

**WOODMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**Minutes of Meeting held in the Parish Hall on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.45p.m.**  
**(Members of the Public were invited to attend)**

**Mrs L Bannister – Clerk to the Council**  
**48 Titmus Drive Tilgate Crawley West Sussex RH10 5ER**  
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Email: woodmancoteparishcouncil@gmail.com

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**Present:** WPC Cllrs. C. Broucke (Chairman), M. Grimes, P. Williams, J. Prangnell and M. Batchelor  
L. Bannister (Clerk)

**Others Present:** 11 members of the public  
Rev'd Doick  
WSCC Cllr. D. Barling  
WSCC representative J. Furber  
HDC Cllr. B. Staines

### **1. 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016 Minutes**

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Broucke.

### **2. Chairman's update**

Cllr. Broucke reported as follows:-

'I stood here last year thinking this is probably the last annual report I will be giving! For some reason one month later other members decided I should do another year, so I am sorry you're going to have to put up with me yet again!

2016 was a challenging year for us, the main item for us to deal with was the Neighbourhood Plan. Most of the groundwork had been done, it was then time to bring it all together and present it to our legal advisors and HDC for approval. After a little bit of re-working to meet the legal requirement, then we were ready to forward our work to the examiner. We waited with fingers crossed. Six weeks later we were called to HDC to discuss the report. Thanks to everyone's input, the examiner had accepted our Plan, and praised us for the way it was put together and the work that had been done. The next step for this is the referendum on 4<sup>th</sup> May – please vote!

In 2016 we saw several planning applications – all very different. We looked at them all on their individual merit and how they fitted the environment of Woodmancote. Most times we all agreed and generally HDC supported our comments, but not always!

As most of you will know the other big activity in Woodmancote is the major work taking place to install the cables for the wind turbine. As with all big jobs this hasn't all gone to plan, but I think they are all getting on

ok now. The last time Woodmancote saw major construction like this was in the late 60's/early 70's when the large gas main was installed across the Parish – which some of you will remember.

We have continued to pursue the installation of a flashing speed sign on the A281. We have been finding it difficult to justify the cost to the Parish of installing and maintaining this equipment. So, it will be brought up later in the meeting for consideration.

Looking ahead, we will be asking for help and support on ways to bring the Parish Hall into the 21<sup>st</sup> century so as to make it useful to all and viable, ensuring its future for the next generation. This will be quite a task and we hope you all can support us in some way. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me and the PC Members this past year, and I look forward to working with you all again in the future.

Thank you for your support!

### 3. Reports from WSCC/HDC

Cllr. Staines offered apologies on behalf of Cllr. Coldwell, and reported as follows:-

Parking permits are now in effect, and around 11,000 have already been sold.

The tender for new refuse trucks is due to be sent out soon.

The following questions were asked:-

Question/comment	Response
Cllr. Broucke asked if all car parks now up and running.	Yes they are. A member of the public said that it was chaos in Henfield yesterday.
Cllr. Grimes asked if it was four hours parking across the whole Horsham District.	This isn't the same in all areas. The permit for Henfield allows four hours parking, and an additional four hours can be bought for £1.50. P. Bates said that Henfield Hall has been offered a few passes for visitors, but P. Bates is waiting for confirmation from HDC on how these can be used.
Cllr. Broucke asked when the rear loading refuse trucks are due to come in.	This will be next year.
Cllr. Batchelor asked if disabled parking is free.	Cllr. Staines does not know the answer to this. Cllr. Williams said this is not free in Henfield.
P. Batchelor said that household refuse is going to be collected fortnightly instead of weekly. The statement from HDC is that this will improve recycling. How will this work?	Cllr. Staines said that the service is changing due to funding from Government being withdrawn. Cllr. Barling added that evidence from other areas of the country shows that this does increase recycling.

C. Warren recommended a visit to Ford Recycling Centre.	
A member of the public asked if recycling will be increased to weekly collection.	Cllr. Barling said he suspects that there wouldn't be a business case for this.
A member of the public asked if there are any plans for a community recycling centre.	Cllr. Barling said that in other areas these weren't very well used.
Cllr. Williams asked if the new trucks are able to be used with the current bins.	Yes.
P. Batchelor asked that John Loxley, from HDC, could contact the leaseholders of the Blackstone Rise garages to update them on what is happening with the proposed development.	Cllr. Staines agreed to ask that this is done. Cllr. Broucke updated the meeting that HDC have said that they are not currently looking at this development as they are putting their efforts elsewhere. They will continue to manage the garages, and will revisit the redevelopment of them in the future.

