

PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

A meeting of the Petersfield Town Council was held at the Town Hall, Petersfield on 1 August 2011.

PRESENT: Cllr G Watkinson (Town Mayor), Cllr R Ayer, Cllr V Clarke, Cllr Mrs L Farrow, Cllr Mrs S Farrow, Cllr Mrs S Harwood, Cllr P Marshall, Cllr C Mills, Cllr W Organ and Cllr Ms M Vincent.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Mr N Hitch (Town Clerk), Mrs S McMorran (Deputy Town Clerk), Cllr Mrs H Ayer (EHDC Councillor), Cllr Mrs J Butler (EHDC Councillor), PCSO A Toogood and 4 members of the public.

C 0198 TOWN MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Town Mayor advised that he had attended a meeting, called by Community Life to discuss what, if anything, Petersfield should do to mark the Olympic Games in 2012. The event was also attended by representatives of Petersfield businesses and EHDC. It was decided to proceed with writing a Vision Document for the hire of a large TV screen and stage to be sited on The Square from 27 July for 2 weeks. One of the outcomes of the meeting was a statement that EHDC were aware that the last few hires of The Square had not run smoothly and the whole process was now under review. Comments on any known problems and possible remedies would be welcomed. It was also suggested that the Square could be run by a commercial concern.

The Town Mayor also attended the unveiling of the South Downs National Park Information Board on the Boathouse at The Heath. After the ceremony National Park Rangers gave a guided tour of The Heath showing different types of grass and heather including some quite rare species. During the tour the Rangers outlined ways in which The Heath could be improved and ways they could help. The Town Clerk would be giving full details to the Grounds committee for discussion.

Anyone interested in attending the Larger Councils meeting as detailed in the Town Clerk's email of 22 July were asked to contact the Town Clerk.

The Town Mayor advised that he had a copy of the presentation following the Code of Conduct training available for members.

A response had been received from EHDC from the Town Clerk's letter following the questions raised. The Town Clerk had also sent comments on the proposals, based on comments he had received from members, to EHDC.

He went on to remind members to let the Deputy Town Clerk know if they would be attending his reception on 10 August.

Finally the Town Mayor advised that the prize giving for Petersfield in Bloom would be held on September 13 in the Rose Room. All Councillors, Officers and Staff were invited to attend the event. The competition had been very successful again with some new names on the list as well as some more familiar ones.

C 0199 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ms J Dickinson and Cllr G Budden. County Councillor J West also gave his apologies.

C 0200 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

C 0201 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Petersfield Town Council held on 4 July 2011 be approved.

C 0202 PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 19 July 2011 be received.

C 0203 PUBLIC REPRESENTATION

Mr John Crowhurst voiced his concerns at the recent article in the local press. He stated that PADAC was not a commercial organisation as the article had stated. He refuted that PADAC had overstocked the Pond. He did not think that cat fish should be introduced to the Pond; these were alien fish and had no place in Heath Pond. He did not think the Pond was looking very good at the present time.

PCSO Toogood took questions from members including the recent stabbing, parking, sirens and the shutting of the Police Station. The stabbing incident had not been random as both parties were know to the Police and each other. Parking enforcement was undertaken, on occasions by the Police. There had been critical incidents recently in and around Petersfield which may account for more sirens that usual. Petersfield Police had no information regarding the shutting of the Police Station.

The Town Clerk advised that the vacant office suite in the Town Hall had been viewed and was a possible site for the new office for the Police.

C 0204 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Clarke advised that the County Council had decided to procure Solar Photovoltaic (PV) panels on its buildings, taking advantage of Government cash incentives and reducing energy costs and carbon emissions.

The project would be carried out in phases with the first seeing about a quarter of the panels installed before the end of March 2012 at an estimated cost of £3.5 million. This would allow the County Council to get maximum benefit from the Government's current Feed-In-Tariff of an average of 33p paid for every kWh generated by the panels. It was noted that the FIT was expected to be reduced by Government at the end of the financial year, which will apply to panels installed after March 2012.

