

**MINUTES OF THE 122ND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD
14TH MARCH 2016**

Councillors Present: Cllr. Margaret Allingham, Cllr. Stephanie Arnold, Cllr. Paul Carnell, Cllr. Ian Corben, Cllr. Cynthia Garton, Cllr. Jerry Hall, Cllr. Jim Mitchell, Cllr. Emma Norman (Chairman), Cllr. Derek Pretty (from 19.20 hours), Cllr. Jane Welsh, Cllr. Christopher Yates

In attendance:

County Cllr. Bruce Tennent
Borough Councillor Rupert Kyrle
David Lloyds

PM1 Apologies

Cllr. Keith House, Cllr. Shankerlal Sthankiya

PM2 Welcome to the Worshipful The Mayor of Eastleigh, Cllr. Jane Welsh

The Mayor of Eastleigh took the opportunity of thanking the Town Council for the kind invitation to attend this meeting and stated it was a pleasure to be in attendance. She reported that it has been a great and pleasurable mayoral year and an absolute privilege meeting diverse people from different walks of lives.

PM3 Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly of the Meeting of 30 March 2015

The Minutes were unanimously agreed and the Chairman signed them as being a correct record.

PM4 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of 30 March 2015

There were no matters arising.

PM5 Retiring Town Council Chairman's Report

The Retiring Chairman gave her report. She commenced her report by thanking all the staff at the Town Council for their support during her year as Chairman. She also thanked all fellow councillors for their support. She stated she very much enjoyed her time as Chairman and she admitted she was a little sad that it was coming to an end. She has met some lovely people and been invited to many exciting events. As a memorable event, she went to a fantastic performance organised by Wildern School of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat', She considered it to be a great honour to lay the community wreath on behalf of the Town Council on Remembrance Day. She highlighted the Christmas Lights event at which the Chairman compered the event and sang along to the many songs that were played.

The Chairman felt that her greatest achievement was working in the heart of the community and making Hedge End a dementia friendly town. All the shops and businesses were very supportive of this project and it took six months to undertake the training sessions. The Chairman advised that she wrote each of the individually tailored Action Plans and the dementia friendly event launched in August with volunteers and the work continues. She thanked all for the opportunity of being Chairman and considered it to be an honour to wear the Badge of Office.

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PM6 Town Council Financial Report

The Town Clerk, on behalf of Cllr. Derek Pretty, made the following report.

'I am pleased to advise you that our financial accounts for the fiscal year ending 31 March 2015 are available on-line. They have been subject to strict scrutiny by our own auditor and then presented to independent external auditors for final approval and comment. Approval was received and the certified accounts presented to, and approved, by Full Council.

As I say, they represent the financial activities of this Council and their accuracy is the result of the continuing efforts of our Responsible Finance Officer, or Town Clerk as we all know him. He presents the figures to the finance and administration committee every month for approval and the members of that committee are able to scrutinise them and ask questions where needed. It is by this means that we have been able to maintain the tight financial control that has been required over recent years. These accounts are always available on the Hedge End Town Council Website.

We continue to support Youth Services in conjunction with other partners.

In conclusion, although we are committing ourselves to a number of projects, I am able to confirm that our precept for 2016/2017 will be the same as last year. A zero % increase achieved by the careful financial management and controls of the Council and staff'.

PM7 HEWEB Youth Council Report

Donna Love provided an update to the Box and the Youth Partnership. She reported on the participation of young people within Hedge End Carnival, the further development of The Beat Box Music Studio, successful trips/parties for young people – recreational opportunities, healthy living workshops including: internet safety, mental health, cyber bullying, tattoos and piercings, self-harm and many others.

There has been a major development of a junior youth programme to run alongside the seniors and the Box has seen an increase in numbers to the Junior Group.

The Friday Night Project at The Box has seen increased numbers to an extent that has resulted in a waiting list. There is a full curriculum of activities and events and the programme aims to increase confidence and life skills for group members. The Box members have created an FNP chill space thanks to a Rotary Club donation. Donna Love proceeded to outline The Box grants and funding highlights and reports on The Box staffing. She outlined The Box 'training and development' strategies and gave details of the numbers of attendees.

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A vote of thanks was declared by the Chairman for Donna Love and her team, which was unanimously agreed.

PM8 Borough and County Council Reports

Cllr. Rupert Kyrle gave his report on the HEWEB key issues for the Hedge End, West End and Botley (HEWEB) Local Area Committee in 2015/2016.