Cllr. Broucke explained that Cllr. Barling could not make a presentation as he is up for re-election in May. Thanks were offered to Cllr. Barling for what he has done for the parish and the surrounding area.

A member of the public asked if there is a boundary for the area of outstanding natural beauty in Woodmancote. Cllr. Broucke said that there is a boundary of the South Downs National Park.

*Cllr. Barling left the meeting*

#### **4. Report on broadband in Woodmancote**

Jo Furber from WSCC broadband team made a presentation about broadband in Woodmancote. A copy of this presentation is attached to these Minutes.

A member of public said that she is already getting fibre optic. This is from a cabinet that had already been upgraded.

A resident of Bramlands Lane said that a commercial cabinet has already been installed on Bramlands Lane. Will this benefit him? J. Furber said no, but if the community want to make a joint application to BT for fibre to be provided, BT will provide them with a quote and also offer them a discount. As there is already fibre infrastructure down the lane, it is likely that this will be cheaper. This is called Community Partnership.

*Cllr. Staines and J. Furber left the meeting*

## **5. Rampion Wind Farm report**

A report from Rampion was read out. This report is attached to these Minutes.

## **6. Vehicle Activated Sign**

Cllr. Broucke explained that WPC has been looking into buying a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) for the A281 outside the Parish Hall, facing north. This will cost around £8,500 for installation and equipment, and around £450 for ongoing maintenance costs. The cost of electricity and insurance is unknown.

Evidence shows that these signs are only effective for 3-4 months, and for newcomers.

A member of the public has spoken to Cllr. Coldwell about getting one of these on the A281 towards the south end as traffic there is extremely fast and there have been several 'near misses'. Cllr. Coldwell suggested S106 to fund this. A neighbour has compiled lots of statistics about crashes in the area.

Members of the public present at the meeting did not think the VAS outside the Parish Hall would be a good use of funds. Other suggestions for traffic calming were made as follows:-

- Temporary VAS
- Having the white 'slow down' writing repainted
- A roundabout at the Horn Lane junction

Traffic calming will be added to the next WPC Agenda to be discussed with District and County Councillors. The Clerk will look into all available options before the next meeting.

The member of the public asked if there would be any objections to a sign being put on a telegraph pole. Cllr. Broucke said that WPC generally would only object if this is not in keeping with the area.

## **7. Neighbourhood Plan**

There is a referendum on 4<sup>th</sup> May to vote on this.

It was asked if there is any news on Mayfield. Cllr. Broucke said that there is nothing new to report on this.

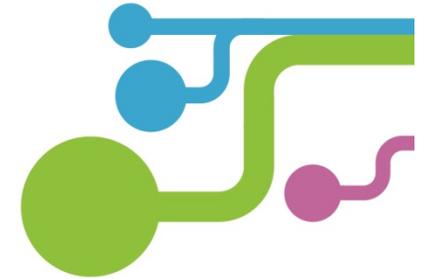
## **8. Question time**

A member of the public asked where funding comes from for the Parish Hall, as the rent on the cottage is low. Rev. Doick explained that the rent was originally low as a caretaker resided in the cottage in exchange for looking after the Hall. Once the residence has been updated, the rent will be charged at the market value, and the current tenant is aware of this.

It was asked if the hedge on Blackstone Lane could be cut back. Cllr. Broucke said that the landowners have already been notified about this.

*The meeting closed at 9.15 pm for tea and coffee*

# Bringing better, faster broadband to West Sussex



Better Connected update  
Woodmancote Parish Council  
04.04.2017



[www.westsussex-betterconnected.org.uk](http://www.westsussex-betterconnected.org.uk)

## Progress to date to >90%

- £20m roll out of fibre broadband infrastructure across 28,000 postcodes
- Over 60,000 more homes and businesses can now access better, faster broadband
- 47,000 can access 'superfast' broadband
- 340 cabinets and 46 FTTP sites now 'live'
- Take up so far 41% - national average 30%

# Progress to extending 'superfast' coverage to 95%

- £2.5m extension contract agreed with BT in June 2015 to set new 95% target
- More than 3,000 additional premises covered by end of 2017
- Challenging delivery due to technology, less flexible schedules
- All deployment is subject to detailed survey, design and network planning
- So far we have covered more than 1273 new premises, with an extra 1043 premises able to realise 'superfast' speeds.

