

## **Minutes**

### **Meeting of Ampfield Parish Council: Monday 13 January 2025**

**Held at Ampfield Village Hall, 7:00pm to 8:30pm**

#### **Present**

*Members of Ampfield Parish Council:*

Chairman Bryan Nanson  
Vice Chairman Chris Ling  
Cllr Graham Roads  
Cllr Julie Trotter (also minute taker)

#### **Others**

Locum Clerk Kate Orange (until agenda item 8)  
Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC)'s Councillor Sally Yalden (until agenda item 6)

#### **Apologies**

4593 Apologies were received from Cllr Julian Jones and Cllr. Jason Reeves.

#### **Previous Meeting**

4594 The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 11 November 2024 were agreed.

#### **Minutes of Planning Committee**

4595 The Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 2 December 2024 were noted.

#### **Matters arising from the Minutes**

4596 None.

#### **Declarations of Interest in the business for the Meeting**

4597 No Councillor had any interest to declare in any of the business on the agenda for the Meeting.

#### **Test Valley Borough Council - Sally Yalden to report**

4598 The report from Borough Councillor Sally Yalden was noted and is attached to these Minutes.

**Public Participation** - if necessary, the Council will adjourn for a maximum period of 20 minutes

4599 Item 11 (a) Offer of bench – Jane and Louise Fenner attended the meeting to ask if they could provide a bench at Ampfield Recreation Ground in memory of Paul Fenner who passed away recently. The family have lived in Ampfield for twenty years and Paul was an active member of the Village Design Statement team.

APC accepted the kind offer and suggested that Jane liaise with Dave Hunt of ANBCC to decide on a precise location (possibly on the veranda of the Pavilion).

#### **Financial Matters**

4600 **a. Bank reconciliation** - The Council received the bank reconciliation to the end of

December 2024.  
RESOLVED

The Council received the calculation of working capital to the end of December 2024.  
RESOLVED

4601 **b. Accounts for payment** - It was agreed that the following payments should be made:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Cllr. Chris Ling: Refund of expenses: UPS (Server Room Environments)	£ 125.76
Staff Costs: Locum	£ 240.00
Cllr. Graham Roads: Plants and bulbs (from Waitrose donation)	£ 296.67
Total (including VAT)	£ 662.43

RESOLVED

It was noted that the following payments had been made between Meetings:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1 x allotment deposits refund	£ 75.00
ANBCC	£7,579.60
ICO data registration	£ 40.00
SLCC membership for Clerk	£ 80.00
Staff costs: locum	£ 144.00
TVBC grounds maintenance	£ 669.82
E.On	£ 184.36
Website	£ 23.98
Calor service charge	£ 17.99
Mobile WIFI data	£ 16.00
Total (including VAT)	£8,830.75
Total payments	£9,492.18

Cllr Ling had to return the first UPS to the retailer and refunded £90.82 to APC on 23 December 2024.

RESOLVED

4602 **c. Income and anticipated expenditure**

It was noted that the Council had received the following income during December 2024:

<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
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Interest	£ 229.80
Memorial fee	£ 18.00
Allotment rents	£ 60.00
Total (including VAT)	£ 307.80

**RESOLVED**

The Council received the report of expenditure against budget to the end of December 2024.  
**RESOLVED**

**4603 d. TVBC Grounds Maintenance Quote**

It was proposed to appoint Test Valley Borough Council for the grounds maintenance work set out in their quotation for the total sum £5,366.26.

**RESOLVED**

**4604 e. Review of Burial Ground charges**

It was proposed to increase the charges for the burial ground by 3% from 1 April 2025.

**RESOLVED**

**4605 f. Review of ANBCC licence fees**

It was proposed that the rent for Ampfield and North Baddesley Cricket Club, for year commencing 1 April 2025, would be £2202.

**RESOLVED**

**4606 g. Review of pavilion charges**

It was proposed that the pavilion charges be increased by £5 per hour from 1 April 2025.

**RESOLVED**

**4607 h. Budget and precept 2025/26**

It was proposed to adopt the Budget for the year ending 31 March 2026. Locum Clerk Kate Orange is to notify TVBC of the precept for 2025/26.

