

## ASHURST AND COLBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2013 AT THE CHURCH ROOMS, DEERLEAP LANE, COLBURY

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

**In Attendance:** Parish Clerk L. Griggs, County Cllr K. Mans, District Cllr L. Puttock and 11 members of the public.

**Apologies:** District Cllr D. Tipp

#### 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.

**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 been circulated to all Councillors, were approved and signed.

#### **Matters arising not on the agenda**

None

**3. The Chairman** announced that County Cllr Mans had two other meetings to attend this evening and so would make his report now.

**Cllr Mans** reported that HCC had set up a grant fund of £1m for improvements to parish halls community centres etc to aid in reducing running costs such as energy bills. It was expected they would mainly be capital items which could be wrapped up by the end of the year. Matched funding would ease the passage of any application. Funds were also set up for highway matters such as flooding issues, and footpath maintenance being for smaller items which may have suffered in the recent austerity times.

**Cllr Sopowski** asked if community centres included such as CMH, Scout Hut and Church Rooms. **Cllr Mans** said the criterion was that they were used by the community in general and not one specific group. Applications should be made anyway as there were other grants available which may apply even if this one did not. **Cllr Sopowski** said it would be better to use funds to enable the Mobile Library to remain at its stops for say 2/3 hours rather than 20 minutes, to encourage young people to explore what was available rather than helping buildings not in public ownership.

#### 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

#### 5. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

a) Road closure.

The Council noted the following advance road closure notice from HCC

**A35 Southampton Road/Lyndhurst Road** between its junction with Station Approach and its junction with Ash Road.

b) Buses.

**Cllr Kershaw** reported as follows:-

Since the last PC meeting, in addition to continuing to pursue the introduction of a 20mph limit on and the repairs to New and Ashdene Roads, the Council's Transport Representatives have met with Bluestar to discuss possible ways of reducing the number of Double Decker buses using these roads. The meeting was positive with a clear programme of actions agreed. This meeting was held on Thursday 7 March after which the agreed actions were reported to Bluestar.

The following Monday I received an Email from Bluestar advising me that HCC had received a petition from residents of New and Ashdene Rd concerning the matter, possible the petition alluded to in Mrs Stratton's previous emails. The PC has to date not had sight of this petition. In view of this petition directly involving the County Council, and as Bluestar's contract for public funding is with HCC, Bluestar felt it was committed to deal with HCC regarding the bus service in the Parish rather than with the PC. For that reason the programme of actions agreed between Bluestar and the PC has fallen. The PC is currently taking advice from appropriate HCC Councillors.

**Cllr Coaker** added that the Council had been very pro-active on this matter and **Cllr Kershaw** had devoted considerable time dealing with residents, Bluestar and HCC.

c) SID.

**Cllr Kershaw** said there was no news at this time

d) Cycling event.

The non competitive cycle event through the Forest on April 14 was noted. Cllrs expressed concerns for safety as this was not under police control or supervision. Despite being called 'non competitive' prizes were awarded for various categories including the fastest time so it was a race in all but name.

## **6. RECREATION GROUND**

**Cllr Bryant** reported that:-

a) The quarterly inspection had revealed some minor items which would be dealt with once the weather improved.

b) Fence replacement. Following discussions with the neighbours new quotations were being obtained and this would be discussed at the next meeting.

c) Disabled access. The NFAFA situation on disabled access was discussed and it was agreed that **Cllr Coaker** would review the Friends of the Park Grant papers to see what was stipulated by the Big Lottery in relation to disabled access. The Clerk would then take appropriate action with the Big Lottery.

## **7. PLANNING**

a) **Cllr Sopowski** gave a report on the planning applications received and decisions made since the last meeting.

b) It was noted that NFNPA had agreed to retain the right of local Councils to have unlimited time to speak on Planning Applications and also to have a one minute right of reply following the Committee's deliberations. **The Chairman** thanked **Cllr Frost** for his efforts in achieving this result.

## **8. ACCOUNTS**

- a) The list of cheques issued since the last meeting was approved.
- b) It was noted the Internal Audit would take place on April 15<sup>th</sup> and it was hoped to present the Accounts and Annual Return to the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> April.
- c) **The Chairman** thanked the District Councillors for their grants towards equipment for the History Exhibition.

## **9. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**

**Cllr Hubbard** attended the VDS and Fete meetings

**Cllr Coaker** attended the meeting of the Fete Committee and also the meeting in New Road with Bluestar management.

**Cllr Bryant** attended the NF Consultative Panel meeting where attendance was an agenda item Although 70 were attendees only 20 normally attended. The Independent Review of the Forestry Commission was now to hand and the reviews of English Nature and the Environment Agency were due soon. An NPA film of data relating to war sites in the forest was now available. He also attended the Recreation Ground Committee meeting and various ad hoc allotment meetings.

**Cllr Sturgess** attended the Fete and Recreation Ground Committee meetings

**Cllr Kershaw** attended a meeting in New Road with Bluestar management.

**District Cllr Puttock** reported that NFDC were considering charging for disabled parking which was currently free. He understood the logic but had concerns about it. The Council was due to make a decision at its next full meeting

**The Chairman** attended

A meeting of the Village Design Committee, Councillor Hubbard will give the report.

A meeting of the Recreation Ground Committee

Was invited to join Foxhills School Governors for a meeting with Turley Associates

## **10. COMMUNITY PLAN**

**Cllr Coaker** reported that a discussion paper on local walking and cycling facilities had been prepared and would be discussed at the next meeting.

## **11. VILLAGE FETE**

**Cllr Sturgess** said that everything was going to plan.

## **12. VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT**

**Cllr Hubbard** reported that NPA have given the VDS committee a clear timetable for the VDS as a Supplementary Planning Document to be adopted. The consultation will be agreed by the Planning Development Control Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

Between 25<sup>th</sup> March and 6<sup>th</sup> May the formal Public Consultation will take place. It will be on the NPA website, posters around Ashurst/Colbury will advertise this and any residents with comments can write to the NPA at the Town Hall in Lymington or email comments to their website.

Additional publicity will be through the April edition of the Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council Newsletter which will inform residents the document is available to view.

From mid May the NPA steering group will meet to discuss information comments received and propose any changes.

On 27<sup>th</sup> June the BPA will consider its adoption as a Supplementary Planning Document.

**13. OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DEEMS IMPORTANT**

**The Chairman** reported the following:-

Councillors will have read the information on “Dual Hatted” members disclosable pecuniary interests and various dispensations. Although it does not apply to this Council at the present time it will apply if in the future we should have a new member elected or co-opted who is also a District Councillor.

The Community group will be staging the annual litter pick on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April starting from 2 Wood Road at 10.30a.m. The group will be borrowing litter pickers from NFDC and NFDC will also collect the filled bags. Anyone interested in joining in please contact 023 8029 3120 or email [lazybeescripts@bt.connect.com](mailto:lazybeescripts@bt.connect.com). If you are interested and not had time to write contacts down, please catch up with me after the meeting.

**14. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm

Signed.....Chairman

16<sup>th</sup> April 2013