'The HEWEB Local Area Committee represents the largest of the 5 local area within the Borough of Eastleigh and it comprises: 13 ward councillors and is supported by an Area Co-ordinator and specialist Borough Council officers. The Committee determined whether to permit or refuse planning applications. To date, during 2015, 12 applications have been considered with one further Committee still to be held on 21 March. The applications for Land at Hedge End North, Winchester Road; Land off Botley Road, West End and Bubb Lane (200 dwellings) were refused planning permission. Planning appeals for these sites are due to be held from April 2016 onwards.

I am pleased to report that 29 different grant applications were received this year and a total of £7,130 was allocated to local organisations ranging from retirement groups, playgroups, the twinning association and history society. The Committee also allocates youth grants and this year, 12 groups shared £4,089. The TADIC is mainly based at the Hedge End Medical Centre and we are pleased to continue to support this valuable service and match funding of £5,500 each has been agreed with Hedge End Town Council'.

Cllr. Rupert Kyrle touched on financial support given to Itchen Valley Country Park, Wildern and Ageas Bowl. He provided updates on Transport matters, public art, Health and Well-Being, Streetscene, Partnership Working, Finance and Future Priorities.

Cllr. Bruce Tennent gave the following Hampshire County Council report:

'For my County Report, I want to touch on the issues that affected our community during the last 12 months and will no doubt remain with some prominence during the next 12 months. A large number of footpaths will be resurfaced in Lower New Road and Chapel Road during the next 12 months and pelican to puffin conversions. Bradbeers roundabout in Botley Road was a major project that local residents had been asking for, for many years. It has achieved its aim of increasing the through flow of traffic but due to financial difficulties of one of the many subcontractors, there was a significant delay in its completion with respect to the cosmetic appearance of the centre island of the roundabout.

Public Health development to local government is moving at a pace, with national funding via the 'Better Care Fund' increasing year on year. Moorgreen Hospital is affected by this under project Vanguard where through a series of pilot programmes, a new model of primary health care is being developed by the CCGs, which will include a replacement

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for the new closed Bitterne walk-in centre. Southern Health NHS grew out of the old primary care trust and is now under close scrutiny of local government elected members'.

Cllr. Bruce Tennent provided updates to education and advised members of the successful recipients from his County Councillors devolved budget scheme. He also advised that Council Tax will increase for Hampshire County Council by 3.99%.

PM9 Reports from Local Organisations

David Lloyds provided the Hedge End Carnival report:

'The Hedge End Carnival takes place the first Saturday of July and has been going since 1921, so this year will be our 95th anniversary. The Carnival serves two purposes: one is to raise money for local voluntary organisations and the other is to provide entertainment for the people of Hedge End. Last year, we have away almost £4,000 to Hedge End area organisations. This included a free lunch for senior citizens in October, another standard event that has been going on for many years. We have other events during the course of the year, such as the Firework Fiesta and Funfair in November, a quiz night in January and sponsoring the 'Swing Commanders' in February or March'.

David Lloyds went on to explain that the Hedge End Carnival committee is seeking new members and that the carnival is a family event and encouraged everyone to join in the fun.

David Lloyds gave another report on the St John's Church Wildlife Haven and Peace Garden.

'The Wildlife Haven and Peace Garden is located behind St John's Church and is a natural area of land, which has been allowed to flourish with wild flowers, bird boxes, a wood pile for little creatures and a board walk along a small pond. There is a rockery and a wildlife area. The Pace Garden is a quiet area, where people who are troubled or bereaved can sit and find comfort among the lovely flowers'.

David Lloyds explained to all present that the garden is maintained by volunteers from Hedge End and that anyone and everyone is welcome. On June 25th, there will be a party to celebrate the tenth anniversary since the official opening by Bishop Paul of Southampton.

PM10 Presentation of 'Serving the Community' Awards and 'Best Cultivated Allotment' Awards by the Mayor

The Worshipful The Mayor of Eastleigh, Cllr. Jane Welsh, presented Andrew Jemmett with the coveted 'Serving the Community Award. Thereafter, she announced the annual allotment awards for 2015/2016. She presented certificates for highly recommended allotment cultivation together with the annual shield for the best cultivated allotment for Spring Field and that of Kaness Field.

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PM11 Public Questions

None recorded.

There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.38 hours.