**RESOLVED**

**Recruitment of Clerk/RFO**

4608 Kate Orange is to carry on as Locum Clerk until the end of March 2025. Locum arrangements continue.

**Pollinator Pledge — update**

4609 None.

### **Recreation Ground / Pavilion**

#### **4610 a. Update & offer of bench**

Eon are to fit an electricity smart meter on 23 January 2025. The kind offer of the bench was accepted. The water boiler is not available from suppliers until the end of February 2025.

RESOLVED

#### **4611 b. ANBCC projects**

As agreed, a payment of £7,579.60 has been made to ANBCC to pay their contractor. The balance of £4,939.40 is held by APC pending future ANBCC projects. ANBCC are looking to replace the Scorers Hut (bar) with a more substantial building, as well as other initiatives. Planning permission for the replacement for the Scorers Hut may be needed.

RESOLVED

#### **4612 c. Path project**

The Rural England Prosperity Fund grant application was successful. A grant of £3,158 was obtained, representing 75% of the quoted price of £4,211. APC has agreed to fund the balance from ARG reserves. An s.106 grant application for £962 was made on 29 October 2024. The s.106 process is now (just) underway. The contractor has advised us he will start work on Monday 27 January 2025.

#### **4613 d. PV Grant application**

Our grant application for solar panels and battery storage at the pavilion was unsuccessful.

### **Chapel Wood**

#### **4614 a. Update**

Cllr. Graham Roads provided an update. Bluebells, daffodils, snowdrops and anemones have now been planted. Trees are to be sourced from the Woodland Trust to provide two seasons of interest, flowers and fruit.

#### **4615 b. Purchase of bulbs**

Cllr. Graham Roads said this is now complete.

### **Burial Ground - update**

4616 Cllr. Graham Roads is waiting for JN Landscapes who are currently behind schedule and should be able to start work in February. Some boundary posts have been replaced by the Friends of Chapel Wood working party with a gap being left where the wires are repeatedly cut.

### **War Memorial**

#### **4617 a. Update**

Awaiting confirmation from Cllr. Martin Hatley about payment for reproduction of a photo before proceeding with a copy.

#### **4618 b. Addition of Tommys**

A little Tommy is to be purchased. Cllr. Martin Hatley is to investigate how to purchase one which will give the Royal British Legion a percentage. The purchase of one to match the existing one was

approved.

RESOLVED

**Morleys Green - Update**

4619 No update.

**Allotments - Update**

4620 Fourteen allotment users have renewed, one new user has joined, one user has cancelled with effect from 15 December 2024. There are currently two vacant plots. Cllr. Julian Jones will cover the newly vacant plot with weed suppressant fabric. The user who has cancelled will be issued with a £45 refund (nine months). Chairman Bryan Nanson is to amend the allotment rules to clarify the refund policy.

**Telephone Kiosk - Update**

4621 Cllr. Julian Jones had contacted the Chairman saying that the restoration of the windows will be completed by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**Highways**

**4622 a. Update**

One reflective bollard on the Straight Mile has been replaced by HCC Highways. Another one has now been damaged. Damaged posts at Green Pond Lane have been reported to HCC Highways. A fly tip behind the Green Pond Lane bus shelter was reported to TVBC who promptly removed it.

**4623 b. Cycle path proposal**

No update.

**Resilience – consideration of drinking water supplied in Village Hall**

4624 In Cllr. Martin Hatley's absence, no discussion took place.

**Acquisition of ampfield.gov.uk domain and transition of website to that domain**

4625 Our website supplier Hugofox are now a registrar for .gov.uk domain names. The domain name is free for a website. Best practice is to maintain the website in parallel on our current domain for at least one year. Vice Chairman Chris Ling has applied for up to 5 email addresses on the domain ampfield.gov.uk. A one hundred pound grant is available which should cover us for ten months at £9.99 per month. If we choose to migrate emails, we will go onto an up to 10 email addresses tariff at £17.49 per month. Agreed to go ahead with the domain for the website and to trial the emails with a decision later as to whether to change them.

RESOLVED

**Reports from Committees and Portfolio Holders**

4626 The Lengthsman visited on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**Correspondence and Communications**

4627 None.

**Fix date of Parish Assembly and Newsletter**

4628 A date of 19 May 2025 was fixed for the Parish Assembly. Chairman Bryan Nanson is to

ask Cllr. Jason Reeves if he is prepared to edit the Annual Newsletter again this year.

