

Wickham Parish Council

GP Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the above Committee held at Wickham Centre on Wednesday 7th March 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: Justin Gamblin (Chairman), Therese Evans (Vice-Chairman), Mike Bennett, Angela Clear, Di Frost.

Parish Councillors Jenny Hollis and Sue Roger-Jones, Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver.

1. **To receive apologies for absence** Tony Ryder
2. **To receive declarations of interest on agenda items** None.
3. **To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public** Not required.
4. **Agenda**

4.1 To receive update on current committee projects:

- 4.1.1 Yellow lines to village roads (Cllr Clear/Clerk) **No further update.**
- 4.1.2 Best Garden competition (Cllr Evans) **Advert for the competition to be included in the April parish magazine.**
- 4.1.3 Maintenance of Knowle Cemetery – To receive arboricultural report, discuss actions and arrange a date for a working party(Clerk) **A working party to carry out some of the remedial work suggested in the arboricultural report was agreed for 10am on 21st April led by Arboriculturalist Sarah Johnston.**
- 4.1.4 Maintenance of Lysander Meadow (Clerk) **Nothing to report.**
- 4.1.5 Monitoring Southern Water's plans for improvement to Wickham's drainage system – Riverside Mews in particular **It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda as there have been no problems since new monitoring procedures have been implemented by Southern Water.**
- 4.1.6 Planting flower beds and hanging baskets (Cllr du Boulay) **No further update.**
- 4.1.7 Chesapeake Mill turbine as tourist attraction (Cllr Bennett) **No further update.**
- 4.1.8 Bridge Street Village Green (Clerk) **Working party to plant bulbs and wildflower plugs 10am on 23rd March led by the Clerk.**
- 4.1.9 Footpath and rights of way review (Cllr Bennett) **Cllr Evans is looking again at the feasibility of a pavement along Fontley Road.**
- 4.1.10 Redesign and refurbish Wickham public conveniences (Clerk) **Following confirmation that WCC has included £50K in its 2012/13 budget it was agreed to arrange to meet with Axis Architecture to progress the project.**
- 4.1.11 Installation of a clock in The Square (Cllr Bennett) **Cllr Bennett has prepared a planning application for the clock which will be submitted shortly.**

4.1.12 To consider a project to install a visitor / finger pointer sign for The Square
Agreed to add project to refurbish The Square in 4.1.14 and to include this item as part of the work.

4.1.13 Update on organisation of the 2011 Stan Woodford Photographic Competition **Chairman to liaise with Mike Carter to see whether it is viable to run the competition this year, with a view to a re-launch next year.**

4.1.14 To consider how to manage grant from Rookesbury Estate for community projects of benefit to residents. **Rookesbury has given the Parish Council £5,000 to be used for projects that allow residents of Wickham to do things they otherwise couldn't afford to do. There is a condition that it isn't spent on the surgery or community care projects. The sum of money was requested from Wickham Surgery in return for Rookesbury agreeing to remove a covenant on the Surgery's existing site that only allows it to be used for medical purposes.**

4.1.14 To consider new GP projects for 2012/13 (Clerk)

- Festive lights for The Square
- Refurbishment of phone box in The Square
- Refurbishment of bus shelter in The Square
- Jubilee calendar of events
- Interpretation boards for Bridge St Village Green and Lysander Meadow
- Improvements to Mill Lane including moving 30mph further up the hill
- Refurbishment of The Square
- Map board for Knowle showing road and apartment block names
- Add verge litter clearing from bottom of Hoads Hill to boundary with Fareham

Agreed to recommend that the above projects be added to the Parish Council's strategy for 2012/13

5. **To identify any unmanaged risks within this committee's remit** None.
6. **Review effectiveness of communication, development of links with other community organisations through making information more widely available.** Project proposals will be included in the Council's newsletter for the parish magazine.
7. **Recent correspondence/ reports from meetings attended of relevance to this committee** Cllr Bennett reported on a meeting held on 1st March with Winchester City Council to discuss Wickham Fair. Copy attached to minutes.