By carrying out the project in phases, the County Council would have greater flexibility and be able to adjust the extent of the programme in light of changes to feed-in-tariffs to ensure it delivered in terms of cost benefits. The total project could reduce the County Council's carbon footprint by 1,500 tonnes per year (around 10% of the total). Over 26 years it could also cut energy costs by £10.6 million and attract £27.4 million through government incentives.

The total capital investment required for the whole project is £15.8 million, and was expected to pay for itself in 15 years through the reduced energy costs and income from Feed-In-Tariffs.

C 0205

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Mrs Ayer advised that the first of the new Community Forums had gone very well and she was delighted that so many Town Councillors had attended the meeting. She hoped to see even more present at the next Community Forum in October.

Members asked why the cobbles had not yet been repaired in The Square. Cllr Mrs Ayer advised that she would investigate and report back.

Concern was raised that there was a possibility that EHDC councillors could be outvoted at the Forums by outside bodies. Cllr Mrs Ayer advised that this had been noted but that attendance by District Councillors was usually high at the Forums. Some items could only be voted on by District Councillors.

C 0206

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) **Grounds Committee**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 14 July 2011 be received.

(b) **Public Halls Committee**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 18 July 2011 be received.

(c) **Finance and General Purposes Committee**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held 21 July 2011 be received

F 0193 Bell Hill Against Speeding

Prior to decision on the recommendation from Finance and General Purposes committee that an SLR sign be purchased by the Town Council at a cost of £3,000 with funds to be used from contingency the following points were raised:

Concern was raised that use of contingency funds for this purpose was an abuse of the contingency. The Town Clerk advised that contingency could be used.

He had also been investigating alternative sources of funding for the proposed project.

County Councillor Clarke advised that he may be prepared to give £500 towards the project and that he would also ask Cllr West to consider giving a grant. Liss Parish Council were going to purchase their own SLR unit.

Concern was also raised regarding the necessary licence, use of volunteers and training.

RESOLVED that the provision of an SLR unit for use at Bell Hill and other sites in Petersfield be referred back to Finance and General Purposes committee for further discussion.

F 0194/G0159 The Heath Taro Fair

RESOLVED that the Taro Fair be held on 6 and 7 October 2011

F 0194/G0161 Heath Pond Association

RESOLVED that the Heath Pond Association continue to manage fishing at the Heath Pond on behalf of the Town Council, subject to agreement by the Town Council of any proposed work or introduction of additional fish stocks, with annual reviews being undertaken.

F 0194/G0163 Planting Scheme for Avenue Pavilion

RESOLVED that a bid for the available Developers Contributions of £7,000 for landscaping works be made for a planting scheme at the Avenue.

C 0207 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

Members received and noted the Town Clerk's report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes at Appendix A.

C 0208 **REPRESENTATIONS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

No reports had been tabled.

C 0209 **SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS MADE IN JULY 2011**

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments made in July 2011 be approved, copy attached to these minutes at Appendix B

C 0210

ROLE OF PETERSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PETERSFIELD

Members received a briefing paper from the Town Clerk, copy attached to these minutes at Appendix C. The Chairman of Finance and General Purposes committee had requested that consideration be given to this matter. He felt that the Town Council had very little input as a body to the various groups within Petersfield such as Petersfield Tomorrow, The Petersfield Society, and The Town Plan. He felt that a plan should be developed. Whilst members generally agreed with the principle of this proposal it was felt that new members had not had sufficient time to digest the necessary information to be able to put such a plan together. It was also suggested that those members who were representing the Town Council on various organisations should report back more often to the Town Council.

RESOLVED that the role of Petersfield Town Council in the development of Petersfield be deferred to the February 2012 Council meeting.

C 0211

SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

Members were asked to consider a date for the next meeting with the South Downs National Park Authority and nominating three representatives to attend.