**Next Meetings**

4629 The next ordinary Meeting will be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 10 February 2025.

4630 The next Planning Committee meeting will be held at Ampfield Village Hall at 7pm on Monday 20 January 2025.

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Chairman -----

Date -----

## December 2024 Report from Cllr Sally Yalden Test Valley Borough Councillor

### Planning Inspectorate appeal decisions.

Three appeal decisions to report this month. It's worth reading the case of Broadwater Road and the redevelopment of Edwina Mountbatten House.

[Bough House, Land west of Sandhill Farm, Salisbury Road, Sherfield English](#). The development proposed is erection of 1 no. dwelling house of outstanding design combined with partial change of use from agricultural to residential land, and creation of extensive landscaping scheme.

**Appeal dismissed.**

[Kingfisher Lodge, Longstock, Stockbridge](#). The development proposed is single storey extension and alterations at Kingfisher Lodge to construct exercise pool with jacuzzi and associated plant room shed, together with workshop extension to existing single storey garage with art studio/annex over. **Appeal dismissed.**

[Broadwater Road, Romsey](#). The development proposed is Redevelopment for Retirement Living accommodation comprising of 47 retirement apartments including communal facilities, access, car parking and landscaping. **Appeal allowed.**

**Councillor community grant** This financial year's grant is still **£1,168.51**, but a prospective application from a community group is in the pipeline.

### Planning matters

There is still uncertainty regarding the scale and location of future housing developments in the Borough. Until the Government has confirmed the planning reforms and the Council has a new local plan in place and a 5-year supply of housing, then that uncertainty will continue. Given this situation I would expect landowners/ site promoters to be collecting evidence to support their case.

### Greenhouse gas report for 2023-24 and Climate Emergency Action Plan Progress Update

The council's annual greenhouse gas report for 2023/24 is now live on the website. The report shows that during 2023/24 there was about a 60% drop in the reported gross greenhouse gas emissions and a 68% drop in net greenhouse gas emissions, compared to 2022/23. A significant contribution to this reduction was the transition to HVO in April 2023 in council's fleet vehicles.

A progress update for the Climate Emergency Action Plan (2020) was also published. It outlines the latest greenhouse gas position and also updates on action taken.

Both documents are available to view at: [Climate Emergency Action Plan | Test Valley Borough Council](#).

### Air quality survey

The UK government requires all local authorities to produce an air quality strategy, working towards improving air quality for everyone.

Air quality has improved in England over recent decades, however, it continues to be one of the biggest environmental risks to public health.

The council are asking residents for their thoughts and opinions on air quality in Test Valley in order to help produce a strategy that best serves the people in the borough.

Please share the following link with your communities: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/TVBCairquality](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TVBCairquality)

### **Full Council meeting 11 December**

Two motions were passed from my colleagues Cllrs Geoff Cooper and Nik Daas and supported cross-party with an amendment. One was to instruct the Council's Chief Executive to write to the Chief Executive of Post Office Ltd and to the Government's Business Minister to express the Council's deep opposition to the proposed closure of Romsey Post Office.

The second motion was about establishing an Insulation Fund for supporting vulnerable residents in Test Valley to tackle fuel poverty.

I was also able to ask a question to the Portfolio Holder for Recycling and Environmental Service about staffing of the food waste collection vehicles and the timescale for roll-out.

### **Meeting about Mobile Park Homes**

I had a meeting with Deborah Vincent who is the Principal Environmental Health Officer for Housing and Environmental Health Service and Matthew Laws who is a Private Sector Housing Officer in the same team. The purpose of the meeting was to familiarise myself with their work and responsibilities about the parks and landlords' responsibilities in the Ampfield Ward.

### **Local Government Reorganisation, Devolution and Local Elections in May**

I have copied the link to the paper [from here](#). This is a paragraph from the government's website: *The English Devolution White Paper sets out the government's plans to widen and deepen devolution across England, providing mayors with unprecedented powers and funding and hardwiring them into the way government works.*

There is a full cabinet meeting at HCC on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January ([agenda from here](#)) to discuss recommendations for Hampshire and vote on joining the priority list to become a Strategic Authority. As such, district/borough councils would be combined as part of a major restructure. We will end up with a large authority covering a large geographical area. Of particular concern and note is one of the cabinet's recommendations that the County elections in May be postponed for a year or more. (In my opinion, this would be a severe blow for democracy.)