

ASHURST AND COLBURY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15th OCTOBER 2013 AT THE CHURCH ROOMS, DEERLEAP LANE, COLBURY

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

In Attendance: District Cllr D. Tipp and 9 members of the public.

Apologies: County Cllr K. Mans, District Cllr L. Puttock

The Chairman said Good Evening and welcome. Before we commence this meeting I would like to thank Councillor Hubbard and Mr. Roy Arnold for their work in aiding the minutes to be completed for the Clerk.

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST IN AN AGENDA ITEM

Councillors are required to declare any interests they may have in relation to items on the agenda for this meeting.

When verbally declaring interests, (including during Public Participation) members are also required to complete the Disclosure of Interests at Meetings Form.

2. MINUTES

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

Matters arising not on the agenda

None

3. PRESENTATION ON RURAL HOUSING

The Chairman introduced Catherine Kirkwood, Rural Housing Enabler of Action Hants.

Catherine explained that Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) was set up to provide affordable housing schemes for local people in rural villages. She said several schemes had been put in place in the New Forest which provided rented properties at around 80% of what is available on the open market. They were for rent in perpetuity and could only be rented to people who:-

- Live in the Parish
- Have previously lived in the parish and had close family members still living there or
- Work in the parish

The Parish Council is involved/consulted at every step of the process and will:-

- Contribute to the process of measuring local needs
- Identify sites
- Comment on the design and layout of schemes

The current waiting list for this parish is 22 one bed, 18 two bed and 3 three bed accommodation.

Following a Q&A time Catherine thanked the Council and residents for listening to her and hoped to hear from the Council in due course.

The Chairman thanked Catherine for her presentation.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman said she had received a letter from a villager quoting minutes of 16th April that achieving high speed access Broadband for all in the village was a priority of the HCC for the coming year.

He would be grateful if we could champion this cause on behalf of certain areas that cannot access the faster Broadband.

I have replied to his request and asked if he registered his interest on HCC website, where if clearly requests that in order to identify which areas have the greatest demand for superfast access, HCC have set up a page

on their website for individuals and businesses to register their interest. This is an important process as a superfast access [up to 24MB] will only be delivered to those areas with the greatest return on investment.

A resident said marks had been put down on Whartons Lane which appeared to be for a cycle race and enquired who would be able to tell him what and when it was. He was advised probably HCC or NFDC. He also said Vixen Close had a notice Private Road and wondered if it was really a private road. He was advised that NFDC had responsibility for that and should be able to advise him.

5. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Buses.

Cllr Kershaw said he had advised HCC of the decision reached at the last meeting and during that discussion he had been advised that the old buses were still needed as the new buses were too tall to go under the Ampress bridge at Lyminster. HCC advised that there was a very long term plan to raise the bridge.

6. RECREATION GROUND

The meeting was advised that the parts for the vandalised Timberline equipment had been delivered and would be fitted shortly.

The Community work people had cleared footpaths, swept the play area, tidied up and took particular attention to the area of vegetation at the back of Chestnut Drive.

7 PLANNING

Cllr Sopowski reported on recent planning applications and decisions.

8 FINANCIAL ISSUES

The cheques issued since the date of the last meeting were approved.

9. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

Cllr Sturgess attended the final meeting of the 2013 Fete Committee.

Cllr Tipp reported that a test court case had rejected the proposal for more separation of recyclable material and the present two bag system would remain.

10. A&C COMMUNITY GROUP

There was a discussion on whether the Welcome Pack should be put on the web site. The vote proved in favour.

11. VILLAGE FETE

Cllr Sturgess said the cheques for £1,400 each had been handed over to representatives of HANSAR and Teenage Cancer Trust prior to this meeting. More volunteers were needed to keep the Fete going.

The following issues were noted:-

- A space is kept within the ground for cars bringing less mobile people to the fete. Enter by the Whartons Lane entrance
- Competitions. These could only be arranged if entries were received. For example the cake competition was dropped because at the last fete there were only two entries on the day.
- More things for people, particularly adults, to do. The present volunteers were fully occupied so this could only happen if we had more volunteers to man them.

12, 70th ANNIVERSARY OF D DAY ON 6TH JUNE 2014

The Chairman said she had nothing to report at this meeting

13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Chairman suggested she could invite a member of the NPA to come and talk about this subject

Cllr Sopowski would like to know what the likely costs were and also the workload for councillors
Cllr Coaker noted the Council had only just completed the Village Design statement and suggested we wait a while to see how that worked before launching on a new document.
It was agreed to take this item off the agenda until 2014

14. CO-OPTION OF A COUNCILLOR

On a proposal by **Cllr Sopowski**, seconded by **Cllr Sturgess**, Mr Charles Marchetti was unanimously co-opted onto the council to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr Peter Frost.

15. NFNPA DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Chairman noted that the National Park has opened a public consultation from 4th October to 22nd November 2013 which will give residents the opportunity to give comments as to how it engages with local communities and other interested groups in its work and how this engagement could be improved. The draft document is available on the Authority's website. The Clerk forwarded an email with the links on 4th October.
Cllr Kershaw noted that the present procedures seemed to work well and saw no need for any change. This seemed like reinventing the wheel.

Cllr Sopowski suggested that as the deadline was after the next meeting, councillors should forward their views to the Clerk who would prepare a summary for consideration at the November meeting
It was also noted that individuals could make comments and the documents and response forms were available from the NPA.

16. ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS IMPORTANT

- a) The item referred to in the minutes of the September meeting regarding 'Aster Living in Hampshire' was published in the newsletter and to date there has been no take up.
- b) Just a reminder for residents – the construction of a new pedestrian refuge island on the Southampton Road, Lyndhurst will be in progress for the following 3-4weeks. Temporary two way traffic lights will be in place during this period
- c) It was noted that Navajo Lodge had been renamed Far Corfe which while seemingly innocent was clearly rude and possible very offensive. The Clerk was asked to write to NFDC objecting to this change. .

17. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Rural Housing

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm

Signed - Cllr S R Arnold – Chairman

19th November 2013