RESOLVED that the following Councillors be nominated to represent the Town Council at a meeting with the South Downs National Park Authority which would be scheduled for 24 October to be held during office hours at the Town Council: Cllrs Mills, Marshall, Watkinson with Cllr Mrs Lesley Farrow as substitute.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45 pm



CLERKS REPORT

Members are reminded that the items within this report are provided for information only and are not available for debate. If it is considered that an item listed within the report should be debated fully by members, then it will be placed on the next appropriate Committee or Council agenda. Any member wanting clarification or further information on any aspect of items within the report, please contact me in advance of the meeting.

General Reading and Information

The following publications have been received and are available for members to read:

- * Action News Update from Community Action Hampshire
- * Community First East Hampshire June 2011 Newsletter
- * Hampshire County Council Small Grants Scheme Newsletter
- * Minutes of the East Hampshire District Council meeting of 29th June 2011
- * Minutes of East Hampshire District Council's Community Forum for Petersfield, Liss and surrounding villages dated 5th July 2011
- * Minutes of East Hampshire District Council's Community Tasking Co-ordinating Group of 13th July 2011
- * The East Hampshire Community Safety Partnership Newsletter
- * Sheet & Tilmore Allotment Association Newsletter number 189
- * Minutes of East Hampshire District Council's South Planning Committee of 7th July 2011

Other Information

- 1 The next Community Forum will be held at 6.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Penns Place on Tuesday 4th October 2011. The remaining dates for Forums during the rest of the municipal year are scheduled for 3rd January and 3rd April 2012.
- 2 A letter from East Hampshire District Council concerning the revised structure of the Community Forum's in the district has been circulated to all members.
- 3 Letters of thanks have been received from The Southern Orchestral Concert Society, Headway Portsmouth & South East Hampshire and Petersfield Youth Theatre for their respective grants.

Neil Hitch
Town Clerk
25th July 2011

Petersfield Town Council
Schedule of Payments for July 2011

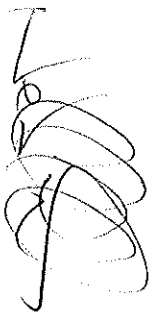
Cheque Number			Net	VAT	Gross
13093	Mr Mullins	Allotment deposit return	60.00	0.00	60.00
13078	Cash	Petty Cash	38.29	0.00	38.29
13079	EHDC	Variation of licence for Sheet Village Hall and Avenue Pavilion	46.00	0.00	46.00
13080	Neopost	Franking Machine	500.00	0.00	500.00
13081	Alan Harland	Professional services - accounts of Petersfield Health Charity & Council's internal audit for year ended 31.03.11	1810.00	362.00	2172.00
13083	East Hampshire District Council	Election Fees	6647.90	0.00	6647.90
13084	Earth Anchors Ltd	Dog bin and 2 liners for big ben litter bins	290.95	58.19	349.14
13085	Farnham Castle Newspapers/Ltd	Advert for Meeting	11.40	2.28	13.68
13086	Hampshire Association of Local Councils	Chairmanship Skills	25.00	5.00	30.00
13087	The Hampshire Playing Fields Assoc	Annual Subscription	60.00	0.00	60.00
13088	National Association of Local Councils	Conference London 22nd September 2011	97.50	19.50	117.00
13089	Society of Local Council Clerks	Summer Symposium 2011	155.00	31.00	186.00
13090	Travis Perkins	Centre Punch Set	4.04	0.81	4.85
13091	Petaprint	PTC News Leaflets	1595.00	0.00	1595.00
13092	Vantech Media	Web hosting and FrontPage	170.00	0.00	170.00
13094	St Peter's Church	Deposit Return	150.00	0.00	150.00
13096	Longmeadows Ltd	Annual Maintenance to the Millennium Path - Heath	3000.00	600.00	3600.00
13097	HM Revenue and Customs	PAYE & NI contributions for employees	4762.00	0.00	4762.00
13099	Auditel	Electricity Savings	167.90	33.58	201.48
13100	C Kates & Son	Supply and fit Cistern - Heath Toilets. Supply and fit new cisterniser Avenue Pavilion	270.89	54.18	325.07
13101	Moviola Ltd	Percentage of ticket sales for Moviola in June 2011	312.50	62.50	375.00
13102	SAS Playgrounds Ltd	Monthly playground inspections	270.00	54.00	324.00
13103	Wheelscape Ltd	Works carried out to Love Lane Skatepark	13066.65	2613.33	15679.98
13104	Community First East Hampshire	Grant Aid	800.00	0.00	800.00
13105	Petersfield Youth Theatre	Grant Aid	1000.00	0.00	1000.00
13106	Southern Orchestral Concert Society	Grant Aid	500.00	0.00	500.00
13107	Petersfield Cricket Club	Grant Aid	1000.00	0.00	1000.00
13108	Rotherlands Conservation Group	Grant Aid	800.00	0.00	800.00
13109	Cruse Bereavement Care	Grant Aid	300.00	0.00	300.00
13110	Headway Portsmouth & South East Hants	Grant Aid	1200.00	0.00	1200.00
13111	Mrs S Chilton	Deposit Return	150.00	0.00	150.00
13112	Hampshire Pension Fund	Pension contributions for employees	3782.48	0.00	3782.48

