

ASHURST AND COLBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15th JUNE 2010 AT THE CHURCH ROOMS COLBURY

Present: Councillors S. Arnold (in the Chair), D. Bryant, M. Coaker, C Hubbard, K. Kershaw, P. Sopowski and A. Sturgess.

In Attendance: Parish Clerk L. Griggs, County Councillor K Mans, District Councillor D. Tipp, Barrie Foley and Alison Barnes (both of the New Forest NPA) and 9 members of the public.

Apologies had been received from District Cllr Puttock

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and added I wish to give a very warm welcome to Alison Barnes who has taken on the position as Chief Executive for the National Park. We are pleased to see you and welcome you to our meeting. Regrettably when one new face comes in another face moves on, and of course I mean Barrie Foley. I will not repeat my words of appreciation from the last meeting, but just wish you the best in all you do, but mostly thank you for the work that you have achieved for all of us residents in the National Park and making lasting friends with all of us.

PRESENTATION

Barrie Foley then introduced a presentation on the New Forest which was continued by Alison Barnes. This was followed by a question and answer session.

The Chairman thanked both for their presentation and for coming to the meeting

POLICE REPORT

The Chairman invited PC Andy White to give the Police Report as he needed to resume his duties. PC White outlined the key points of the report and said there was an increase in the theft of cycles and from cars in Ashurst. Two cycles had been stolen from a garage in Ashurst and five of the six thefts from cars had taken place in public house car parks in Ashurst. He urged everyone to be vigilant and report suspicious strangers or vehicles lurking around.

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST IN AN AGENDA ITEM

The Chairman reminded Councillors that if there was any item on the agenda which would warrant a Councillor submitting a Form C. they should do so now. None were produced. The Chairman also reminded Councillors that if any item arose during Public Participation which warranted a Form C they should declare it immediately.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the last Meeting, which had previously been circulated to all Councillors, were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident raised the issue of a very low flying aircraft on Monday 7th June at about 7.20pm. and said he had heard in reports of the new terminal at Bournemouth airport that traffic was expected to increase three fold over the next few years. **Cllr Bryant** confirmed the incident and said he was expecting to hear the plane crash it was so low.

Barrie Foley said the NPA had lost a court case against the expansion which had also been opposed by the Parliamentary Committee. A Burley Resident had been strongly opposed to the expansion and was still working on the issue and recommended the Council to talk with Burley Parish Council. Alison Barnes said she was going to see the manager of the airport and would raise the issue. Cllr Mans said there were no corridors in this area where aircraft could fly below 500 metres so if such an incident occurred again to telephone the airport giving them the time and flight direction of the plane and any other details as they could track it through the National Traffic Management centre.

4. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

a) A326/A35 roundabout. During the village walk round this had been pointed out to Highways who had undertook to get the white lines repainted and also to report the concerns over safety for vehicles turning round to reach Colbury Memorial Hall.

b) Village walk round with Highways. The Chairman reported that a list of items to be dealt with had been given to Rob Millar and additional items added during the walk round. A complete report has been printed and given to Cllrs. She thanked those Cllrs who had attended. **Cllr Sopowski** expressed concern that the grass areas were like a bowling green whereas in Totton they were covered with flowers. As Ashurst was shown as the gateway to the Forest flowers were essential and suggested those responsible for cutting the grass be asked to do so less frequently to allow the flowers to grow and also save money. He asked if this item could be put on the agenda for the next meeting. In response to an enquiry the Chairman said she had emailed Rob Millar to thank him for his time on the walk round.

5. RECREATION GROUND

a) **Cllr Bryant** reported that he had spent a lot of time in the Recreation Ground dealing with the limbs that had broken off the willow tree adjacent to Lakewood Road and had also securely fixed the A frame in the new play area. The cargo net had been repaired and reinstalled but a spring on the small see-saw had broken again and an estimate was awaited to see if it was worth repairing.

