

(Unapproved) Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 27 April 1995

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Thursday 27 April 1995, at Shawford Parish Hall, commencing 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr RE Jordan (Chairman); Cllr NJ Campbell-White (Vice-Chairman); Cllr AB Hazlitt; Cllr Mrs JM Millar; Cllr Mrs JP Appleton; Cllr R Wilmshurst; Cllr AD Walmsley; 53 Parishioners.

In attendance: County Cllr Mrs A Bailey; District Cllr G Beckett.

Welcome and introductions. The Chairman, Mr RE Jordan, welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting, and introduced Members of the Parish Council and the Clerk, to the assembly; also, County Cllr Mrs A Bailey and District Cllr G Beckett.

Apologies for absence

had been received from Cllr AP Lockett; Cllr Mrs SJ Priddle; Mr and Mrs Sherren; Mrs L Dolphin; Mr R Court; Mrs G Webster; Ms P Ashmore; Mr and Mrs Lincoln; Mrs P Neyroud; Mr and Mrs Street.

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

held on 26 April 1994 having been circulated, were adopted following a proposal by Mr WK Millar, seconded Mr R Whitaker.

Matters arising on the minutes.

Nothing raised.

Chairman's annual report on the last year.

Cllr RE Jordan read the following report:

During the year I worked closely with Ann Bailey, George Beckett and Gerald Malone MP, and I would like to thank them for their support.

The Annual Civic Service was hosted by Otterbourne in October 1994, and we shall be hosting it on 15 October. The Wayside Cross on Shawford Down was rededicated following its removal during M3 works. The stone work was damaged and replaced and the Cross was repaired. Thanks to Barrie Hazlitt the Parish Council are hoping to have an annual service on Remembrance Sunday at the two Crosses on Shawford Down.

Airport

made representations to Eastleigh Borough Council and airports authority regarding the flying controls agreement, which will result in increased take offs and landings to north of Airport, over village, Otterbourne, Twyford and Hursley. The other Parish Councils are working with us to minimise the impact.

Donations

we continue to make donations to the Parochial Church Council to assist them with the upkeep of the churchyard and Parish Magazine. The magazine is an important medium which the Parish Council uses to communicate with parishioners. Please support.

M3

issues have provided the Council with plenty of work, and will continue for some months.

Parish Facilities

We have continued our policy to develop the facilities in the parish hall and sports field. A questionnaire was sent to 540 households of which 102 were returned. As regards to the development of land at the Parish Hall 80 in favour; 18 opposed; as regard to hall improvements 89 in favour; 2 opposed; rebuilding of pavilion 77 in favour; 10 opposed. The questionnaires were issued to give the Parish Council feed back. The P.C. is committed to taking a village poll. The Sports Club lease negotiations are proceeding well and will give the Parish more input to the Club and encourage local participation.

Bridge Hotel

number of complaints ref Bridge Hotel has been minimised and it is hoped this will continue.

Planning

we have made comments on the Winchester District draft plan which we believe will protect our village from over development and preserve its character. The Bushfield Camp area, which is within our Parish, was the subject of a draft study by Winchester City Council. We are broadly in favour of their draft plan but would prefer the park-and-ride scheme was located closer to the motorway on the present M3 contractors site.

Parish Clerk

Dennis Richman continues to work hard for the parish and I would like to thank him for his support.

Parish Transport

Monty Dawson, our transport representative, has served us well. He has made representations on the privatisation of the railways and has helped improve our bus service, including persuading the bus company to provide a service to Compton village. Please use the services or we will lose them.

Parish Tree Warden

the post has not been filled and we need one. Footpaths - Barrie Hazlitt continued to monitor our footpaths and rights-of-way. We have a new Rights-of Way Officer who has remedied many problems. Barrie is confident we will continue to make progress.

Litter

a parish litter pick is to be undertaken on 20/21 May, commencing 10 am at the Parish Hall. Please help.

