

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council, Tuesday, 19th September 2017.
Held at The Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury, at 7.30pm.

Present; Cllr Emma Lacey (EL) Chair, Cllr Mike Thomas (MT) Vice Chair, Cllr C Hubbard (CH), Cllr Clive White (CW), Cllr Ian Hobbs (IH), Cllr Heather Richards (HR), Cllr John Morris (JM).

Clerk; Helen Klaassen (Clerk)

New Forest District Council; Cllr Les Puttock

Members of the Public; 10

Police; PCSO 14495 Williams

Cllr Lacey, in the Chair, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting.

FC/760 Sean Marsh, Estates Officer for the Forestry Commission gave a talk on the project Conserving the Forest Fringe.

Mr Marsh informed those present that the objective of the project was to prevent boundary encroachments onto the forest and to educate parishes in the importance of those historic boundaries.

The project was being run within the *Our Past, our Future* project and was funded through the Heritage Lottery Scheme and the New Forest National Park Authority's (NFNPA) Higher Level Stewardship Scheme. Work would be undertaken with various parish councils and would enable them to work with landowners to ensure boundaries were maintained. As the majority of the forest is either an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest), a SPA (Special Protection Area), an SAC (Special Area of Conservation) or a Wetland of International Importance designated under the RAMSAR Convention for Wetlands of International Importance.

Areas such as homeowners parking on open forest (dragon's teeth could be used as prevention), building works apparatus encroaching on open forest, gradual urbanisation of property frontages (e.g. planting of non-indigenous species) would be considered.

Sean would be able to walk round with Councillors and the Clerk to identify specific areas and so it was agreed to arrange this, bring the village map up to date and thereafter move the matter to the Highways and Transport Committee.

Action

Clerk

FC/761 Public Participation.

KO; Informed Councillors that the road marking and scalplings on the verges of Knellers Lane had all but disappeared.

Cllr Hobbs; Those matters were on the list for attention, but there were delays as Hampshire County Council (HCC) had recently changed contractors to Skanska. If not action seen by mid-October he would chase.

IH

KO; The Survey link for the Parish Plan Consultation seemed to be broken, concern as raised that people may not answer the survey if it doesn't work.

Cllr Lacey; Assured that the survey was not yet live and the link would be fully working when it was.

Patrick Cook; Introduced himself as a New Forest Keeper for Ashurst. He asked the Parish Council if they were aware that a covenant existed the required the land that Ashurst Hospital sat on to be returned to Crown Lands if their use was no longer required by the NHS. Mr Cook had attended the presentation by the NFNPA who seemed to be unaware of this covenant.

The matter was discussed and it was noted that the Parish Council was also unaware of this covenant, but that no application had been received as yet and in fact the NHS were doing their own consultation regarding possible uses of the site.

Mr Cook was asked to leave his contact details and Cllr Hubbard as Chair of the Planning and Development Committee would contact the NFNPA for clarification.

CH

PCSO Richard Williams; Regarding Speedwatch (Agenda Item 775). Some currently unused equipment had been discovered locally and PCSO Williams was hopeful that he would be able to secure it for use by local Speedwatch groups and Parish Councils.

Two residents attending the meeting asked to be included in the Speedwatch Team and the Clerk asked them to leave their details to be forwarded to David White and PCSO Williams.

Clerk

FC/762 Apologies for Absence.

Cllr Sturgess was absent through illness. Cllr Mans sent his apologies and Cllr Tipp gave his apologies as it was Cllr Puttocks' turn to attend.

FC/763 Disclosure of Interest in an Agenda Item.

None.

FC/764 Approval of the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18th July 2017 as a Correct Record of Proceedings.

The Minutes were signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

FC/765 Matters Arising Not on the Agenda.

An AED Training advert needed to go in the magazine, the Clerk reported that there were 6-8 people on the waiting list for training.

MT

FC/766 Accounts and Clerk's Report.

1. To consider accounts paid and payable

The Clerk presented the payments made and received (appendix 1).

2. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on the resubmission of the Planning Application for the Lyndhurst Park Hotel by Pegasus Life and gave some key dates;

- 26th September, 7.15pm, Lyndhurst Parish Council Planning Committee – On agenda to hear public's views.
- 6th October 1pm to 9pm; Plans on display at Lyndhurst Community Centre.
- 10th October, 7.15pm, Lyndhurst Community Centre; Full Council Meeting to discuss and formulate a response to the plans.

