

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashurst and Colbury Parish Council, Tuesday, 18th April 2017.
Held at The Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury, at 7.30pm.

Present; Cllr C Hubbard (Chairman) (CH), Cllr Clive White (Vice Chairman) (CW), Cllr Ann Sturgess (AS), Cllr Emma Lacey (EL), Cllr Ian Hobbs (IH), Cllr Heather Richards (HR), Cllr Mike Thomas (MT)

Clerk; Helen Klaassen (Clerk)

HCC; Cllr Keith Mans

New Forest District Council; Cllr Les Puttock

Members of the Public; 9

Cllr Hubbard welcomed those attending and opened the meeting.

- | | | |
|---------------|---|---------------|
| | | Action |
| 677/FC | Public Participation.
Mrs Craig; Raised the dangerous behaviour of some drivers on the roundabout at the bottom of Hunters Hill. She explained that if you were traversing the entire roundabout coming from Ashurst to go back up the hill, some drivers coming from the Southampton direction did not pause at the junction but simply flew straight across. This meant there had been several near misses.
Councillors were in agreement that this was a dangerous practice and asked the Clerk to write to HCC to see if there was anything that could be done to moderate the issue. | Clerk |
| | Mrs Oliver; Asked if there was any feedback regarding the road surface in Knellers Lane.
The Clerk informed that she had reported it and was awaiting a response. | |
| | Mr Oliver; Asked if any progress had been made regarding the rat issue on plot 19 at the allotments.
The Clerk responded that she had reported it and was awaiting feedback from Rokill. | |
| 678/FC | Apologies for Absence.
None. | |
| 679/FC | Disclosure of Interest in an Agenda Item.
None. | |
| 680/FC | Approval of Minutes of Full Council Meeting held on 21st March 2017 and the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st March 2017 as a Correct Record of Proceedings.
Cllr Lacey pointed out a small typo, which the clerk manually corrected on the paper copy, and initialled the correction, and made note to correct on the electronic copy. | Clerk |
| | Both minutes were signed by the Vice Chair, who presided at both meetings, as a true and accurate record. | |
| 681/FC | Matters Arising Not On the Agenda.
Including Action updates.

Cllr Lacey updated those present on the Small Grants Scheme. She explained the purpose of the scheme and that the PC would be <i>applying for (adjusted at FC meeting on 16.05.17)</i> a grant to replace the stiles on the right of way footpath that started in Foxhills, crossed the railway line and continued out onto farm land. Before the project could advance any more, permission must be gained from the landowners to work on their land.
The Clerk reported that she had written to both landowners. She had yet to hear back from one, but the other had phoned her to say that the land was not theirs but Network Rail's. The Clerk would contact Network Rail, who were currently working replacing the fence in that location. | Clerk |
| | Whilst discussing this, it was raised whether it would be possible to have a signalled gate at that location, with the idea that it would prevent the trains having to sound their horns when nearing it. It was noted that they now seemed to go on later than between the hours of 7am to 11pm.
Mr Oliver noted that it had recently changed, to 6am to midnight.
It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Network Rail regarding this matter. | Clerk |
| | The Clerk updated Councillors on her actions from the previous month; | |

1. 661/FC That the pavement and road outside of 120 Lyndhurst Road, where development was taking place was covered in mud and detritus from the building site. This was dangerous to cyclists and pedestrians and should be cleared.
It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Hampshire County Council (HCC) to ask them to facilitate this. This had been done. Though the Clerk noted that the pavement had now been dug up in that area by the utilities company so this stretch of footpath was not accessible anyway.
2. 661/FC Enquired whether the gate by the railway was being mended.
The Clerk reported that she had reported it to Network Rail who were sending someone out to look at it, but that she would chase them. The Clerk has chased this and found it was updated as 'Work in Progress'.
3. 649/FC **It was agreed that the Clerk should write to homeowners and that an article should go into the magazine reminding property owners to clear out their ditches.**
This was ongoing.
4. 655/FC. **That the Clerk obtain a quote for a new Chain.**
This was ongoing.
5. It was noted following the clerk's report that the ditch outside the Recreation Ground needed clearing properly as the CPS had left it untouched.
The Clerk confirmed she would add it to their list of works.
The Clerk reported that she was awaiting dates from the CPS and it would be on their task list.
6. The matter was discussed and the NHS site in Ashurst identified as a possibility, especially given the NHS's need to reduce infrastructure to fill a £575m shortfall, it was agreed;
That the Clerk write to NFNPA highlighting this site and the others identified previously, and asking if they would be able to approach the NHS on the Parish Council's behalf.
That the call for sites be brought to the wider village's attention by advertising it on the website and facebook.
The Clerk reported that all actions had been completed. Although it was noted that it had not been seen on the website.

682/FC Accounts and Clerk's Report.

1. To consider accounts paid and payable (appendix 1)
The Clerk presented the accounts.
2. Clerk's Report
The Clerk reported nothing further than her action updates.