Annual Parish Meeting

43 attended last year. The Parish Council meet on the first Tuesday in each month except August. Please come and listen.

Letter from Mr HWS Ree

we have received an interesting letter from a parishioner on how the P.C. might develop their facilities at the Memorial Playing Field and elsewhere. The letter will be discussed at our meeting next week.

Finally,

I would like to thank our caretaker, Vanessa, our bus shelter cleaners, Mr Henly and Mrs Lowe, for their help during the year. I would also like to thank my fellow councillors for their commitment during a busy year.

PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS.

Copies of the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 1994, and the unaudited accounts for the year ended 31 March 1995 had been circulated. Cllr AD Walmsley explained and commented on the accounts, including a reference to building up reserves for future possible improvement of the parish hall lavatories and a contribution towards cost of a possible new sports pavilion. He also advised the assembly that the accounts were open to inspection. Following questions from Mr P Toghill, Cllr Walmsley advised that the Council's current audited balance was just over £52000.00, and that all monies had been raised to meet M3 litigation costs.

ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS.

Following proposal by Mr P Toghill, seconded Mrs J Lockett, and in the absence of objections, the accounts were adopted.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Parish Hall Committee:

Cllr NJ Campbell-White read the following report.

The Management Committee was the same as for the previous 2 years, Mrs Jean Millar, Mrs Pat Appleton and myself. The Parish Hall continued to function very much the same as the previous 2 years. Vanessa Smith remains as Caretaker and with her husband Frank, continues to run the Hall efficiently, taking the bookings, clearing up after them, often into the small hours after Saturday celebrations, and dealing with day to day maintenance and cleaning. We all owe Mrs Smith a considerable debt of gratitude for running the Hall so smoothly and relieving the Committee of the routine tasks.

Last year, at this meeting, I reported that plans for both short term and long term improvements to the Hall were referred to the Parish Facilities Committee, and were on hold pending their decision and the outcome of what was likely to happen to the surplus land, and what overall finance might be available. No decisions have been taken on the surplus land, and we are in much the same position as last year. No further discussion has taken place about the possibility of building on a new meeting room to seat 30 people, the possibility of building new central toilet facilities, providing a kitchen to full catering standards, forming a new central side entrance or demolishing the outdated toilet block.

The need for upgraded toilets, more storage space, and a slightly larger hall, which could be achieved by removing the permanent stage, and providing a temporary one, are becoming pressing. It is perceived that this is the main reason why the Hall is not being booked as often as we had hoped for Wedding Receptions and Saturday night functions.

Our income last year was £51.00 up on the previous year, but £400.00 down on our budget, with no obvious reasons. The only regular booking lost was that on Friday nights, with the demise of the

Youth club. On this occasion we did not manage to obtain alternative bookings. Apart from Friday and Saturday evenings, both halls are regularly booked; there is spare capacity in the daytime, as there is with other local halls.

As predicted, our loss on operating the hall amounted to approx £4500.00 over the year. I repeat the warning that we see this loss increasing annually for the foreseeable future, with rates and maintenance charges increasing faster than income. Improvements over the year were:

1. Provision of insulation to both roof voids, skillings, and front cavities where there was none previously, at a cost of £830.00. We obtained a grant from the Winchester District Associations of Parish Councils, to help offset this cost, in the sum of £300.00.
2. Provision of smoke alarms and emergency lights to the small hall and Heathcote Young Players stairs and room above, at a cost of £490.00.
3. Provision of additional kitchen storage units and worktop space in the Small Hall, at a cost of £566.00.

