



Windlesham Parish Council

Joanna Whitfield
 Clerk to the Council
 Tel: 01276 471675
 Email: clerk@windleshampc.gov.uk
 Website: www.windleshampc.gov.uk

The Council Offices
 The Avenue
 Lightwater
 Surrey
 GU18 5RG

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY WINDLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL
 Held on Tuesday 16th April 2024, at 7.30pm held at St Anne’s Church Centre, 43
 Church Road, Bagshot

Bagshot Cllrs		Lightwater Cllrs		Windlesham Cllrs	
Bakar	P	Harris	P	Hardless	RA
Du Cann	P	Hartshorn	A	Lewis	A
Gordon	-	Jennings-Evans	P	Marr	A
Hills	P	Malcaus Cooper	P	McGrath	A
Willgoss	P	Turner	P	Richardson	P
White	P	Stevens	P		
		D Jennings-Evans	A		

In attendance: Jo Whitfield –Clerk to the Council
 Sarah Wakefield – Assistant Clerk
 Cllr Hoad – Surrey Heath Borough Council
 Helen Hansen-Hjul – Windlesham Resident

P – present A – apologies PA – part of the meeting RA- remote attendance
 - no information

It is to be noted that Councillors attending remotely are not eligible to vote

Cllr Turner took the Chair

.....

		Action
C/23/220	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Lewis, Marr, McGrath, Hartshorn, and D Jennings-Evans. Cllrs Hardless was in remote attendance.	
C/23/221	Declarations of interest Cllrs Richardson and Cllr Hardless declared a non-pecuniary in item 6 on the agenda due to being predetermined on the matter of the CGR request. <u>Cllr Richardson stated that she would recuse herself from any discussion or voting at any point during the meeting.</u> <u>Cllr Hardless was in remote attendance and, therefore was unable to vote.</u>	

	<p>Cllr Turner acknowledged that his Windlesham colleagues had recently noted that they were unhappy with his role and approach. Consequently, he sought the opinion of those present, inquiring whether they were content for him to continue chairing the meeting or if they would prefer the Vice Chair to assume the role.</p> <p>Cllr Hills proposed, and it was agreed unanimously that Cllr Turner would continue in the Chair.</p> <p>Finally, Cllr Turner requested that during the discussions Members remained calm and were civil and respectful to each other.</p>	
C/23/222	<p>Public question time</p> <p>Q: Helen Hansen-Hjul asked the Council to explain reasons according to schedule 12A of the LGA 1972 as to why the only substantive agenda item was to be discussed in the confidential part of the meeting.</p> <p>A:The Clerk explained that the decision stemmed from the inclusion of legal advice, which may lead to discussions involving individuals. Moreover, depending on the trajectory of discussions, it was possible that this could form the early stage of a challenge or dispute.</p>	
C/23/223	<p>To agree exclusion of the press and public.</p> <p>To agree that the following items be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded under S1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960:</p> <p>C/23/225 To consider a motion from Cllr Turner for Members to discuss all aspects of the recent request to SHBC to carry out a second Community Governance Review. The aim of the review would be to separate Windlesham North and South Wards from the existing Parish Council</p> <p>Councillors Willgoss, Malcaus, and Harris expressed their preference for discussing as much information as possible in the open meeting, acknowledging the constraints that sometimes prevent this from happening.</p> <p>Cllr Malcaus Cooper also noted that the current CGR request has been very emotive highlighting the necessity for the Council to understand the implications and consider how they move forward. Additionally, she pointed out that some complex issues would need to be resolved should the CGR and possible de-grouping go ahead. Cllr Malcaus Cooper also stated that she would like to see the Council communicate with residents as soon as possible to explain the process.</p> <p>Councillor Turner acknowledged that he was still awaiting information from SHBC following a FOI request and expressed his view that it was premature to come to any conclusions without having sight of this information.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Harris proposed, Cllr Hills seconded, and it was agreed unanimously that all items would remain in the confidential part of the meeting for the discussion. However, resolutions where possible will be recorded in the open minutes.</p>	
	<p>Prior to the start of the confidential discussion, Cllr Malcaus Cooper stated that she had no intention of falling out with anybody. Specifically with her fellow councillors. She emphasised the importance of disagreeing agreeably and maintaining a respectful approach to differing perspectives.</p> <p>Cllr Richardson also made a statement informing Members that throughout the planning of the CGR request, the WVC Councillors had consistently focused on general concerns without ever naming individuals or specific issues. She emphasized that her primary motivation for becoming a councillor was to advocate for the residents. She added that any potential disagreement with Windlesham Parish Council would only arise if she found it challenging to fulfil this representation role effectively, concluding that she would always choose residents first.</p> <p>Cllr Richardson and Cllr Hardless recused themselves.</p>	
C/23/224	<p>Exclusion of the press and public.</p> <p>Agreed the following items be dealt with after the public, including the press, have been excluded under S1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960:</p> <p>C/23/225 To consider a motion from Cllr Turner for Members to discuss all aspects of the recent request to SHBC to carry out a second Community Governance Review. The aim of the review would be to separate Windlesham North and South Wards from the existing Parish Council</p>	
C/23/225	<p>To consider a motion from Cllr Turner for Members to discuss all aspects of the recent request to SHBC to carry out a second Community Governance Review. The aim of the review would be to separate Windlesham North and South Wards from the existing Parish Council</p> <p>Members were presented with a timeline and all available information relating to the CGR request, including guidance on Community Governance Reviews.</p> <p>Following a lengthy discussion the following resolutions were made:</p> <p>Please note that at 21:55 Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders to continue the discussion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cllr Harris proposed, Cllr Hills seconded, and it was agreed unanimously to delegate authority to the Clerk in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair to obtain advice on the initiation of the CGR and if accepted by SHBC, all other aspects of the CGR process, including legal advice if 	

	<p>necessary. It was also resolved that if required, any associated costs up to £40k will be funded from the general reserve.</p> <p>2. Cllr Jennings-Evans proposed, Cllr Harris seconded, and it was resolved that subject to any advice obtained the Council delegated authority to the Clerk in conjunction with the Chair and Vice Chair to write to SHBC regarding the handling of this matter.</p> <p>3. Cllr Turner proposed, Cllr Willgoss seconded, and it was resolved unanimously to delegate authority to the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chair of the Communications Committee and the Communications Officer to publish a communication regarding the CGR process.</p> <p>4. Cllr Turner proposed, Cllr Willgoss seconded, and it was resolved unanimously to delegate authority to the Clerk, and the following nominated Councillors to hold discussions with SHBC. The nominated Councillors are as follows: Cllr Turner, Cllr Jennings-Evans, Cllr Harris, and Cllr Willgoss, with any other Bagshot or Lightwater Councillor acting as a substitute if required.</p> <p>It was also resolved that Cllr Turner will respond to the Leader of the Council regarding his previous communication.</p> <p>5. Cllr Turner proposed Cllr Malcaus Cooper seconded and it was unanimously resolved to form a working party to carry out an impact risk assessment to identify, analyse and evaluate potential impact or consequences that could arise should a CGR be initiated. It was also resolved that the working party would consist of all Members of the Lightwater and Bagshot Committees.</p>	
	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 22:30</p>	