683/FC Police / Neighbourhood Watch Report.

Mrs K Oliver;

Regarding the recent blitz of crime in our village, all now seems to be quiet and no further incidents have been reported. Investigations are on-going and our Police team assure us that their patrols will continue. The advice is always to ensure your property is as totally secure as you can make it – even if only visiting a neighbour or local shops. Summer is coming and it is tempting to leave windows ajar for ventilation. For the opportunist, this is an open invitation. Don't give it to them.

CCTV is really to the forefront of property protection nowadays. If you have a company to fit it, the cost can be enormous but you can buy and fit a system for a fraction of the cost which will go a long way to deter thieves.

Trojans are the bane of modern-day email communication. They are created to disrupt your systems only to the satisfaction of the sad people who instigate them.

If you receive an email from an unknown source without your prior request. **Do not try to open but delete it immediately.**

If you receive an email from someone you know but it contains nothing but a line of nonsensical text – normally in blue, it is usually a link to something. **Do not click on the link - Delete it immediately.**

If you receive an email from your contact, but the text is unusual and not in good English i.e. spelling and phrasing is wrong and not of their usual standard/quality. **Delete it** and warn them by telephone that their system may have been compromised. They can then get help. These attacks are not new but are becoming more frequent. We should be more focussed on what we receive on our computers.

Telephone Cold calls 'warning' of problems with bank accounts, systems to stop the very calls they are making and other personal issues should be terminated immediately. No company will ask you for personal details on a cold call.

Emails suggesting your system will 'crash in a few days' if you don't renew your contract by giving details immediately should also be terminated.

We must start to take responsibility for our own security both for our homes, possessions and communication systems. The Police are doing all they can, we should help them by doing all we can.

Mrs Oliver also noted that a report regarding a suspicious vehicle had been received and was being forwarded to the team.

Thanks were given to Mrs Oliver and the Neighbourhood Watch Team for the invaluable contribution they had made, especially recent contributions and support following the spate of break-ins.

CLr Hobbs noted that there was also a phishing email to beware of regarding 'an undelivered package', giving instructions to click the link for redelivery. The link read 'USPS' instead of the genuine UPS. It was noted that similar scams were perpetrated using Amazon's name and that Amazon always asked that these emails be forwarded to them for investigation.

CLr Lacey noted she had received a suspicious call from BT's tech helpline, saying there was a problem with her hub and that she should sit at her computer and they would help her fix it. As soon as CLr Lacey said she would ring her back at a more appropriate time, the lady hung up. The call was clearly not genuine.

684/FC Correspondence.

The Clerk reported that she had received several queries over the date of this year's Carols and could the Council set a date.

The matter was discussed and the 12th December was decided upon, the Clerk would book the Church Rooms.

Clerk

685/FC County Councillor's Report.

CLr Mans arrived, having been at Bransgore PC's Meeting, and reported that; HCC Elections were still taking place and that he had not heard otherwise.

High Speed Broadband installation was nearly complete, but that in the New Forest approximately £250,000 extra had been spent siting the 'green boxes' in appropriate locations that satisfied both the NFNPA and the Verderers. He believed that required speeds would continue to rise, until recently 20mbps was considered high but was now the norm. He would like to see provision made within Planning requirements for broadband cables to be run to houses in the same way as other services such as electricity and gas are.

Roads. Reductions in Government grants to councils meant that it was hard to continue to maintain roads, but that the £100,000 earmarked for repairs would be repeated by HCC. Some councils were not so prompt on making spot repairs but HCC had a good track record of doing so.

686/FC District Councillor's Report.

CLr Puttock reported that;

The country would be going to the polls in June and in May too for Hampshire County Council. He expressed disappointment at the break-ins in the village and reiterated earlier advice to ensure homes and outbuildings were secured. Signs for outbuildings "This Shed is Alarmed" can be obtained from NFDC, along with an alarmed lock (£10).

NFDC are still looking at devolution. It has been difficult to arrange because of the area they cover, but some progress is being made.

687/FC Minutes of Other Committee Meetings.

The minutes of the planning meeting dated 21.03.17 were received and it was noted that both sets of minutes had been signed off at the planning meeting that evening.

688/FC Committee Structures.

Discussion took place on the Structure drawn up by CLr Clive White.

Clarification was sought regarding the statement in the notes that communication should be from the full council, not just KAG councillors and it was confirmed that councillors must not communicate on behalf of the Parish Council unless they have remit to do so through a decision made at a council meeting. The majority of correspondence should, in any case, come from the Clerk.

The matter of performance management of councillors was discussed. The Clerk advised that unless a councillor was in significant breach (unlawfully so) of the code of conduct, then recourse would be extremely difficult. It was not possible to 'sack' a Parish Councillor in the same way as you would an employee.

Cllr Mans advised Councillors that there was a difference between private businesses and local government, with different expectations of behaviour and that councillors should aim to create a collegiate atmosphere even when communicating differing opinions. He noted that improving standards was admirable but that the council should not do so with too rigid a framework and that volunteers' strengths should be found and utilised.