The Parish Hall Committee is planning this Hall's Centenary Celebrations and intending to make this a Parish Celebration in the first week of 1996. Although the exact format has yet to be decided, we are looking for a week long celebration with different events being put on by different clubs, 2 parish parties and static displays. We are looking for ideas and as much help as possible, and will shortly be forming a committee of around 6 members from interested villagers to organise this event. If you can help, please contact any member of the hall committee. Jean Millar has continued to handle the sale of the White Star Line plates. I will hand you over to her for her report. **White Star Line plates:** Mrs Millar read the following report: As reported this time last year, we sent 4 large and 4 small White Star Line plates to Christie's for their auction. They raised £202.00 - somewhat less than previously (due to breakage while in their hands we were sent a cheque for £120.00 to cover the loss of 3 plates). Our New York dealer returned in December, and with Mr Campbell-White as salesman, we received £996.00 for a total of 19 plates. He was persuaded to take with him one of our worst faded and chipped examples to investigate whether he can have it restored at all. The last sale was made in January, 1 large plate for £70.00 to a previous customer, a keen member of the Titanic Society. We have, again, sent a few plates to Christie's and look forward to gauging the present market on the results. In summary last year for 31 plates we raised £1388.00, and with Centenary sales next December, as the saying goes - "and there's more".

We have sold about half of our plates but are keeping a handful of the very best. Middle of the range plates have almost all been sold and we may be left with the poorest. We intend to sell plates at the Parish Hall Centenary Celebration.

Memorial Playing Field and Children's Playground Committee.

Clir Wilmshurst read the following report. The Playing Field Committee meet regularly and inspect the condition of the play equipment and fields. Last year we had a report of an accident on the swings at the Memorial Playing Field. The concrete strips have been removed and safety surfacing installed. New swing seats have been fitted at Compton together with new seats to the seesaw. The seesaw plank at the Memorial Playing Field cleaned and resealed. The committee have applied for a grant to improve the safety surface further to British Standard. We await the outcome of the grant application. Floodlighting has been successfully installed by the Tennis Section of the Sports Club. New concrete steps have been installed from the Attwoods Drove field into Compton Street, and a

handrail fitted. Artel Services have been given the contract to mow both fields this summer. Several trees bordering Field Way are showing signs of fast decay and although all show some sign of life bloom we are having them closely inspected and expect reports in a few days. If some have to be felled, we aim to remove the roots and replant, and at the same time remove other old stumps that remain in the field. Security lights have been fitted around the entrance to the pavilion.

Highways, Byways and Rights of Way and Environment Committee.

In the absence of Mrs Priddle, who has decided to resign from the Parish Council, the Chairman reported in the following terms. Yellow lines are to be implemented shortly in Shawford to improve safety and traffic flow without restriction of access to shops. Application for lights to the garage compound in Martins Fields proved abortive as Winchester City Council did not have money for a scheme in 1994/95 but the Parish Council will try again in 1995/96. The condition of road, Field Way, had been the subject of complaint to the Parish Council, who are not responsible for the matter, but a parishioner, Mr Ronald Whitaker, has filled pot holes and Cllr Jordan expressed appreciation of his work. The Council continue to clean the bus shelters although this work was partly suspended during M3 construction. We have made representations regarding the proposed change of use of Otterbourne Incinerator and will make further representations, at the forthcoming Public Inquiry. Following complaints of our parking problems in Compton Street, the Parish Council will work with the village school/Parochial Church Council to try and resolve the problem.

M3 Committee and other traffic matters.

