

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council on 19th April 2016 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 D Tipp.

Members of the Public; 20

Cllr Coaker opened the meeting and welcomed everyone attending. It was noted that Cllr Jenkins was making a recording of the meeting for his own personal use.

467/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.

Susan Hutchin;

Enquired whether there was any progress to remove the grass edge that had grown over the pavements and that was restricting access?

Cllr Coaker replied that he will attend to it shortly, take photos then ask either Hampshire County Council to clear or the CPS service. Cllr Coaker also mentioned that the precinct had not been forgotten and was on the list to tidy up.

Karen Oliver;

Highlighted the poor state of repair of the edges of the road in Knellers Lane. The ditches are becoming quite deep and cars and buses have been known to become stuck in them, the matter required some action.

Cllr Coaker confirmed that the Parish Council will follow the matter up with HCC. He noted that there was a new contact in place of Rob Millar who had retired recently.

468/FC Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Keith Mans, Cllr Les Puttock and Cllr Ann Sturgess.

469/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 Coaker and Arnold both declared an interest in agenda item FC/472. Cllr Arnold as she is a member of the NPA Planning Committee and Cllr Coaker as a direct neighbour.

470/FC Approval of Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 15th March 2016 and of the APM also held on 15th March 2016.

The minutes of the APM on 15th March 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate record. Cllr Arnold proposed, Cllr Coaker seconded and ALL AGREED.

The minutes of the full council meeting of 15th March 2016 required some additions to be made to both paper and electronic copies. Namely that; Under public participation, Alister Hutchin also noted 'that there are two rotten posts in the precinct that need attention' and under Minute FC/463 that Cllr Lacey had agreed to draw a list of businesses to be contacted for Fete prizes.

Once the amendments had been agreed and initialled by Cllr Coaker, Cllr Hubbard proposed and Cllr White seconded that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. ALL AGREED.

471/FC Matters Arising Not on the Agenda.

Mr Craig raised the matter of the flooding on Fletchwood Lane and enquired whether the Forestry Commission had been contacted yet.

It was discussed that they had not, but soon would be. Mr Craig added that he himself had contacted them but had received no response yet.

Cllr Lacey enquired whether anyone had received notification regarding the school bus subsidy. At that time no one indicated that they had.

472/FC Planning.

To consider and make a recommendation to the NPA on the proposals for;

Case Reference 16/00178

Address 19 PETERSCROFT AVENUE, ASHURST, SOUTHAMPTON, SO40 7AB
Proposal Two storey side extensions; raising of ridge height

Cllr Coaker handed control of the meeting to Cllr Hubbard and moved to sit with the audience.

Alan Maclean, Architect;

Stating that the proposals are not out of keeping of scale and that concerns from the last plans had been addressed in these proposals. He noted that it was not for a commercial enterprise and that they had met the requirements from the parish briefing note.

Clive Turner, on behalf of direct neighbours Mr & Mrs Bowen, objecting;

Mr Turner started by reading out the final paragraph of decision notice, whereby Steve Avery (Executive Director of Planning, NPA) had stated that no alterations to the previous proposals would make it acceptable. Despite alterations to the previous plans, Mr and Mrs Bowen's concerns remain. The size and scale of the property and the fact that it is out of character within that area and flooding concerns were amongst their objections. They also noted that the proposals were against the NPA's Core Policies and the Ashurst and Colbury Village Design Statement.

Cllr Coaker;

Read out a statement giving his and his wife's reasons for objecting to the proposals; that they felt that the plans were out of keeping with the surrounding area. That the size and scale of the proposed dwelling was still too large and would have a negative impact on both neighbouring properties amenity and the street scene. Cllr Coaker also mentioned the impact any increase in size would have on the flooding in the area and that there was the potential for the one property to become two due to its design.

Cllr Hubbard then allowed the applicants a right of return following the comments made. Their architect Alan Maclean spoke for them;

He stated that a flood zone was defined by the environment agency and none had been in that area. Also that the paragraph mentioned by Mr Turner related to the previous plans and that amendments had been made to those plans.

There followed some discussion on the conflicting opinions of the old and new case officers in this matter.

Cllr Coaker left the room at this juncture.

The Councillors were then invited to ask questions;

Cllr Thomas asked the applicant's architect to explain the differences between the old and new plans. Alan MacLean obliged and said that the ridge height had been reduced.

Cllr Jenkins enquired whether that would affect internal floor space to which Mr Maclean replied that it would not.

Mr King-Li spoke also to confirm that there would be no impact on the parking within the road as any clients to Mrs King-Li's business would park on the property and that they did not intend to split the house into two dwellings at any point.

Cllr Hubbard then proceeded to read out the options for recommendation to the NPA and to ask for a show of hands to indicate councillors preferred option;

Option;

1 – Cllr Jenkins; on the basis that they have made changes.

2 – None.

3 – None.

4 – Cllrs Thomas, Hubbard and White.

5 – Cllr Lacey.

Therefore the majority carried that the recommendation to the NPA be Option 4. To recommend refusal. Reasons given;

Although councillors recognised that efforts had been made to revise the plans to overcome previous concerns, it was felt that the alterations did not go far enough. The proposed dwelling would still be

inappropriate in terms of scale and bulk, would be out of keeping with the area and would still be contrary to the requirements of DP1, DP11, DP6 and CP8. The proposals are not in keeping with the Village Design Statement and there will be considerable visual impact on nearby neighbours. It would also have a negative impact on the street scene as the proposals represent an undesirable increase in size, from the modest dwelling currently occupying the site, to a dwelling that is inappropriate in terms of size and scale.