3. Annual Return Issues

In addition to the issue reported previously regarding the dates for display of the accounts coming before the Full Council had approved them, the Clerk reported that when the Allotment loos were built they should have been added to the asset register, but weren't. Having added them this year, it had created a disparity in that they were not a current year's purchase and an issue would have to be raised to highlight this. She had taken advice from the Internal Auditor who recommended following this course of action.

4. Insurance Renewal

The insurance was up for renewal at a cost of £812.94. This would be the last year that Aon were offering insurance and the clerk recommended staying with them this year and going out for quotes again next year. **Councillors agreed to renew for this forthcoming year.**

Clerk

5. Lengthsman.

The Clerk reported that she had sent the contract back to HCC who were taking the process forward. She had made a note of it in her Clerk's report and would be looking to put together an advert and job description to go on the website. She requested that Councillors agree to match the amount being given by HCC so that the Lengthsman could undertake other little jobs not covered by the scheme but required by the Parish.

It was agreed that the amount of £1000 be matched by the PC and the matter be referred to the F&R Committee.

FC/767 Correspondence.

Correspondence had been received from NF Disability asking for donations.

It was decided to reply in the negative.

Clerk

FC/768 Police / Neighbourhood Watch Report.

Mrs Oliver reported that further to the matter being discussed recently, if a car was left parked for over 28 days and seemingly abandoned then it could be removed by contacting NFDC. However, it was important to note that there could be other reasons for it being left there, rather than by local businesses advertising sales or using side roads to park vehicles. Regarding a car recently left on the verge, Mrs Oliver had taken photos and was aggressively spoken to. She had checked with NFDC and they had no record of it being abandoned.

Mrs Oliver also reminded residents to be on their guard as there had been a number of bike thefts and there was also door to door sellers about at the moment.

FC/769 County Councillor's Report.

None.

FC/770 District Councillor's Report.

Cllr Puttock reminded all present that he and Cllr Tipp took it in turns to attend the full council meeting as they both covered this area.

NFDC are increasing parking charges from 80p to £1 per hour, annual parking clocks will go up from £20 to £25 for short stay and £100 to £120 for long stay. Quarterly clocks will go up from £30 to £35. Part of this increase in costs was the need to recoup the money spent replacing meters, however, NFDC's car park were still one of the cheapest in the country.

Cllr Puttock also drew Councillor's attention to planning policy that would cover the next twenty years and dictate the number of homes built in the area. The area off the A326 was under particular pressure because of the approx. 3000 homes to be built in the area. This would have a significant impact on the infrastructure of the area and he was sure there would be much objection.

FC/771 Minutes of Other Committee Meetings.

- Highways and Transport – 17th July 2017
- Community Engagement – 18th July 2017

It was noted that the Clerk would be contacting councillors in the next week to arrange further dates for committee meetings.

FC/772 Broadband Universal Service Obligation: Consultation on Design. To discuss and formulate a response to the consultation.

Discussion ensued regarding broadband speeds throughout the village and the disparity between houses close to one another on the same packages (28mbps (Whartons Lane) vs 9.5mbps (Ashdene Road) vs 6.5mbps Foxhills)). It was noted that distance from the cabinet and the slow down at peak times affected speeds as did the quality of wiring to the house; aluminum being inferior to copper, but more likely in older homes and from the property line the householders responsibility to upgrade. It was discussed that the proposed standard should be 25mbps in order to future proof as much as possible.

Resolved:

That Cllr Thomas respond to relevant sections of the consultation on the Parish Council's behalf. MT

That a representative of BT be asked to speak at a PC meeting Clerk

That a magazine article be written to request speeds from residents around the village. MT / Clerk

FC/773 Payment of Allowances to Parish Councils. Following the letter from NFDC dated 21st August 2017 regarding payment of allowances to councillors, to decide whether to maintain the status quo and inform NFDC if applicable.

The matter was discussed, it was agreed to re-name the Chairman's Allowance at the Precept meeting to something more befitting the purpose for which the allowance was used.

Resolved; to maintain the status quo, Clerk to inform NFDC. Clerk

FC/774 Terms of Reference. To receive TORs from each committee.

