

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council on 15th December 2015 at 7.30pm, held at the Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury.

Present: Cllr M Coaker (Chairman), Cllr Caroline Hubbard (Vice Chairman), Cllr Sally Arnold, Cllr Emma Lacey, Cllr Stuart Jenkins, Cllr Ann Sturgess, Cllr Mike Thomas, Cllr Clive White.

Clerk; Helen Klaassen

NFDC; Cllr Derek Tipp, Cllr Les Puttock.

Members of the Public; 22

Cllr Coaker called the meeting to order and informed those present that Councillors Jenkins and Thomas were making an audio recording of the meeting for their own private use.

Cllr Coaker then gave a short address welcoming everyone to the Parish Council's Christmas Meeting. He welcomed those who had been invited as a 'thank you' for all the support they had given the Parish Council this past year. Cllr Coaker finished by saying that hopefully the meeting would be a short one and that everyone would join Councillors for refreshments afterwards.

397/FC Public Participation.

Members of the Public, with the approval of the Chairman, will have the opportunity to ask questions relating to matters of community interest, which fall within the responsibility of the Parish Council.

Mike Craig; Raised the issue that he believed it was not appropriate for members of the public contributing to the magazine to do so anonymously. He said he felt it was detrimental to the community.

Cllr White responded; He said that it is ensured before publishing that any letter content is from residents of the community and that there would be residents who do not want their names to be published and that this was something that the committee had previously agreed would be acceptable.

Cllr Coaker concurred and said that it was our duty to protect a resident if they wished anonymity.

Cllr Jenkins spoke in support of Mr Craig, saying that he too felt names should be published.

The resident who wrote the letter spoke up, stating that she had no issues with people knowing that it was her and that she had ticked the wrong box on the submission form and that led to her submitting a request to remain anonymous.

398/FC Apologies for absence.

Cllr Keith Mans.

399/FC Disclosure Of Interest In An Agenda Item

Councillors are reminded that under the Code of Conduct if they have a personal or pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda they must declare it now.

Cllrs Thomas and Sturgess declared an interest in agenda item 409/FC as allotment tenants.

400/FC Approval of Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17th November 2015.

Cllr Arnold stated she hadn't organised the meeting with Mark Holroyd 'off her own back'.

Cllr Arnold also objected to the statement saying she would forward her notes, saying she believed it to be incorrect.

The council upheld the first statement but disagreed with the second.

Cllr Sturgess proposed and Cllr White seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.; 7 in favour, 1 abstention.

401/FC Matters Arising Not on the Agenda.

Mr Olson read out a statement regarding the post office; Mrs Olsen had been in to visit Carol and had ascertained from her that there was no need for Parish Council involvement and that Carol and Ash

were doing everything they could to ensure the continuation of a PO in Ashurst, a stance which was fully supported by PO Head Office. They are currently waiting for a buyer to take over the PO and Carol will keep the community updated.

Cllr Coaker read out an email received by the Clerk from Peter Shelley, Head of Passenger Transport, HCC, regarding the Concessionary Fares;

"Dear Ms Klaassen

Thank you for your email and for your advice that the Parish Council has received further requests regarding a possible exception to the 0930 start time for holders of older persons concessionary passes travelling from stops in the parish towards Southampton.

The decision to revert to the statutory start time of 0930 for holders of older persons concessionary passes followed countywide consultation in 2014 which invited responses on how the finite budget available to support public transport should be spent. 66% of respondents (2,130) were passholders but only 6% made retaining the extension to 0900 their top priority, preferring instead to focus funding on the support of the bus services themselves even if this meant paying to travel on certain journeys.

The change of start times is anticipated to save £300,000 which has allowed more money to be spent on supporting bus services than would otherwise be the case. As noted previously, on sections of route where there is a departure between 0900 and 0929 and no further journey until 1031 or later, travel is allowed from 0900 but to allow this in other circumstances would be unfair to those on other services. Your proposal would also create an anomaly in that passengers in Ashurst would be allowed to travel free whilst passholders boarding the same journey at Rushington at 0919 or Totton at 0927, or stops in between, would be expected to pay.

Thank you for the opportunity to consider this again. I regret that for the reasons given it is not appropriate to allow the exception that you propose"

Mr George spoke pointing out that they just missed the window for concessionary fare start times and that sadly, catching a later bus meant that they did not get into Southampton until nearly 11am.

Cllr Lacey asked Mr George if he had considered Lyndhurst NeighbourCare. The possibility was then discussed of NeighbourCare placing an advert in the magazine and to combine it possibly with a request for volunteers. It was agreed that Cllr Lacey should contact them to facilitate this.