Meeting closed 8.13pm

Wickham Fair meeting 1st March 2012 Report from Cllr Mike Bennett

I think it went fairly well. Winchester have a new Officer i/c the Fair, Mr David Ingram. He seems very willing to work with us and seems to have established a relationship both with the Fun Fair operator and for the first time, with the Travellers. Please note from here on I shall use the word Fair to mean the Fun Fair and the Horse Fair. There are some matters we need to communicate to the Square Businesses and there is a potential cost to us, which I agreed to raise with you. Regardless of anything below, Emergency Vehicles will be able to access all roads and the Square at all times.

Summary

Date of Fair 21st May

Heavy Fair vehicles arrive in Square at 06:00 on 20th

Square is closed to all traffic at 12:00 on 20th

Traders should not arrive before 14:00 on 20th

On 21st, Tanfield Lane residents will have special arrangements if they wish to exit between 11:00 & 16 (For serious matters only)

On 21st, traders will be parking at the CC - controlled by the Police

Passes will go to all the usual addresses including Park Place and the unnamed road and Mayles Lane as far as house on the corner, well before Knowle

The School will get 20 passes and more will be available at the CC

Buses will operate as per last year

We have been asked to fund one/two portaloos

There is a new cleansing contractor - this could cause problems - WCC will try to ensure a thorough job

Police will endeavour to improve their own communications

We need to advise the Square businesses of the timings

I established our position that we understand that the Fair has to be, but that it is our Village and we pay our taxes, so we expect our concerns, within reason, to take priority over the Fair's. I said it was unacceptable for our residents' freedom of movement to be restricted, unless absolutely necessary. Everyone there acknowledged that this was understandable and reasonable.

The date of the Fair is Monday 21st May. The Square will be closed to all traffic from 12:00 on Sunday 20th and I requested that arrival and set up for the Traders should not start until 14:00. The authorities will do their best. However, the Fun Fair's "heavy kit" has to be in the Square about 06:00 (on 20th) and will occupy the area from the Wine Bar to somewhere past the Kings Head. We need to advise the Co-Op that their lorry will be allowed into the Square, but will not be able to get close to the Co-Op. We also need to advise all the restaurants of the closure of the Square so that when they take bookings for Sunday Lunch, they can advise their customers that they will not be able to park in the Square. I know this may not be ideal, but there is no alternative.

This year the Traders are being made to remove their vans very early on 21st. They will be given special passes allowing about 15-20 of them to park behind the Community Centre. The Police will control this.

The Bar will be on the corner of Tanfield Lane again. This seems to be the safest position, but it does make vehicular egress from Tanfield Lane difficult during the peak period on 21st from say 11:00 - 16:00. The Police have agreed that they will make special arrangements for residents to get in and out during this period for important reasons; e.g., medical problems, family problems (sick relative, child needing help), possibly meeting trains, but not for a Sunday afternoon drive. Tanfield Lane/Park residents will be advised in a letter with their passes. It will probably be a 'phone number that they ring and the Police will liaise with their officers around the Bar to facilitate the passage of a vehicle.

I asked that the police do their best to stop anyone using alleyways and gardens as toilets. Everyone agreed that this was unacceptable, but this is where we may attract a cost. The meeting asked that Wickham fund one, preferably two, Portaloos to ease the problem. All agreed that the one funded by WCC is insufficient.

We shall need to keep an eye on the clean-up, because the WCC change of waste contractors means that a new outfit will be doing this for the first time. I asked that the contractors be told that cleaning properly will require water. Last year's dry weather resulted in several complaints about how long the "horse remains" hung around.

I suggested that we might put the general arrangements and timings on the WPC web-site.

I also dealt with:

Passes - I asked specifically that Park Place and the unnamed road (just down from Blind Lane) be included and Mayles Lane as far as the house on the bend before the hill towards Knowle. The rest of Mayles Lane will have to exit via Funtley, unless the bus bollards are down. (We could even make this a special arrangement for this one day.) I also asked for twenty passes to go to the School. Extra passes will be available at the Community Centre.

David Ingram will continue to liaise with us and apologised for not inviting us to the post-Fair review last year. He had not long taken over and it was an oversight.