

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council on 21st April 2015, held at the Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury.

Present; Cllr. M Coaker (Chairman) Cllr C. Marchetti (Vice Chairman) Cllr. P Sopowski, Cllr. A Sturgess, Cllr. S Arnold, Cllr. C White, Cllr C Hubbard, Cllr. M Thomas.
Cllr. D Tipp, Cllr L Puttock (NFDC), Cllr K Mans (HCC)
Clerk to the Council; H Klaassen.
12 Members of the public.

265/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.

Elaine Mayhew, a resident, wished to enquire why, despite opposition, the Planning Committee had voted in favour of the proposed developments at Foxhills.

Also, she wished to know, why Cllr Hubbard voted in favour of it when she had been instrumental in the compilation of the Village Design Statement, in which building on green fields had been deemed undesirable.

Cllr Coaker explained to Ms Mayhew that the Committee's view on the planning was that the benefits of it outweighed the negatives. Furthermore, the Committee must consider not only the dissenters views but those of the rest of the village and within that a constructive view of what is best for the village as a whole going forward. He said that the Committee meeting was democratic and carried out in the correct manner.

Cllr Hubbard explained that whilst the VDS does indeed desire to prevent building on green field sites, this site would be considered a rural exception site as it would provide a community benefit. She also stated that in addition to this, the building and landscape design of the Barker Mills Foxhills proposals does fit very well with what is outlined as desirable in the VDS.

Cllr White added that it was important that the Planning Committee considered the views and impact on the whole village, not just a vocal minority.

Alister Hutchin asked Councillors if, given that there would be an election, residents could expect any communication or statement from them?

Cllr Coaker confirmed that something would be done to keep the villagers abreast of developments.

Cllr Sopowski mentioned that it was up to individual councillors to promote themselves or otherwise.

Mr Hutchin also enquired as to the situation regarding the marked off area in the forest behind Wessex Lodge, towards Matley. It was said to contain dangerous artillery, but had not been touched for a while, and he wondered if this was still the case.

Cllr Sopowski said that as far as he knew there was undetonated ammunition in the bog, but that getting at it would be hazardous so it had been left cordoned off.

Cllr Mans requested that Mr Hutchin write to him so he could look into the matter.

Mr George asked if there was any update on the bus routes and passes.

Cllr Coaker said the matter was still being looked into by the Clerk and that it was not clear whether the exception on this part of the route would be allowed. He said that the answer would be printed in the June edition of the parish magazine.

266/FC Apologies for absence.
None.

267/FC Declarations of Interest.

Cllr Arnold declared a non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 277/FC as she is member of the NPA Planning Committee.

268/FC Approval of Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 17.3.15.

Cllr Arnold proposed and Cllr Sturgess seconded that the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record and it was **unanimously agreed**.

269/FC Matters Arising.

With regard to the Cycling Project from Urge Cycles, Cllr Arnold wished to enquire whether the staff running the project would be DBS checked.

Resolved; that Cllr Thomas would find this information out and report back.

270/FC Accounts. To consider accounts paid and payable since the last meeting (Appendix 1).

Cllr White proposed and Cllr Arnold seconded that the accounts be accepted and it was **unanimously agreed**.

271/FC Correspondence.

The Parish Council had received an email from the Small Grants Team at HCC regarding countryside access grants to help improve countryside paths and encourage people to explore more of their local countryside. Cllr Arnold suggested the Fletchwood footpath. It was suggested that the clerk follow this up with advice from Cllr Arnold, to see what was involved.

The Chairman also spoke regarding some libellous emails that had recently been sent to the Clerk making claims against Cllr Hubbard's impartiality with regard to the Foxhills proposals. He said that not only were these emails incorrect in their claims, they were very damaging to the good character of Cllr Hubbard and that the Parish Council would not tolerate this kind of underhand behaviour. Therefore, the Parish Council would be escalating this matter and seeking legal advice on how it should be dealt with.

272/FC Minutes from other Committee Meetings. To receive the minutes from other Committee Meetings.

Planning Committee – 1st April 2015. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed off by Cllr Sopowski.

273/FC Update from John Lynn, NPA regarding the Cycling Signage Project.