Petersfield Town Council Schedule of Payments for July 2011

13113	A W Clear	Lowering tree stumps on The Heath, fitting drain and laying of scalplings near little school gate. Topping part of The Heath	440.00	0.00	440.00
		Rotovation of plot 29a Timmore allotments, clearance of rubbish plot 53a & 52	185.00	0.00	185.00
		Sheet allotments. Pruning lower branches, plot 41 Sheet	2364.00	0.00	2364.00
13114	Mr C Essex	Stage 2 payment for Town Planting Scheme	2364.00	0.00	2364.00
		Padlocks for various locations	24.00	4.80	28.80
13115	Cuson Engineering	Window cleaning at FH, SVH, AP	345.00	69.00	414.00
13116	Cookman Brothers	Plasma bracket plus delivery charges (to be charged on)	19.45	3.89	23.34
13117	CPC	Janitorial supplies for FH	217.65	43.53	261.18
13118	Hampshire County Council	Repair of buffing machine	138.98	27.80	166.78
13119	Hooper Services	Annual subscription of Health & Safety at Work Journal	129.00	0.00	129.00
13120	Lexis Nexis	Scalplings for use at The Heath	122.50	24.50	147.00
13121	Trevis Perkins	Tap connector	4.13	0.83	4.96
		Return of deposit	150.00	0.00	150.00
13122	Winton Players	Return of deposit	250.00	0.00	250.00
13123	Festival for Young People	Bike stand for Sheet Primary School plus delivery charge	218.74	43.75	262.49
13124	Bike Care	Re-fix radiator to wall at SVH & drainage of radiator	95.50	19.10	114.60
13125	Ampella	Cancelled cheque	0.00	0.00	0.00
13126	Cancelled cheque	Display advert in Petersfield Herald for Council meetings	11.40	2.28	13.68
13127	Farnham Castle NewspapersLtd	Grounds maintenance - High Meadow Trust, June 2011	250.00	50.00	300.00
13128	G Burley & Sons	Grounds maintenance - The Heath, June 2011	1350.41	270.08	1620.49
		Grounds maintenance - various sites, June 2011	5262.51	1052.50	6315.01
		Grounds maintenance - Man & van contract	3921.10	784.22	4705.32
13129	Hooper Services	Scrubbing brush for buffing machine for FH	100.16	20.03	120.19
		Charges for new lease of empty office at Town Hall for Mr Khalessi - did not proceed	808.00	160.00	968.00
13130	MacDonald Oates Solicitors	Cut back Willow trees at car park Heath road & removal of dangerous limbs from oak tree	200.00	0.00	200.00
13131	Robin Burtleigh	To supply and fit replacement window for sound pod at FH (to be claimed from Petersfield Theatre Group)	179.12	35.82	214.94
13132	Safety Glazing	Quarterly rental for lease of photocopier for Town Hall offices	575.00	115.00	690.00
13133	Siemens Financial Services	Return of deposit	250.00	0.00	250.00
13134	P/F Fairy & Angel Festival (ARTZ)	Return of deposit	250.00	0.00	250.00
13135	National Blood Service	Return of deposit	250.00	0.00	250.00
13136	Petersfield Museum	Return of deposit	150.00	0.00	150.00
13137	Petersfield Twinning Assoc.	Stationery order for Town Hall offices	179.54	35.90	215.44
13138	Acorn Office supplies	Petty Cash	49.90	0.00	49.90