Cllr Coaker informed those present that he and the Clerk had cycled the signed cycle route recently to check the signs and that his and ACCG's comments were sent to Mark Holroyd for consideration. It was noted that some of the pavements along the cycle route were overgrown and uneven making them difficult to use. Cllr Coaker had received a reply from Mark Holroyd and a meeting for a site visit is to be set up for January, to which ACCG will be invited.

402/FC Accounts.

- 1.** To consider accounts paid and payable since the last meeting (Appendix 1).
Cllr Hubbard proposed and Cllr White seconded that the accounts paid and payable should be accepted. **All Agreed.**
- 2.** To confirm precept amount of £26,450.
The PC confirmed that the Amount of £26,450 would be put forward to NFDC for the precept request.

403/FC Police / Neighbourhood Watch Report.

Karen Oliver; warned people to be on the alert for scam phone calls regarding computer problems and to be wary of fake bank accounts.

A recent issue with a noisy motorcycle in the village has been dealt with.

The police are stepping up their breathalysing campaign around Christmas and last year breathalysed over 7000 motorists in Hampshire.

Pc Rachel Gallimore would be resuming Beat Surgeries in the New Year. Date were; 22.01.16, 09.02.16, 08.03.16, 15.04.16, 20.05.16, venue unconfirmed as yet. KO advised people to go and speak to her if they any concerns.

The Beat Report for November was read out and Mrs Oliver reminded everyone to securely lock their outbuildings and use lighting to deter thieves.

404/FC Correspondence.
None.

405/FC County Councillor's Report.
None.

406/FC District Councillor's Report.
Cllr Tipp. NFDC is in the process of reshuffling its top level executive officers, depleting them from 9 to 5. One of the two top directors has retired anyway and the process is expected to save £300,000 PA.
Cllr Puttock; The proposed development at Eling may not take place. The owners of the land have no desire to sell and will continue to run a successful business on the land as a container storage facility.
Central Government are pushing considerable development in his and Cllr Tipp's parishes in the near future and it looks like there will no escaping it.

407/FC Local Government Boundary Review. To consider a response to the proposals for revision of electoral boundaries in Hampshire.
It was agreed that the Clerk should write to LGBC to express the Council's concern that the boundary changes would not suit the parish and that future building targets had not been taken into account. Also that they did not want to lose their current County Councillor.

During this discussion Cllr Thomas raised the issue of the Community Infrastructure Levy communication received and asked that this be discussed under correspondence. However the matter was overlooked and it was not discussed.

Post Meeting Note; It was agreed that the clerk would write on behalf of the PC on the subject.

408/FC Fete. To receive an update.
Cllr White reported that he and Cllr Coaker had that morning been to the Hampshire Riding Therapy Centre to hand over the cheque from the Fete Committee. They reported that HRT were 'bowled over' with the £1500 donation raised and that as a result of their presence at the Fete they had gained some new volunteers.

409/FC Allotments.

1. To consider the three quotes received for drainage works in the allotments and decide on a contractor to undertake the work.
Cllr Arnold filled the Councillors in on the background of the issues with drainage in the allotments and the quotes obtained.
After some deliberation a vote was then taken on which contractor would be preferable;
Vote for Mark Bridle; 5
Vote for Peter Whitehorn; 3
Farwells were not under consideration as it was felt that their quote was too high.
Thus it was agreed to contract Mark Bridle to carry out the work in the allotments.
2. To vote on allowing Cllr Thomas and Allotment Holder Ian Oliver to sit on the Allotment Committee.
Cllr Arnold proposed and Cllr White agreed that Cllr Thomas and Ian Oliver be elected to the committee. The Vote was 7 in favour with one abstention from Cllr Sturgess.

410/FC Minutes of Other Committee Meetings.

1. Planning Committee Meeting – 17.11.15.
The minutes had been signed off at the Planning Meeting earlier that evening and there were no

comments.

2. Precept and Finance Committee Meeting – 27.11.15.

Cllr White proposed and Cllr Hubbard seconded that those minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and All Agreed. Cllr Coaker then signed the minutes off as so.

3. Staffing Committee – 27.11.15.

Cllr Coaker proposed and Cllr Thomas seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record. All Agreed. Cllr White then signed them off as so.

411/FC Reports from Representatives of other bodies. To receive feedback of information relevant to the parish from Councillors who attended those meetings.

Cllr Coaker and the Clerk had been on a cycle round the village to check on Parish Council owned assets and to formulate a list of those assets and any work required.

Cllr Arnold said she had attended various meetings throughout the month and that should anyone wish to know details of those meetings they should contact her.

412/FC Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting.

At 8.35pm the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.