Cllr Walmsley reported that the new M3 Hockley link is due to open tonight and Five Bridges Road will be closed permanently, also, the slip roads at Hockley will be controlled by temporary traffic lights for about five weeks while permanent ones are installed. On the matter of bus shelters, Cllr Walmsley reported that the location of the new northbound bus shelter near Compton Street does not permit a view of approaching buses as the view is impeded by some shrubby trees which should have been felled. Your Council has asked Mott MacDonald to have these trees removed but if the view from the bus shelter is still unsatisfactory, the shelter will have to be moved. The other two bus shelters have been refurbished by Tarmac as we were unable to sustain a case for all new shelters to be provided. Your Council will see if we can use cladding to improve the appearance of the Southdown northbound shelter. The subway at Southdown is now open and the parish council will resume its cleaning contract; the steps on the west of the subway were too steep for modern safety standards and will not be reinstated. The car park opposite Shepherds Lane Bridge was built to the PC's specification and Mott MacDonald also agreed to construct a hard standing near the junction of Southdown Road and Otterbourne Road, where the surface had been damaged by various contractors' vehicles. Cllr. Walmsley continued his report by advising that negotiations had taken place with the Highways Agency concerning the Shepherds Lane return land and that we are still waiting for them to submit a draft covenant for our approval. The return land has been levelled according to our wishes and a small bank of earth left to enable us to fill in the ditch should we choose to remove the inner ring of trees when the outer bank of trees is established. The original surface of the path alongside the return land was unsatisfactory and has been resurfaced following our request. Following our support of the residents' request for a fence to the M3 to reduce the risk of motorway crime, the Highways Agency authorised the work. On matters concerning the Compton Street area, it was reported that Compton Street should soon officially be made a 30mph limit, which will remove the anomalous derestriction sign outside the primary school. Parking

outside the school: we received letters arguing strongly both for and against the use of Church Field for school parking. Although the white lines have generally worked well in defining places, there is scope for improvement. The School Governors and the PC are now looking at a plan which would use Church Field as a playing field, and extending the hard standing area adjacent to the school to provide a safer dropping off place. If this proves feasible it should answer all the requirements: reduced congestion in the street and no need to cross the road at busy times. The Parochial Church Council agree with this plan. We now have to talk to the County Surveyor about the design, and address the question of funding. The Place Lane underpass should be open in about two weeks. The Chairman stated that he and Cllr Hazlitt had represented the Parish at ten quarterly M3 Liaison meetings with Mott MacDonald, and that the final meeting is set for July. He expressed thanks to John Chapman and Duncan MacAlister of Mott MacDonald for their help over the construction period, who had done their best, in sometimes difficult circumstances, to make things easier for the Parish. WCC is planning new names for several roads and roundabouts in the area, including permanent names for the 'Shawford' and 'Bushfield' roundabouts and the road from 'Bushfield' roundabout to Otterbourne name sign. Suggested names were invited from the assembly for co-ordination and submission to the City Council. The Chairman advised that he will soon tour the village with John Chapman to identify M3 construction damage that needs to be remedied, and invited the assembly to notify any known problems. In conclusion, Cllr Walmsley advised that a public meeting will be held, probably next month, to explain how to claim compensation if anyone thinks they have been affected by M3 noise.

Planning Committee:

Cllr Mrs Millar read the following report.

Since this meeting last year, there have been 30 individual household applications for extensions and improvements, most granted, a few with modifications and restrictions imposed by WCC planners. 'Bramble Way' in Cleas Way reached a site investigation by WCC planning committee who have permitted 2 new detached five bedroom houses to be built behind the original house. The Parish Council have appreciated the involvement of those who have been sufficiently concerned with new developments to express those concerns to the planning officers, and in most cases the PC have been of a similar mind and have worked with them. It has been upsetting to some members of the Council that the pursuit of outline planning permission for the site next to the Parish hall has not run smoothly and that the Council's motives have not been understood, and in some instances have been misinterpreted. Safeguarding the principle that this piece of land should be available to be used as the parish wants at whatever time the parish decides was felt to be wholly desirable, and it is hoped this will be confirmed with the adoption of the new WCC Local Plan. The Parish Council is still pursuing the investigation process as to what could be built on this site for the future benefit of our local people and sincerely hope that, in time, we will have the support of the vast majority of the parish to have built something to enhance this area, in particular enabling the improvement of the parish hall, its access and its surroundings to be brought about in one comprehensively planned action. There are two other applications in the pipeline that concern many people across the whole parish 1) that of Tangle House for a new drive and access to that property across the public footpath between the corner of Southdown Road and Shawford Down and 2) the application for change of use from agricultural building to residential dwelling of the old timbered barn beyond the end of Shepherds Lane. Orange notices with the number of the application, and the details, have been posted (as happens in all cases). If you have any objections to raise to any proposals please do put pen to paper and if you feel so inclined, inform or consult with the Parish Council through any

of the councillors. We do appreciate your views and can only try to act for the majority. I conclude by reporting only slow progress being made as regards the amalgamation of the two special schools in Shepherds Lane, and the proposed housing site in Martins Fields.