Petersfield Town Council
Schedule of Payments for July 2011

Direct Debit	British Gas	Gas bill for FH	101.55	5.07	106.62
Direct Debit	Eon	Electricity bill for Heath Toilets	35.83	7.17	43.00
Direct Debit	Eon	Electricity bill for Sheet Village Hall	22.50	4.50	27.00
Direct Debit	Databarracks	Backup for period Mid May to mid June	80.50	16.10	96.60
Direct Debit	Technology Rentals	Annual rental agreement for computers	3573.74	714.75	4288.49
Direct Debit	Southern Electric	Electricity bill for Festival Hall	853.45	170.69	1024.14
Direct Debit	Computershare Vouchers Services	Childcare vouchers for employees	86.80	1.36	88.16
Direct Debit	Wages & Salaries	Wages for month of July 2011	13348.14	0.00	13348.14
		TOTAL PAYMENTS JULY 2011	79637.10	7579.04	87216.14


 26/7/11



Petersfield Town Council

The Future Development of the Town

Introduction

It has been requested by some members that the future role of the Town Council in helping to shape all aspects of the town into how the town and its organisations develop needs to be considered. The purpose of this paper is not to provide definitive answers but to stimulate debate on the topic.

At the outset the Council must be mindful of the legal parameters under which it works and the general powers that the Council currently has to be able to carry out any service or function. The current powers held can be enhanced by meeting the requirements to utilise the 'Power of Wellbeing' and possibly through the 'Power of General Competence' that may become available to local councils through the Localism Bill currently going through Parliament. If the Council wishes to qualify for the 'Power of Wellbeing', there is a requirement that members undertake a training session run by the Hampshire Association of Local Councils and the Clerk completes the additional module attached to the Certificate in Local Council Administration prior to passing a resolution to use the 'Power'.

There is a view amongst some members that at present, there is no local government body or authority that is actively seeking to manage future developments in the town on a holistic basis. The District and County Councils are considered to be too remote to provide the focus required. Similarly, there is a perception that there are a number of groups that seem to be pulling in various different directions, doing good works in their own way, but nobody that is working for the general benefit of the town and actively trying to tie the various ends together to create a far more beneficial 'whole'. It has been suggested that Petersfield Town Council should be that body, particularly with the current emphasis on 'localism'.

How might Petersfield Town Council act to achieve these aims?

Co-ordination

- Seek to act as the lynch-pin throughout the community.
- Be the organisation that others go to for help, assistance, information and guidance.
- Provide the energy and drive needed to make things happen.
- Create a culture of consultation with all aspects of the community to know far better the wishes of residents.

Facilitation

- Act as the go-between for organisations in the town in dealing with other tiers of local government, obtaining information and guidance as appropriate.

- Linking together the various organisations seeking to provide services or events to create more of a team ethic and demonstrate positive partnership working.
- Provide a positive link between the voluntary and local government sectors.

Enabling

- Encourage groups within the town to work towards their aims.
- Provide advice and assistance to enable people and organisations to deliver.

These thoughts are intended simply to start debate and to get the 'creative juices' of the thought process going.

Whatever the outcome, there will be a clear need for the Town Council to work with a wide variety of organisations from the statutory, voluntary and private sectors in order for this vision to potentially become a reality.

Neil Hitch
Town Clerk
26th July 2011