

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL
MEETING HELD 18 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Cllrs. Present: Cllr Margaret Allingham, Cllr George Brown, Cllr Paul Carnell, Cllr Ian Corben, Cllr Tonia Craig, Cllr Cynthia Garton, Cllr Keith House, Cllr Pat Jenkins, Cllr John Jupe, Cllr Lucy Jurd (Chair), Cllr Dave Kinloch, Cllr Rupert Kyrle, Cllr Jim Mitchell, Cllr Cliff Morris, Cllr Derek Pretty, Cllr Ben Thomas, Cllr Jane Welsh

In attendance: Nigel Patterson, Kings Community Church and a member of the public.

1. Apologies

Cllr. Helen Corben, Cllr Ron Nichols, Cllr Anne Small

2. Public Questions not on the Agenda

A member of the public asked for the turnout at the recent by election. Cllr House confirmed that the turnout was 19.7%.

3. Declarations of Interest

None were recorded.

4. To Receive a Police Report

Sergeant Matt Moss attended the meeting, Sgt Moss explained his role in Hedge End. Sgt Kerry Rudge is starting next month and there will be some additional police officers.

Sgt Moss went through the structures outlining that there are 8 PCs and 9 PCSOs for the whole of the HEWEB and HHB. The response team are also based in Hedge End.

The PC responsible for Hedge End is PC Emma Roberts. PC Simpson will also be joining the team soon. PCSO Stacey McDevitt and PCSO Tracey Chilcock will be working Hedge End as well.

Sgt Moss spoke about the Force Control Strategy and the high-risk areas such as Terrorism, Domestic Abuse and Fraud. This places pressure on the response to residents concerns such as speeding.

Cllr Garton raised the issues of HGV and speeding on St Johns Road as there have been lots of e-mails from residents and there is a restriction in place. Sgt Moss said that this wouldn't be a priority under the Force Control Strategy however he is encouraging officers to stop and check HGVs

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however, there are difficulties associated with this. Cllr Garton also asked about the cover when Hedge End officers are moved to support out of area teams. Sgt Moss confirmed that when one area falls short then cover is sought from other areas, these will be for significant issues.

Cllr Welsh spoke about the lack of resources when you ring 101. Sgt Moss outlined that in August 59,000 calls were made to 101 with an average answer time of within 59 seconds.

Cllr Craig sits on the PCC Scrutiny Panel and this is not the reported answering time that they are seeing. Why is there a constant turnover of sergeants? Sgt Moss outlined that that Sgt Kat Mann went to Custody and this is a resource pull on the sergeant rank as personnel are rotated frequently to cover this. Cllr Craig asked how many officers are on at any one time. Sgt Moss said the variables change meaning this is always different. At this point he would expect 7-8 officers this evening. Cllr Craig outlined a recent incident where information was gathered and shared with the police and yet it took two hours to get a call back.

Cllr Jupe asked about sergeants moves and if people have a say in their next postings. Sgt Moss confirmed that the Chief Constable is able to post personnel anywhere in Hampshire and Isle of Wight area.

Cllr House asked Sgt Moss what the Town Council can do to assist the police in their role. Sgt Moss confirmed we have a lot of community speedwatch volunteers that could be used on some of the hotspots. Cllr House would like a further conversation about how public sector can work better in collaboration.

Cllr Garton asked if Hedge End has been affected by County Lines. Sgt Moss said there was an issue but not to the same level as other areas. In general, there are no people coming from out of the area to deal drugs within the area.

Cllr Jupe asked if the Gazette could be used to promote preventative measures. Sgt Moss confirmed that there was material available for publication.

Cllr Craig stated that anything we could do to lobby the Police and Crime Commissioner to increase capacity and give more priority to the issues that really affect local residents.

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Cllr Welsh asked about the response to drugs. Sgt Moss confirmed that this is not prioritised across the country although the HE team will always try and take this seriously, especially the training.

