

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hooper's Field Project Committee meeting held on
Monday 15th August 2022 at Hooper's Field starting at 7.30pm

Present: John Emmins (Chair), Dave Hayward, Kathy Glanville, Colin Offer (Parish Councillors), Gordon Heywood (Wanborough Tennis Club), David Halfhead (Resident).

In attendance: Angela Raymond (Clerk) and 1 member of public

Minute Ref: HFP/08/22/

1 Apologies: Bob Biggs (Parish Councillor), Paul Penfold (Wanborough Cricket Club), John Errington (Wanborough Bowls Club), Lee Herring (Wanborough Petanque)

2 Declaration of interest
No interests declared

THE MEETING WILL BE ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

No questions

3. To discuss letter received from Swindon Borough Council in relation to S106 funding from the New Eastern Villages.

John Emmins confirmed that he is disappointed with the letter from SBC but he is not surprised. A discussion took place in relation to NEV, the estimated overspend on the SCR and other roadworks projects. The number of dwellings that will be built within Wanborough Parish within the NEV before any facilities are available. It is clear that Hooper's Field will be used by new residents from the NEV with new footpath links to the village from new site at Redlands, Foxbridge and the Lotmead Phase 1. The only S106 funding the village will receive from the NEV is for the Traffic Calming on the High Street, SBC are not allocating anything further.

The committee agreed that the letter sent to SBC was a good letter, clearly highlighting a number of points and providing a strong argument to SBC to gain S106 funding plus providing a copy of the business case for Hooper's Field expansion plan. The committee felt that at the moment there isn't anything further they can do. It was agreed that copies of these letters and further details should be submitted as part of SBC's Local Plan Review to 2036 so that the Inspector who reviews the Local Plan can see that SBC have not provided any funding from the 4,000 new dwellings within Wanborough Parish to the local area to support the much needed refurbishment of a local facility, however the Local Plan review is a long process and unlikely to help the current situation and need for funding for Hooper's Field.

4. Update Working Party – Business Case

Confirmation that the Business Case is now complete but there is no reason why it can not be updated or improved if anyone has any further information that they would like added to the document.

Kathy Glanville suggested including more community activities that will encourage more local residents to take up some fitness activity, suggestion "couch to 5km" is a very popular activity, we just need someone to organise it. This is similar to the "Park Yoga" that is currently being looked into for Hooper's Field.

Angela Raymond
Parish Clerk & RFO

5. Update Working Party - Funding

- Update on the meeting held with representative from the Lottery Funding (tnl community fund).

Clerk provided an update on a meeting she attended “meet the funder” who provided details about what funding is currently available from the Lottery. Two representatives from the Lottery fund covering the Swindon area provided their contact details and are happy to review any application before it’s submitted. It was agreed to arrange a working party meeting to take this forward.

- Landfill Tax – Capital projects

Clerk confirmed that there is a recent article in the SLCC magazine about gaining “landfill Tax” grants for sports facility improvements so this is something that can be looked into.

It was agreed that further members are needed on this working party in order to start looking at funding options for this project, at the moment it is Bob Biggs, John Emmins and Gordon Heywood, but clearly more members are needed.

It was agreed to contact each of the clubs to gain confirmation as to what funding is available from the sports bodies. During covid a lot of funding for capital projects was frozen to allow more support during the pandemic, however need to check with the clubs if this is still the case or whether there are now new funding options.

SBC’s Letter states they have a list of other funding options so perhaps we can ask for a copy of this list from them.

6. Planning Application – Discharge of conditions

A quote received from SWA (Architects) who compiled the original plans for the facility, was circulated. The quote provides details on the cost for the work needed to be carried out to discharge the conditions on the planning consent. These conditions will need to be discharged before any work on different parts of the project can commence.

A discussion took place in relation to whether discharging the conditions needs to be done now or whether it can wait until funding applications are completed. It was confirmed that it depends on whether any part of the project wants to move forward sooner, such as the tennis club flood lights or petanque area. Gordon Heywood confirmed that the Tennis Club are not yet ready to progress with the new floodlights but he will double check. Colin Offer felt that this part of the application (floodlights) can be separated off and done on its own without the need to discharge conditions, this was discussed and confirmed that the tennis club would need to submit a new planning application and there will still likely to be similar discharge of conditions for this application.

A discussion took place in relation to who should pay for the cost to discharge the conditions, whether it should be Parish Council or clubs.

It was agreed to ask the clubs as several club representatives are not at this meeting. It was also agreed to look at funding options to see if a grant can be gained to cover this cost.

7. Next meeting – Monday 21st November 2022

Meeting closed 9.05pm

Angela Raymond
Parish Clerk & RFO