

Minutes of the Westhampnett Annual Parish Meeting held at 6.45pm on
Monday 13th March 2017
at the March C of E School, Westhampnett

Present: Cllr W Harding (Chairman), Cllr Mrs J Hardstaff (Vice-Chair), Cllr Mrs S Burborough, Cllr R. Fabricus, Cllr S James, Cllr Mrs C McLeish, Cllr Mrs Moth.

The meeting was clerked by locum Clerk, Mrs Lisa O'Sullivan

Also present: Cllr Jeremy Hunt (WSCC), Cllr Mike Hall (CDC), 14 members of the public and those people attending to make presentations as minuted below.

1/17 **CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

The Chairman of Westhampnett Parish Council, Councillor W Harding, opened the meeting and welcomed residents.

2/17 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 14th March 2016 were approved by those present.

3/17 **MATTERS ARISING**

None.

4/17 **ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL**

The Chairman gave a summary of the work of the Parish Council over the last year, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

5/17 **PRESENTATIONS**

I. **WESTHAMPNETT HOUSE NURSING HOME PLANNING APPLICATION (Daniel Agoye)**

Some background on the project was given – the property was bought in 2012 and has been sympathetically restored. The company has a good reputation for end of life care. Mr Agoye noted that the property could have housed more bedrooms but chose not to and that prices have not increased for some time.

Having done extensive research, they are now looking to add a dementia wing to the property. They want to involve the Parish and consult widely.

3 designs have been considered and only the final one is suitable. It was stated that this will only take over a small part of the 5 acre site and look over the burial ground next door.

The plans were left so that councillors and residents could view them.

II. **WESTHAMPNETT SOLAR FARM OPPOSITION GROUP (Dave Beasley)**

It was explained that WSCC had approved the application however the consensus from objectors is that the process was flawed. The objectors had considered both an appeal to the Ombudsman and a judicial review however with a judicial review there is potential to lose a lot of money if it fails. A complaint has therefore been put the Ombudsman on the basis that their complaints were not sufficiently investigated, bias of process and not remaining independent of the applicant. There is evidence of predetermination leading to

an unlawful decision. County, Borough and Parish councillors were thanked for their support.

The objectors are confident that the Ombudsman might find in their favour however they have also asked WSCC to quash its decision and put measures in place to ensure probity and fair process however on 23rd March the money will be released if the application is not called in, which it is not likely to be.

The financial viability of the project was questioned. Cllr Hunt was asked to clarify but was not able to give all information required due confidentiality of the information. He did however state that the electricity generated would be going into the national grid and that the tax payer was only funding the interest on the loan.

III. MADGWICK LANE DEVELOPMENT (Anthony Calvert, Calvert Communications representing CEG)

Mr Calvert stated that 500 new homes had been identified in the strategic plan over two specific sites – however after representations this was brought down to 300 in Westhampnett and 200 near Summersdale. His clients have been through the planning process and formal planning consent was granted on 27/4/16. Community engagement and planning has been taking place ever since. They are currently negotiating with builders.

Part of the s.106 agreement was to provide substantial leisure facilities which will be delivered.

For the period between Phases 1&2 there will be temporary access for vehicles but not for as long as initially expected. When finished, the permanent access will come from the north of Phase 2.

A member of the public questioned what would be provided in terms of infrastructure, i.e. New schools, transport. Mr Calvert assured that the correct procedure had been followed and they would abide by whatever came out of the process.

IV. GOODWOOD AERODROME / FLIGHTS (Mark Gibb)

There is a current project to refurbish some runways and therefore the two main ones are out of use at the moment. There is also a project to solve drainage issues as since 2015-2016 100 operational days were lost due to waterlogging. Normal service will resume around July. It may have been quiet as only one runway is left and that can't be used until 31st March due to Members' Meeting taking place.

Over 100 tonnes of earth will be moved but this is not to strengthen and lengthen runways for more / heavier planes, just to stabilise existing. They are trying to minimise noise disruption however planes are crossing over Westerton and complaints have been received. It was however explained that in 2016, 663 complaints were received of which 43% were from 3 households and 22% from outside the area.

Helicopters are currently flying over least occupied areas however things will be coming back to normal.

Cllr Harding noted that the current s.52 agreement was being reviewed as it has been in place since 1987 and that at the next meeting on 22nd May some

improvements would be suggested. But there are limits to what can physically be done to reduce noise, Mr Gibb stated that it was never going to be silent.

A member of the public noted that planes, not helicopters, cause problems and was told that helicopters should go around, not fly over Westerton.

It was queried whether since the new Bellway development had been built, the flight path had changed go to over less populated areas – i.e. Houses of those people who had lived here longer but less densely populated. Mr Gibb stated that the flight path hadn't changed. He also noted that there needs to be a pragmatic view on development around aerodromes.

V. CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICES (Steve Hansford)

It was reported that the local travellers site was well used, all pitches taken since Christmas and no illegal encampments locally. In relation to parking on local verges, Highways are resistant to posts near the highway and would prefer planters. Parish support was sought. Cllr Harding stated that it would not be done by the volunteer group who already have so much to do. Additional discussion over who maintains planters is required.

VI. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (Cllr Mrs Hardstaff)

Cllr Mrs Hardstaff gave a report (a copy of which is appended to these minutes) and asked that her proposal of Option 2 be agreed by residents, which it was. Option 2 allows for a streamlined plan with no settlement policy boundary.

VII. GRANGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (Cllr Mrs Burborough)

Cllr Mrs Burborough reported that the management had been taken over from Bellway in December 2016. There are 5 directors who live on site and try to implement improvements to the environment and safety. A parish noticeboard is due to go up shortly. This is working well; the management committee has asked to review all contracts.

VIII. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR (Cllr Mike Hall)

Cllr Hall stated that he had very much enjoyed his year and gave an update, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

IX. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR (Cllr Jeremy Hunt)

Cllr Hunt said that he very much enjoyed representing Westhampnett and gave an update, a copy of which is appended to these minutes.

6/17 **AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR Y/E 31ST MARCH 2016**

Copies of audited accounts and Clerk's financial report had been previously circulated and made available at the meeting. There were no questions.

7/17 **OTHER ISSUES / QUESTIONS**

Meeting finished 9.15 pm

Signed..... Chairman of Meeting

Date.....