Councillor Lacey enquired whether there was a minimum standard.

Clerk

Resolved; That the structure be accepted and that the Clerk should find out more on the subject of performance management for councillors.

Thanks were given to Cllr White for the hard work that had gone into forming the new structure.

689/FC Defibrillator Training.

Cllr Thomas reported that South Central Ambulance Service would provide the First Aid and Defibrillator Training free of charge.

2 sessions were being offered, one day and one evening, with up to 20 people in each session.

It was decided that to advertise in sufficient time in the magazine, the sessions should be booked for the end of June. Cllr Thomas would liaise with SCAS and with Clerk regarding signing people up.

MT

690/FC Speedwatch.

The Clerk had contacted the Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioners Office, but had not heard back yet. Their website seemed to indicate that no further funding was being given. She had contacted Cllr Mans office to find out if his devolved budget would support the scheme and they could apply for funding under that. Cllr Mans confirmed that he would be prepared to give between £500-£1000.

Mr White reported that there were newcomers to Woodlands Road who were forming a committee to counter HCC's refusal to lower the speed limit.

Cllr Sturgess noted that the matter of purchasing speeding equipment had been raised before but not come to fruition.

It was felt that, as this was a matter important to the electorate it should be supported. Thus, it was **Resolved; That the Parish Council give £1500 towards the project and that the rest be raised through grants.**

Clerk

691/FC Wildflowers. To consider the planting of wildflowers in the central verge on Hunters Hill.

Since the publication of agenda, the verges had been unexpectedly cut. If this were to happen again following the planting of wild flower seeds it could mean their destruction. It was noted that the seeds need not sown until September.

The Clerk would speak to HCC regarding the matter.

Clerk

692/FC Green Space Designation.

Cllr Lacey spoke regarding the need to preserve green spaces within the village from destruction. The appendix supplied with the minutes explained how this could be achieved.

Initial thoughts on locations were;

- Allotments (it was noted that these were PC owned protected via covenant)
- School Fields (it was noted that these were HCC owned)
- Fields on the South side of A35, Lyndhurst Road.
- Both sides of Knellers Lane
- Land at Whartons Lane, opposite the Recreation Ground.

Resolved; Cllr Lacey to draft an article for the magazine. The Clerk to find out if there is a deadline for nominations.

EL
Clerk

693/FC Fete.

Following the meeting on 28th March, notes were circulated to Councillors.
No individual councillor felt able to lead the coordination of the event and discussion centred around doing another Picnic in the Park for village residents.

Resolved; Not to hold the Fete this year, but to meet to discuss a village event.

Meeting date 25th April, Colbury Church Rooms / Clerk's Office.

694/FC Lengthsman Scheme. To receive an update from the Clerk and move the matter forward.

The Clerk updated Councillors that Nursling and Rownhams Parish Council were willing to be in a cluster with our PC and the next step would be who to lead the cluster as this would require extra admin. The Clerk had received the contracts from HCC and was currently reviewing them.

695/FC Parish Plan.

Cllr Lacey reported that the first meeting had been held and explained that the focus of a parish plan was to identify matters that were important to the parish. The last review had taken place in 2007.

The meeting had brainstormed key themes to go into the questionnaire and intended to publish a questionnaire for the businesses in the village too. The themes would be used as headings for sections of the questionnaires with a view to the sort of information sought from respondents. The questionnaire would be built over the next few months, starting with the brainstorming themes sent out to the working party for some streamlining. The questionnaire would be passed before the Parish Council before being released.

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

Cllrs Hubbard, White and Thomas attended the NFNPA's Enforcement Training on 22.03.17.

Cllrs White and Richards attended the ACCG meeting regarding the Station's Anniversary Day on 13.03.17.

Cllrs Hubbard and White attended the Parish Outreach Group Tea Party on 24.03.17.

Cllr Lacey and Richards attended the Parish Plan Meeting.

697/FC Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting.

The next meeting would be the AGM.

Green space

Defibrillator Training

There being no further business Cllr Hubbard thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Appendix 1.

Agenda Item 682/FC 1. Payments Paid and Payable

Payments Received Since Last Meeting		
Date	Details	Amount
30.03.17	Ad Forest Edge Building	£110.00
	Total	£110.00

Payments Made / To be Made				
Date	Chq	Payee	Detail	Amount
18.04.17	2171	NFDC	Election Expenses	£2,870.81
18.04.17	2172	Rokill	Allotment Inspection	£140.00
18.04.17	2173	TLC	June Magazine	£410.00
18.04.17	2173	TLC	May Magazine	£410.00
18.04.17	2173	TLC	Website and Email Dec, Jan, Feb	£51.00
18.04.17	2174	HLOW CRC	CPS - Feb	£75.00
18.04.17	2175	HALC	Affiliation Fees, NALC Levy	£508.00
18.04.17	2176	H Klaassen	Salary and Expenses	£757.97
			Total	£5,222.78