The Chairman expressed appreciation to Councillor Bryant for his swift action in dealing with the tree damage.

b) The Clerk reported on correspondence from Mr Williams regarding both the Timberline equipment and Friends of the Park project. After discussion the Clerk was instructed to reply both to the recent letter and also regarding the proposed entry for the Newsletter.

c) **Cllr Coaker** reported that NPA had requested an ecological and tree survey on the Friends of the Park project. Two firms had been asked to tender for the work including the necessary surveys. David Hewitt had asked Cllr Sopowski to act as the independent assessor for the project. It was also proposed to have a stall at the village fete with all the plans, layouts etc so that everyone could see what was being proposed and comment accordingly.

d) Cllr Bryant reported that the damaged Notice Board in the Recreation Ground was now in course of being repaired.

6. PLANNING

a) **Cllr Sopowski** gave a report on planning activities since the last meeting.

b) The Clerk reported that the appeal hearing for 84 Lyndhurst Road would take place on 13th July. As soon as details for the NPA meeting were to hand he would forward it to all Councillors

7. ACCOUNTS

a) On a proposal by **Cllr Hubbard** seconded by **Cllr Sturgess** the accounts paid since the last meeting were approved

8. GRANTS

None

9. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Cllr Coaker had attended the village walk round

Cllr Hubbard had attended the village design statement meeting and the village walk round

Cllr Kershaw had attended the village walk round

Cllr Arnold attended the following:-

- Presentation of Forest Watch
- Meeting with Ringwood Town Council re the new Association to replace NFALC
- Meeting with John Cockram [author of war book for village]
- Auction of St. Anthony's at the Happy Cheese. It went for £450,000.
- Village Design Statement – Caroline will report on this on agenda item 13 but will just say how pleased we were to see a young resident join the committee. Sophie is studying Geography and Planning at Cardiff University, but at present having a work experience period with the NPA.
- Meeting at Hythe Parish Council re NFALC along with Ringwood and representatives from NFALC
- Meeting with Friends of the Park. It appears they have nearly ticked all the boxes for their grant.
- Annual walkabout with Rob Millar HCC
- Meeting with John Cockram [author of war book for village]

10. CORRESPONDENCE

The list of correspondence had been circulated and items were available for anyone to see. **Cllr Mans** asked if the letter and leaflets about the new HATS was included and the Clerk confirmed it was.

11. COMMUNITY PLAN

Cllr Coaker said there had been no meetings of the Committee since the last council meeting so there was nothing to report.

12. VILLAGE FETE

Cllr Sturgess reported that it was progressing well and the RNLI were well involved. There would be more events in the arena including an RNLI character, Stormy Sam with the children; he would also be walking round the fete during the day.

13. VILLAGE DESIGN AND CHARACTER APPRAISAL

Cllr Hubbard said the group had met and that the following had been discussed and agreed.

- I have emailed Paula Freeland at NPA to arrange a meeting for guidance and information.
- We would like a stand at the fete to give information and canvass for residents views and ideas.

- We would like to use the front page of the October Newsletter to publicise a public meeting in November at which we could give information about the purpose of the Design Statement and involve interested parties in a practical way.

14. ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported that following an intervention by **Cllr Frost** the Longdown Management Company had located some land which may be available for allotments. The proposal would be submitted to the Trustees at their meeting in July.

15. FOREST WATCH

a) It was agreed that this should be scheduled for September on a date when Sgt Hubble would be able to make the presentation. It was also agreed that a presentation by Steve Avery (NPA) on changes to the planning procedure should take place at the same meeting. It was also agreed that all local councils in the quadrant should be invited. Barrie Foley confirmed that the NPA would deal with all the invitations as soon as a date was agreed.

b) The Chairman drew attention to the National Park road shows being held throughout the forest, the subject being Landscape Strategy and the Biodiversity Action Plan. She added there is one tomorrow from 2 -8pm at Lyndhurst Community Centre. For other dates see the Council notice board.

16. OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS IMPORTANT

None

17. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING

None

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm

Signed P W J Sopowski Vice Chairman

Dated 20th July 2010