Cllr Coaker then re-joined the meeting.

473/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 be accepted. All Agreed.
2. External Audit Procedures. To receive an update.
That the date for opting out had passed and the PC had remained opted in.

474/FC Police / Neighbourhood Watch Report.

Karen Oliver read out a report from Pc Rachel Gallimore; there had not been many incidents recently; a dwelling burglary in Whartons Lane and several non-dwelling burglaries, but nothing taken. David Bryant; he is waiting for police forensics still, some time after he was the victim of a out building break in. He doesn't know if anything has been stolen as he hasn't been able to get in there to check. Neighbourhood Watch were involved in the group the Rev Holley has formed for older people's outreach within the village and more volunteers were welcome. The Police and Crime Commissioner elections will happen on 5th May 2016. Mrs Oliver recommended that everyone votes and beforehand reads up on the candidates as that will give them an idea of how we will be policed and vote accordingly. The elections and candidates are non-political.

475/FC Correspondence.

Cllr Coaker mentioned a letter he had received from Richard Coombes regarding traffic islands on A35, which he will forward out to Councillors for consideration at the next meeting.

The letter from Nick Studdert-Kennedy was discussed. It was noted that in the case of Ashdene Road Mr Bull had installed his own concrete edging.

Flowers on roadside verges were discussed as was the planting of more (native) daffodils. It was also noted that the Village Design Statement talk about neatly maintained verges.

Resolved; the Clerk to write to Mr Studdert-Kennedy and ask if he has any suggestions for locations of wild flowers.

476/FC District Councillor's Report.

Cllr Tipp reported that discussions were taking place at NFDC regarding the future of social / affordable housing. The government want to bring in new rules allowing the purchase of affordable homes. Affordable homes are more expensive for NFDC than social. Tenants would only have to live in a property for two years before they would become entitled to purchase it.

Cllr Tipp reported that there was to be a scheme in his ward but it fell apart because the PC were not happy that people would be able to buy them.

Cllr Tipp said that he felt there was no definitive answer, especially since the government changed the scheme every so often anyway.

NFDC is doing its best to ensure those houses go to the right people. Tenants cannot pass on their tenancy and are expected to provide proof of their income so, as soon as they hit a certain level, they will be encouraged to buy privately or pay a higher rent.

477/FC Parish Lengthsman Scheme.

HCC is restarting its Lengthsman scheme whereby PCs can apply for a grant of £1000 from HCC to enable the PC to employ a Lengthsman to undertake the type of duties normally carried out by HCC. E.g. grass cutting, shrub clearance and other odd jobs.

Resolved; Councillors decided that they would like to know more about the scheme, so it was agreed that the clerk would get more information and the matter would go onto the May agenda.

478/FC Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations / Recreation Ground Dedication Day.

Due to the cost of a stone it had been decided to go for a brick plinth instead.

Cllr's Thomas and Jenkins were asked about their progress with the Dedication Day celebrations. They reported that, having spoken to various people, there seemed not to be much appetite for the dedication and

they were running out of time to sufficiently organise something.

After some discussion regarding possible directions for the event and contacts, it was decided that it would go ahead and a budget would be set.

Resolved; That Cllrs Thomas and Jenkins would continue to organise the event utilising various village sources and that a budget of £300 would be set. Cllr White proposed, Cllr Hubbard seconded and all agreed.

479/FC Fete. To receive an update.

Cllr white reported that things are progressing to plan. The main arena act has been booked and stall requests are coming in.

Cllr Lacey enquired whether there could be a youth stall / stand.

It was suggested that it could be put with the information tent and that the matter would be discussed at the next fete meeting.

480/FC Recreation Ground. To receive an update.

Cllr Coaker reported that the fence and toddler equipment would be installed soon and made a mention to dog walkers to be aware. He also intended to hold a Recreation Ground Committee meeting soon, potentially 29th April.

481/FC Minutes of Other Committee Meetings.

Planning Committee – 15.03.16 - For information.

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

Cllr Lacey met with PCSO Dan Carlin and Maria Carrick from the Youth Engagement Team to talk about youth clubs and general youth engagement in the area.

Also ACCG regarding the parish plan. They were very supportive and encouraging and brought up two action points for Cllr Lacey to take back to the PC; a combined dog waste / litter bin on the corner on A35 / Knellers Lane and a request that the PC write to the school to ask them to ask their children to write to their parents to not drop litter as the area outside the school was a problem area.

Cllr White attended the elderly outreach meeting and a NPA conservation planning seminar.

Cllr Jenkins attended the transport forum on 19.04.16, which focussed on the reorganisation of buses / transport to come under one umbrella, like Transport for London, to provide a more joined-up service, but there is no extra money for this and bus passenger numbers are dropping.

Cllr Arnold had attended the members meeting at the NPA, the NPA conservation seminar and a seminar with the Forestry Commission for their forest design plan, amongst others.

Cllr Hubbard had attended the elderly outreach meeting also.

Cllr Coaker had attended a festive lighting seminar hosted by HCC. Amongst other things he learnt that by 2020 there could be no lighting strings hung on streetlight poles. Also that liability for the lighting and its safety falls entirely with the PC.

He had also attended the elderly outreach meeting and the NPA conservation planning seminar.

483/FC Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting.

Lengthsman.

Dedication day and Queen's birthday celebrations.

Update on plaque and plinth.

Training for AED use.

Local Plan update.

HCC waste sites.

There being no other business, the chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.17pm.