John Lynn reported that after report being placed on the Parish Council's website he had heard no further comments from it. He had since met with HCC Safety Audit Department and walked the route with them. Although they were happy with the majority of the proposals they stated they would not support the proposal to sign cyclists on to the South side of the carriageway, along the existing footpath as it was too narrow to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclists. They would only support it if the footpath could be widened. JL reported that HCC aren't ruling out changes to the footpath, but that would not be immediate, therefore a medium term plan would be necessary.

Cllr Sopowski suggested they approach Fullers to see if they would be happy to concede some land to facilitate the widening of the footpath.

Since they were happy with the rest of the proposed signage that part of the project could proceed and would do so this summer.

Cllr Mans suggested that the best way to proceed was for JL and his team to work out what they would like to do going forward; possibly liaising with himself and Rob Millar from HCC and once a clear plan was

formulated to return to the Parish Council to gain their support.

274/FC County Councillor's Report.

Cllr Mans reported that the Boundaries Commission were looking at the county. He said that HCC has recommended that the same number of seats should be kept and that this would probably be the case. There may be some adjustments in the New Forest however. He expressed concern that the Boundaries Commission has used the current electoral role as, due to the changes in registering electors, it may result in less electors being on the current role, which would have an impact on the boundaries.

275/FC District Councillor's Report.

Cllr Tipp reported that New Forest District Council had purchased or constructed 80 affordable homes in the last four years and that 100 homes had been provided with housing partners. Also that in February NFDC had launched a scheme called Appletree Care Line; a 24 hour community alarm service for elderly or vulnerable residents run from the council's offices at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst. The council's community alarm service was previously operated by an outside contractor but alarm monitoring has now been brought into the council's CCTV and Community Alarms control centre.

276/FC Highways.

The resurfacing of Ashdene and Woods Roads, that the Parish Council had been requesting for some time was now imminent and it was hoped would offer significant improvement for those living along those roads especially where the buses were concerned.

Cllr Sopowski mentioned that he had seen a resident putting in his own dragon's teeth on a verge outside his property. Upon enquiring further he discovered that they had been delivered by the Forestry Commission, for the owners use on his own land.

277/FC Planning and Trees. To receive an update and decide on responses to recent planning applications:

APPLICATION NUMBER: 15/00250/ADV

ADDRESS: The Happy Cheese, 189 Lyndhurst Road And Land Opposite The Happy Cheese, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7AR

PROPOSAL: Display of 1 no. illuminated fascia sign; 1no. illuminated post mounted sign; 2no. non illuminated amenity boards; 1no. non illuminated directional sign; 2no. non illuminated panel signs; 1no. illuminated timber frame; 1no. non illuminated sign writing; 2no. illuminated sign writing; 10 no. brass lanterns (Application for Advertisement Consent)

The Committee voted; **Option 1. We recommend PERMISSION, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.**

Concern was expressed that the level of lighting would be too great, especially in a fairly low-lit area. Also that the design of the entrance would allow more light and decoration to be added at future dates. Residents expressed concern that the ranch-style entrance design was too ostentatious and not in keeping with the area.

Trees;

Case Ref: TPO/15/0350

Proposed Works: 1) T1 - Common Oak - 1st order limb branching from the south western side of the trunk at approx. 7 metres agl - Reduce length and lift end crown to create a 2 metre clear space between the nearby dwelling and the edge of the crown.
2) Remove all dead wood over 50 millimetres in dia. throughout the crown.

Site Address: 13 Dene Way, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7DA

No comments.

Case Ref: TPO/15/0347
Proposed Works: Prune 1 Oak
Site Address: 13 Dene Way, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7DA

No comments.

Case Ref: TPO/15/0359
Proposed Works: Pollard Willow
Site Address: 10 Whartons Close, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7EE

No comments.

Case Ref: TPO/15/0360
Proposed Works: Fell 1 Willow
Site Address: 10 Whartons Close, Ashurst, Southampton, SO40 7EE

No comments.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER No: TPO/0014/15

SITE: Land between Foxhills and Knellers Lane, Ashurst

278/FC Reports from Representatives of Other Bodies.

Cllr Arnold informed the Parish Council of various meetings she had attended, including;

- National Park Authority Meeting
- Lyndhurst Parish Council; Development of Lyndhurst Park Hotel
- New Forest District Council; Instructions and procedure on the forthcoming elections
- New Forest Association of Local Councils
- New Forest National Park Planning.

279/FC Items That the Chairman Deems Important.

None.

280/FC Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting.

None.

At 9.15pm the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Signed: _____

Date: _____