It was agreed to hold this in abeyance until the October meeting, giving Councillors more time to read those currently produced and by which time all TORs should have been received from the committees. All Clerk

FC/775 Speedwatch.

Discussed under agenda item FC/761.

FC/776 Memorial to Cllr Sally Arnold.

Cllr Hubbard advised that the Trustees would be doing their own memorial to Sally within Colbury Memorial Hall and she had been advised to write to the Chair of the Trustees.

Other options were discussed; a picnic bench in the allotments was dismissed as it would only be accessible to those with a key. It was noted that it need to be a public building as well as in the Allotments. Consideration was given to a tree and plaque in the Recreation Ground.

Cllr Hubbard expressed concern that time was passing and nothing yet had been done for Cllr Arnold, noting that there was still the print from the NFNPA, currently held by Mr Arnold.

It was agreed that Cllr Hubbard should get a price for a bench.

Ian Oliver raised about renaming the raised bed in her honour, Cllr Hubbard to discuss this with him.

CH

CH

FC/778 External Storage for Parish Council.

The Clerk updated Councillors that a location had been found in the allotments to site the shed; in the car park area, by the railway line.

Discussion ensued regarding the type of items to be kept in the shed. It was decided that paperwork should be kept in the office and the shed would be used for items such as the gazebo, litter bins, poles and rope, banners etc.

The size should be approx. 6x8ft, wooden on a concrete base. No window, tongue and groove construction, not lined, ventilated through roof.

Resolved; That the Clerk obtain quotes for this.

Clerk

FC/779 Reports from Representatives of Other Bodies. To receive feedback of information relevant to the parish from Councillors who attended those meetings.

Cllr Hobbs attended the Passenger Transport Forum. The main areas of interest were;

Buses – complaints from other villages that the services were infrequent.

Neville Penham was trying to get a bus service to Southampton General Hospital from Totton as the current journey was 1.5 hours, update in October.

Cllr Hobbs noted that the bus shelters in the village needed cleaning and / or repairing, but replacing may not be possible. It needed to be placed on the next agenda for discussion and decision or the costs of cleaning and repair vs replacement.

Clerk

Parish Plan;

Cllr Lacey updated Councillors on the results of the test carried out on the VIP day (appendix 2). She confirmed that it was very successful with 41 people surveyed for their thoughts on the questionnaire and thanked Sue Robinson and David Podesta for their efforts. The final version of the questionnaire would be available soon.

Cllr Richards reported on the Village in the Park Day;

An enjoyable day, which was well attended by residents and lots of local groups. She thanked Councillors, the Clerk and their families for all their help. From a Community Engagement perspective it was a great event and a good opportunity to meet residents. The day would be fully dissected at the next Community Engagement Meeting. The date for next year was decided upon; 1st September 2018.

FC/780 Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting.

Bus Shelters

TORs.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked those present for attending and the meeting concluded at 9.49pm.

Appendix 1.**Agenda Item 766/FC 1. Accounts Paid and Payable**

Payments Received Since Last Meeting		
Date	Details	Amount
1-30	Advert Payments; Mange Tout, Solvent Computers,	
July	Co-op, Skin Co	£216.00
1st Aug -	Advert payments; Circledance, Drum Lessons, 247 Elec,	
1st Sept	Bodyworx	£128.00
	Total	£344.00

Payments Made / To be Made				
Date	Details	Payee	Chq	Amount
09.09.17	Salary and Expenses	H Klaassen	2195	842.23
09.09.17	Bouncy Castle for Funday	the Bounce Department	2196	150.00
09.09.17	Storyteller for Funday donation	Mr M O'leary	2197	40.00
19.09.17	Craft supplies for funday	J Baker	2198	31.13
19.09.17	Salary and Expenses	H Klaassen	2199	756.79
19.09.17	Water for Allotments	Business Stream	2200	33.22
19.09.17	Generator for Funday	Holbury Tool Hire	2201	£74.90
19.09.17	Tree Works in Rec	D Roberts	2202	£280.00
19.09.17	Work in Rec	Hants and IOW CRC	2203	£80.00
19.09.17	Waste Clearance	Clear It All	2204	£352.50
19.09.17	Funday Leaflets	TLC Online	2205	£45.72
			Total	£2,686.49