Parish Facilities Committee.

Cllr Hazlitt reported on the three issues which have exercised the attention of the Parish Fac. Committee this last year 1) development land adjoining the parish hall 2) parish hall refurbishment 3) sports facilities.

A full history of events concerning the hall development site was read to the assembly, including proposed developments that had proved abortive, and the views of Shawford Village Residents' Association, culminating with advice that the Parish Council have not yet entered into discussion with the Chief Planning Officer regarding the number and type of flats that may be permitted, though informal conversations have been held with the Chief Planning Officer and members of the Planning Committee.

Concerning the parish hall, Cllr Hazlitt reported that there are no plans or proposals made for works though it is, of course, the intention of the Parish Council to refurbish the parish hall to bring it up to present publicly accepted standards. On sports facilities Cllr Hazlitt reported that discussions are going on with the Management Committee of the Sports Club, in the first case about renewal of the playing field pavilion but spanning also the Parish Councils' intention that facilities should be available, as far as possible, to the whole village and the management base should be broadened to include representatives of the whole parish and there should be additional facilities beyond soccer, cricket and tennis. He reported that some progress is being made.

Cllr Hazlitt stated that he would like to add to things that had been said and emphasise them to the assembly. He reported a) that the Parish Council have agreed and stated both in the minutes of meetings and verbally by Chairman and others that overriding consideration in developing hall land is to provide suitable housing for those in need of it in the Parish and that finance, though implicated, is of secondary consideration. Any revenue will be used as stated to refurbish the Parish Hall and particularly to make a contribution to additional and/or improved sports facilities; b) the Parish Council have emphasised time and time again their intention to consult Parishoners before any definite detailed intention to develop land, refurbish the parish hall or contribute to sports facilities; the whole parish will be consulted and the PC have your assurance that they have your support.

Cllr Hazlitt concluded with thanks to fellow committee members Mrs Jean Millar, Mr Nicholas Campbell-White, Mr Adrian Walmsley and Mr Anthony Lockett.

Report of the School Governor.

Cllr R Wilmshurst read the following report.

Compton CoE Aided School still continues to be a popular school. Many parents support the school from the surrounding area adjacent to our Parish. We are grateful to them as it would be very difficult to keep our village school viable with only the children within the Ecclesiastical Parish boundary. The Governors have adopted an Admission Policy which gives local children priority of

admission. April last there were 118 pupils, today there are 122. The Governors are responsible for a budget of approximately £190,000.00 on which to run the school. Salaries obviously are the major lump sum cost. But it is easy to overlook budgeting for long term maintenance. In September, Dr Eileen Gorrod succeeded Mrs Margaret Loman as Chairperson of the Governing Body. The 21st March saw the last Governors meeting for Mr Wyn Rees, a Parent Governor having completed his term of office. There were two nominations for his replacement and Mrs Catherine Beckett was elected. At the meeting of Governors, on 29th September, Mrs Dorothy Highfield, Head Teacher advised the meeting that she wished to resign on 31 December 1994. Several farewell gatherings were organised, and many tributes paid to Dorothy for her work and efforts at Compton School. The post of Head Teacher was advertised and over 50 applications received. The final result, after two days of interviews, was the appointment of the Deputy Head, Mrs Gerry Sollom. Her post of Deputy Head has been advertised and interviews are taking place shortly. Mr Smith, caretaker for 12 years, finally retired, and his replacement only lasted a few weeks. The caretaker now appointed is Mrs Lyn Booker. Mrs Sue Hume-Smith, School Administration Officer, has been unwell since January, and only returned this week. It has been quite a busy and eventful year, let us hope we can now settle down and continue the success of the past.