# Technology

- A mix of Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) and Fibre to the Premises (FTTP)
- FTTC
  - Siting a new cabinet (DSLAM) next to/near to the existing cabinet
    - power required
    - may require new ducting
  - New cabinets will also be needed where previously copper lines have run from the exchange directly to a building.
- FTTP
  - No cabinets, fibre direct from the exchange
  - Use of existing ducting or laying of new ducting
  - Could use existing or new telegraph poles to go overhead.

# New fibre broadband network

- New fibre broadband 'spine' from exchange at Henfield
- Underground ductwork along A281 southwest then north to B2166
- PCPs Henfield 20 and 21 in Woodmancote proper
- PCPs Henfield 17/18/19 in north of Parish
- Engineering will be re arrangement of 'exchange only' lines onto the new cabinets
- Cabinets all stood and powered and due for completion by June 2017
- New broadband services expected to go 'live' by end of September.

## New fibre broadband network

- Henfield 21 – opposite Kentons Farmhouse, Brighton Road. Requires traffic management to de-silt two underground boxes. Starting 26<sup>th</sup> April.
- Henfield 20 – next to Four Elms, Blackstone Lane. Work is in progress to connect the cabinet to the wider Openreach fibre network.
- Henfield 17 – Opposite barns west of Moorlands Farm, Wheatsheaf Road. Location on unregistered land and required 28 day notice now expired. Exploring the existing network to make it ready to install the fibre.
- Henfield 18 – side of Wagtails, Henfield Road (Annie's baskets)  
Henfield 19 – opposite Alastore Barn, Wheatsheaf Road. Both stood and powered, spine build ongoing.

# For more information

Use the postcode checker and exchange map at:

[www.westsussex-betterconnected.org.uk](http://www.westsussex-betterconnected.org.uk)

Send enquiries to:

[Broadband@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Broadband@westsussex.gov.uk)



[www.westsussex-betterconnected.org.uk](http://www.westsussex-betterconnected.org.uk)

## **Woodmancote Parish Council update - April 2017**

### **General project update**

#### **Offshore**

- All 116 monopile foundations ready for the for turbines are installed
- Jacket foundation for substation is installed
- Two export cables are installed and around 60% of the array cable (the cables in between the turbines)
- Turbine installation began in March and as of today (29 March) – four turbines have been installed.
- The offshore substation is due for installation in early April.

#### **Onshore - general**

- Limited work on-site over the winter due to the Christmas shut-down and the weather.
- The works have extended beyond the original timeframe due primarily to the unseasonably wet conditions experienced since work began.
- Rain has hampered progress along the corridor and meant the completion date has been pushed out.
- The construction work will now continue into spring this year.
- However there has been progress with all the cable ducting now completed and around 50% of the cable installed.

#### **Onshore - reinstatement**

- The delay has slowed the reinstatement programme, which is when you will start to see the cable corridor being returned to its previous state.
- The timing of this has to align with planting seasons and right now the ground is too wet to give any grasses or vegetation planted the chance to reinstate properly.
- Despite the delays, the reinstatement of the corridor is still scheduled to take place this year (*starting May/June*).
- Both the initial reinstatement of the land to its former state, and our 10-year commitment to monitor and maintain it, were conditions within our planning permission.
- Rampion is working closely with the South Downs National Park Authority and the West Sussex County Council, both of which will monitor the reinstatement process and approve the works carried out.

## **Key areas relative to Woodmancote are Stages 3 and 4**

### **Stage 3 - South of Wheatsheaf Road (Access 25 and 26)**

- Due to the wet condition of the land where the final section of ducts needed to be laid (fields 85-88 on Mrs Nielsen's land) directional drilling was used.
- All ducts are now installed in this stage. They will be checked (proved) before the cable is pulled through. Joint bays will also be dug where the cables are joined.

### **Stage 4 - A281 (Access 23)/north of Horn Lane (Access 21)**

- All ducts are now installed in this stage. They will be checked (proved) before the cable is pulled through, and joint bays are dug.
- This work is on-going.

### ***In the coming months***

- As per above, there will be on-going cable pulling, cable jointing and the installation of link boxes.
- Joint bays will be back-filled once the cables are joined.
- There will be relatively low works related traffic.

### **Other**

#### **1. A number of Public Rights of Way were reported to be boggy and impassable during late February/early March**

- Each of these paths/roads was repaired and returned to a passable state by our contractor as soon as access allowed.

#### **2. Messy satellite site – sandbags and fallen down signs**

- The sandbags are used to hold the signs in place but at times they can be moved.
- In this instance, the day after it was reported that the signs were not as they should be, a contractor was sent to the site to fix the area.
- If anyone sees any of the construction sites in a messy state, they can contact us and we will arrange for a team to go and tidy/repair it.