid solution should be used. David volunteered his zoom account be used.
7. **Car Park Freefolk Sovereign proposal** – awaiting update from Sovereign following PC feedback on their proposal which was discussed at the last PC meeting.
8. **Covid-19 update:** it was suggested we note the tier level at our future meetings and discuss accordingly.
9. **Climate Change:** The consultant from RenewEV met with Nicky. Unfortunately, our combined Community hall & Kingfisher does not utilise enough electricity to make inclusion in the RCEF project viable
10. **Community Site update**
- 10.1 **Pavilion** – QR code went up. Tennis need to have separate QR code if they are to use the toilet facilities
- 1.1 **LRH** - Nicky has spent a lot of time considering the LRH covid risk assessment for activities such as yoga to start up again. It has been difficult to estimate the overall risk. Diccon pointed out that severity will vary considerably by potential class attendee. The yoga teacher has sent through their risk assessment based on another hall with cleaners. In LRH the nursery will close for 2 weeks in case of covid but shutting the hall itself could be for just 72 hours. Diccon highlighted the 2 main issues in a 'positive' case 1. Cleaning and 2. 2 weeks closure. The nursery is v important to the community but it rather holds us to ransom on this point. It was felt overall that we should start liaising with the nursery about a route to re-opening and work on a joint plan for living with covid – including hours shut, possibly with a cleaning contractor on standby, using track and trace guidance to determine if the hall needs to be closed (from 48 hours prior to symptoms starting). James suggested, given current hospital admissions increasing and likely

more idea on a vaccine timeline, we agree a way forward with the nursery with a view to opening up to managed lettings in the New Year i.e. we plan on living with covid. **Action:** Nicky to start conversation with nursery about opening up from new year and living with covid now.

1.2 Archery/Tennis area – no news

2. Finance

2.1 **Sep 2020 summary** - see below tables where items in red are those that have changed over prior month (excluding totals). Amounts over £100 ex VAT in:

Income: B&D Precept £5000; Watership Down nursery £672.25

Outgoing: Clerk Aug Pay: £402.63 (=£362.37PC+£40.26CC); EON £119.98; PKF Littlejohn £200

Transfer: PC Business money manager to PC current account £1000

2.2 A list has been generated of regular items of work and payments made. It includes items over £250 that need full council approval.

Regular order/payment items for pre-approval by Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council (includes greater than £250 ex vat items)

Parish Council

Scofell (grounds maintenance, £153.56 p.m.)

Hants County Council Streetlights (as per half yearly bill)

Clerk Pay (£362.37 p.m.)

Clerk utility contribution (£18 p.m.)

HP for ink (friends and family discount, PC direct debit card)

Hampshire County Supplies (paper, loo rolls etc)

Information Commissioner's Office (£35 p.a.)

Speed Indicator Device (6 outings p.a. £690)

Transfers between PC Business Money Manager and PC Current account (normally £1000)

Community Centre Site

EON (approved in March 2019 for 2 years)

CNG (approved in March 2019 for 2 years)

Ryan Dickinson Boiler contract (£16.66 p.m.)

Southern Fire protection (Annual alarm and 6 monthly extinguisher tests c. £183.40)

Clerk Pay (£40.26 p.m.)

HMRC VAT

Transfers between Community Site and PC accounts where re-allocation needed (e.g. where cleaning materials bought with stationery; B&D paid precept in wrong account)

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Bob proposed and James seconded approving the list. All agreed.

- 2.3 There has been a grant application from Millennium Green for playground insurance of £845. It was discussed but the PC needed first to increase budget allocation. Grant spend to date includes £250 from a donation for Covid, this leaves £245 to be found from elsewhere. About £300 of the SID budget will not be used this year so the money can be moved from here. A motion to move budget and approve playground insurance grant was proposed by Bob and seconded by Andrew. All agreed.

3. Correspondence

- 3.1 Display of official NHS QR code poster from 24 September 2020 on community buildings – 2 on community centre and one on Men's Shed
- 3.2 Basingstoke & Deane Local Plan consultation and deadline 4pm Monday 9 November 2020 **Action:** review and put in newsletter {subsequently found to be a PC's consultation so not included}.

4. Planning –

- 11.1 T/00480/20/TCA – Tree work at Laverstoke House, Laverstoke Park. 2 monolith poplars to be cut into 8m pole; fell mature ash in major decline (possible ash dieback); fell veteran beech with basal decay & canopy in decline; fell dead horse chestnut & fell mature decaying beech. Discussed, no TPO to be made.
- 11.2 20/01952/FUL - 1 Bere Mill Cottages London Road Whitchurch Hampshire RG28 7NH. Proposal: Change of use of part of equestrian barn to equine assisted therapy centre (part retrospective). Discussed and no comments to be made.

Next PC meeting: Tues 10th Nov 2020 at 7.30pm online. If a member of the public wishes to join please contact laverstokeclerk@gmail.com or 07725 368012

Sign.....Date.....

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Laverstoke & Freefolk Parish Council					
Month:	Sep	Year	2020/21		
	(Mnth 6 of 12)				
Income and Expenditure Statement (Cash basis)					
		Parish Council		Lady Rose Hall/Community Site	
		Year to Date	Full year	Year to Date	Full year
		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget tbc
		£	£	£	£
Precept		5,000	10,000	5,000	n/a
Grants		334	334	10,000	n/a
Donation*		500		-	
Hall Hire - Nursery		n/a	n/a	2,689	6,723
Hall Hire & deposits - Other		n/a	n/a	-	887
Other Rent (WTC & Archers)		n/a	n/a	1,903	1,903
Other income (PC- interest, CC- WDN utilities, Kingf insur)		2	20	1,638	1,627
Income		5,836	10,354	21,231	11,140
Salary/Newsletter/utills		2,273	4,543	207	463
Training		-		n/a	
Insurance		-	765	-	587
Professional fees		783	750	42	13
Grounds Maint.		851	1,560	250	500
Street Lighting		188	343	n/a	n/a
Street Furniture		-	-	n/a	n/a
SID Management		-	957	n/a	n/a
Other expenses		164	159	n/a	n/a
Cleaning		n/a	n/a	-	200
Utilities		n/a	n/a	642	2,108
Bldgs Repair/Maint.		n/a	n/a	160	1,000
Bldgs Planned Maint.		n/a	n/a	283	796
Rates		n/a	n/a	-	-
Running costs		4,259	9,077	1,584	5,667
Grants Made*		850	1,200	-	-
Project cost			-		-
Net Vat		273		-	-
Total Expenditure		5,382	10,277	807	5,667
Net income/(cost)		454	77	20,424	5,473
		As at end:	Full year	As at end:	Full year
		Sep	Budget	Sep	Budget
		£	£	£	£
Cash reserves					
b/f @31.3.20		5,104	5,053	44,750.77	44,751
Movement		454	77	20,424	5,473
Cash reserves c/f		5,559	5,130	65,174	50,224
* NB £250 of donation has been awarded as a grant					