

**MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF SMANNELL PARISH  
COUNCIL HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2015 AT THE SMANNELL & ENHAM  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, SMANNELL**

**Cllrs. Present:** Cllr. Rod Bowker (Chair), Cllr. Paddy Burt, Cllr. John Pickford

**In attendance:**

County Cllr. Tim Rolt

Representatives from the community in respect of Broadband provision in Smannell

**650. APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Tim Bilborough

Cllr. Dini Thorne

Borough Cllr. Alex Brook

Borough Cllr. Phil North

**651. PUBLIC QUESTIONS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None recorded.

**652. TO CO-OPT A SERVING MEMBER OF THE SMANNELL PARISH COUNCIL**

No member of the public was co-opted and this was therefore not enacted.

**653. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. John Pickford declared an interest in the broadband provision agenda item as he has fast broadband.

**The Chair elected to take the following agenda item at this stage of the meeting.**

**654. TO CONSIDER BROADBAND PROVISION FUNDING GAP FOR SMANNELL**

Jonathan Blake gave a presentation on the current status of deliberations regarding broad provision for Smannell. Hampshire County Council (HCC) is looking for alternative funding to bridge the gap until BT's planned implementation of fast broadband for most of the Parish in September 2018. HCC wants to ensure either viability of the current scheme on a commercial basis (unsubsidised) or migrate to other arrangements. Hampshire County Council does not wish to close the broadband provision but funding is not in place to sustain. Annual service charges are not covered by retail service. He quoted (ex VAT) from Virgin Media that an Independent Leased Line is £7,500, Telehouse interconnection £1,500, School £381. Therefore, there is an annual funding shortfall of £9,381 plus VAT, which equals £11,257. Mr. Blake and Mr. Manly requested a Parish Council contribution towards the funding gap of £3,000. HCC has been asked if they could accelerate BT's implementation but HCC are under considerable pressure from many rural communities and it seems unlikely that an earlier date is possible.

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Members felt that pressure needs to be applied by HCC on BT to bring forward the date and explore all the options available. Discussions ensued on possible funding sources and the suggestion was put forward on the use of possible Section 106 monies. It was felt appropriate that two or three spokespeople together with some representatives from the Parish Council meet with Test Valley Borough Council to make a case and ask if there are possibilities of funding. The Chair stated he would contact Borough Cllr. Phil North to pursue this and advised those present that the Parish Council may, in principle, consider a small funding contribution but a definitive timetable is required and the figures would need to be justified.

The Chairman responded that he thought £3,000 from the Council was more than it would be willing to pay, though the question would need to be discussed at a future time. Councillor Burt and the Chairman thought that, in principle, the Parish Council could pay some money to help though Councillor Pickford said he would need further persuasion.

**ACTION**

The Chair stated he would contact Borough Cllr. Phil North and organise a meeting at Test Valley Borough Council with representatives from the Parish Council and spokespeople from the broadband group to explore funding feasibilities.

**655. TO READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING – 14 SEPTEMBER 2015**

The Chair sought updates from the various action points arising from the previous Minutes, which had all been sanctioned and carried out. There were no outstanding points to pursue or matters arising from the action points of the last meeting.

The Minutes were Proposed by Cllr. John Pickford, Seconded by Cllr. Paddy Burt and unanimously agreed. Motion Carried. The Chair signed the Minutes as being a true and correct record.

**656. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

The correspondence list was considered and noted by members. A matter was raised concerning residents in Little London that the bus stop on the hill of Green Lane opposite the Little London sign is causing some concern as the elderly ladies who use it often are only able to stand on the road as there is no alternative waiting place for them. A suggestion was discussed of digging out a section of the verge so that people are not standing in the road with traffic driving past, which in some cases are large tractors, timber lorries and large horse boxes.

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Members felt that the bus shelter should be used and that people could wait and walk to the bus when it arrives but felt that Cango need to be approached to seek their recommendations on this issue.

**ACTION**

County Cllr. Tim Rolt offered to approach Cango on behalf of the Parish Council and make the necessary enquiries.

**657. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE CHEQUE PAYMENTS FOR SMANNELL PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Clerk advised members of the current bank balances as at November 2015 and the current financial payment schedule amounting to £7,933.44. This was made up of £971.28 for Little London Play Area necessary maintenance, £4,797.00 as a grant to the Augusta Park Community Association, £1,104.00 for a defibrillator at the Augusta Park Community Centre, £122.73 representing the Parish Clerk's September Salary, £122.73 representing the Parish Clerk's October Salary, £83.70 for the annual safety playground inspection, £91.80 for PAYE quarter, £120.00 for the Christmas Tree, £520.20 for a defibrillator cabinet. It was Proposed by Cllr. John Pickford, Seconded by Cllr. Paddy Burt and unanimously agreed to approve the finance schedule as prescribed. Motion Carried.

**658. TO UPDATE ON DEFIBRILLATOR PROCUREMENT**

The Chair advised those present that he has purchased a defibrillator and associated cabinet, which is located at the Augusta Park Community Centre. Training needs to be organised on the use of the defibrillator. He advised that the BT Phone Box located at Little London is now formally in the ownership of the Parish Council and a suitable power supply is being organised so that a defibrillator can be installed at this location and ensure that a constant supply is fed so that the equipment remains charged at all times. He also reported that he has received formal agreement from the brewery that a defibrillator can be installed at The Oak.

**659. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LLPF COMMITTEE AND ACTIVITIES**

Sam Jackson reported on the recent play area inspection that was carried out and remedial works have been undertaken to include work to the fencing. He reported that the recent firework display was a great success and approximately 600 people attended. He surmised that a profit is likely but did not have the final figures available. He advised the Christmas Lights Switch-on event will be taking place at 6.00pm on 7 December 2015. Members congratulated Sam Jackson and colleagues on the successful Fireworks Display.

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**660. TO DETERMINE PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The Parish Clerk advised members there were two planning applications for determination.

**15/02540/FPN** Land at East Anton, Smannell Road, Smannell, The length of FP715 between points A and B is to be extinguished; diverted footpath will comprise in part 3m wide Spine Road cycleway (A to E), 3m wide emergency access/cycleway (E to F), 2m wide hoggin footpath (D to C) and the existing unmade bridleway 755 (C to A). Members returned No Objection.

**14/02738/FPN** Land at East Anton, Smannell Road, Smannell. Permanent diversion of footpaths FP710 (part) and FP711 (part) (amended routes). Members returned No Objection.

**661. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE SMANNELL & ENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL**

None received.

**662. FOOTPATHS AND ROADS UPDATE**

A member of the public requested an update to the safer route from Augusta Park through to the school and the centre of Smannell. He observed that on leaving the footpath at Augusta Park, there needs to be soakaways installed and the grass verges would need to be kept down. The Chair clarified the anticipated route and stated that the path would start at Ashley Copse and then on to the church. It is anticipated that the path would be of gravel but not grating.

**ACTION**

The Chair to ask the Augusta Park Community centre team to advise people who are walking in the dark to take a torch and to wear fluorescent clothing in the interests of health and safety.

**663. BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS**

County Cllr. Tim Rolt reported that he was pleased with the recent works undertaken at Frenches Farm. He stated he would chase the matter of the painting of white lines and ensure that they are confined to the side of the road.

**664. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**

None recorded.

There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.32 hours.