Otterbourne Incinerator Emissions.

Mr. Peter Gerstrom, Chief Executive Officer, and Mr. Robert Cooper, Incinerator Manager, Hampshire Waste Services, addressed the meeting and gave explanations, with the aid of diagrams, of the working of the plant and nature of the various emissions. The speakers responded to all the questions raised from the floor, and advised that complaints can be made by 'phone (713553) direct to Mr Cooper, plant manager, who will be pleased to deal with the matters complained of.

Question Time and Matters Raised from the floor :-

Removal of land from Strategic Gap

Reported that land forming part of the Strategic Gap, north of Shawford, had been reclassified as Countryside without notice or consultation with the Parish Council or with the ward City Cllr G Beckett. Following advice and information given by Cllr Beckett, who is to try for a change of land designation, it was agreed to write a letter of complaint to the Chief Planning Officer, and to the Chief Executive, WCC, regarding the consultation process. The Chairman thanked Cllr Beckett for the advice and information given to the meeting.

Parishioner are redundant steps at subway to be removed?

Response by Cllr Wilmshurst - to be removed.

Mrs G Coleman is 40 mph speed limit to Winchester to be imposed and can mess by the bus shelter be removed?

Response by Cllr Walmsley - to be raised at meeting with J Chapman, Mott MacDonald.

Mrs V Roberts complained of rubbish on playing field and need for bins to be emptied on a regular basis;

Field Way has not been maintained and is the Parish Council liable for their frontage to the road; Would not like to see trees removed from the M3 surplus land to be returned to the PC as they form a good sound barrier.

Response by Cllr Walmsley - understand that PC do not own playing field land right up to edge of road Field Way; land useless if bounded by trees.

Mr P Toghill parking on Compton Street, is PC trying to get parking spaces?

Response by Cllr Walmsley - old slip road looked at but impossible as too narrow for parking and not suitable on safety grounds. PC now looking at parking in school grounds.

Mr PD Croker parents need cars for taking pupils to school - not many children in village. Cllr Mrs A Bailey - cycle tracks to be looked into.

Mr S North no screening between the two bridges at Shawford

Response fencing not desirable as it would adversely affect views from residents' houses, also, Public Inquiry decided no fencing to be erected (letter to be sent)

Mr S North could road (southbound) be widened at refuge opposite Compton Street

Response the island refuge provides for a 'pinch point' to slow traffic and any widening, if possible, would be detrimental and increase traffic hazards_

Mrs J Hazlitt difficult for pedestrians to get access to Shawford Down. Could path be provided from Walcons entrance?

Response PC have asked HCC for steps but HCC have agreed with British Rail for path to be diverted during present financial year

Mr M Gordon complained of the condition of Shawford Down, that there should be tree screening and that important trees had been cut down at the rear of houses. Reiterated that maintenance of Shawford Down was well below standard.

Mr HR Peake complained of graffiti on M3 fence

Response Cllr Walmsley to talk to Mott MacDonald, also about graffiti in subway

Mr M Hegan as parish hall losing money, proceeds of sale of development site should be spent on hall improvements to increase lettings.

Mrs V Roberts development site a valuable asset for the future.

Cllr Wilmshurst hall runs at a loss and is subsidised by the precept.

Mr S North horse riding off perimeter track on Shawford Down-can it be stopped in view of churning of ground.

Response Cllr Hazlitt to discuss matter with HCC (letter to be sent). The direction signs and posts keep the majority of riders around the perimeter but it is impossible to keep riders off the Down, or ban horses, as Shawford Down is an open public space.

The Chairman thanked all for coming and the meeting was closed.