A member of the public asked that if details of the HGVs are taken would the issues be followed up. Sgt Moss said that is team are trying to follow all these up.

Cllr Jurd asked about future attendance at full council by a PCSO. The commitment is for once a quarter.

Cllr Garton thanked Sgt Moss for taking the time to answer the questions. Cllr Garton also asked if peoples vehicles in unauthorised encampments are checked.

Cllr Morris asked about unauthorised encampment and if there are records kept seeing if there are returners and the possibilities of sharing this for any returners once an injunction has been obtained. Sgt Moss said that there are information sharing agreements in place for some authorities.

5. To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17 July 2019

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 July 2019 be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

6. Chair's Remarks

Cllr Jurd welcome Cllr Sheila Baynes to the meeting from the recent By-election.

The Chairman reminded the councillors of the date for the Fireworks Fiesta on the 9th November and the Remembrance Parade is on the 10th November meeting in the 2000 Centre car park.

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7. Resolved Items for NOTING Only:

- a) Highways & Planning Committee – 17 July 2019, 31 July 2019 & 4 September 2019
(Minute H275, H279, H280, H285, H288 and H289)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 17 July 2019, 31 July 2019 and 4 September be received.

- b) Policy & Resources Committee – 3 September 2019
(Minute P892, P893, P894, P895, P896 & P897)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 3 September 2019 be received.

- c) Recreation & Amenities Committee – 11 September 2019
(Minute R153 b & c, R154 a & b, R156, R158 and R159a, b & c)
That the Minutes of the meeting of the 11 September 2019 be received.

8. Application to MHCLG for borrowing

Councillors discussed the proposal and agreed that an application should be made to MHCLG for the additional funding to complete the works associated with the Old School House. Councillors agreed that £45,000 over a 5-year term would be an acceptable level of loan repayments at circa £7k per annum.

RESOLVED: To seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for a PWLB loan of £45,000 over the borrowing term of 5 years for the refurbishment of The Old School House. The annual loan repayments will come to around £7,081.

9. Eastleigh Borough Council and Hampshire County Council Reports

Cllr Craig outlined that there was money available in the grants pot and a bid would be welcomed from the young lady who presented to the R&A committee about the bees project.

Cllr Garton spoke about the works taking place from the A27 to the Thornhill roundabout. Permission was given for two additional holes on the golf course, car parking for major events for a maximum of 12 occasions per annum.

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The next HEWEB Local Area Committee is on Monday 30 September at 7pm in the 2000 Centre.

Cllr Pretty outlined the development near Hamilton Business Park. The Cheltenham Gardens balancing pond is expected to begin soon.

Cllr Kyrle spoke about Hampshire County Council efficiency savings which will see a further £80m taken from budgets. The council are looking to increase the Hampshire element of the council tax to the maximum 2% plus the 2% for adult social care.

Recycling rates are currently only at 40% which is behind the current averages elsewhere in the country and this is mostly attributed to the provider who is unwilling to resell to market some of the items that come into the recycling. There is a will to have a standardised collection across Hampshire so that the provider is better able to resell to market based on quantities. There are proposals to increase the charges for soil and rubble at household waste recycling centres. There will also be an introduction of charges for wood.

The council are also looking at more light dimming initiatives. Highways are now in a managed decline although the dragon patcher is producing good results.

There have been 3 accidents on Kings Copse avenue recently whilst recognising this is not within Hedge End boundaries. Cllr Kyrle has written to the Assistant Director for some speed reduction measures in that area.

Cllr Jurd asked about the county reserves. Cllr House confirmed that reserves are still increasing and are now in excess of half a billion. The explanation for this is that reserves is one off funding that does not meet the annual expenditure, which is why the council tax increases come in to meet the annual expenditure. The reserves are therefore planned for invest to save projects. The overall county budget is over a billion and much of this is passported direct to schools. Removing this and the ring fenced adult social care was approximately £300m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.53pm.