

**** This Meeting was held within the Full Council Meeting after the Annual Parish Meeting ****

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 7.30pm

at The Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury

Attending: Cllr Caroline Hubbard, Cllr Trevor Jakeman, Cllr Sue Robinson, Cllr Clive White, Karen Cramoysan (Clerk), 6 Members of Public. Also present were Cllr Keith Nutburn, Cllr Caroline Smith, Cllr Esther Sutherland

59 Apologies – None

60 Declarations of Interest – None

61 Public Participation – None

62 To Receive Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 19th March 2024

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 19th March 2024 were received by all Members and accepted as a true copy of events. Proposed by Cllr Hubbard, Seconded by Cllr Jakeman.

63 Matters Arising – Whartons Lane development - The developers had requested that the 'Designated Protected Area' status of the site be removed to enable Vivid to seek further funding to support the delivery of additional affordable housing for local people, over and above the 50% already secured. The NFNPA Committee refused to support the request as this could potentially lead to the loss of all affordable housing on the site in the future.

64 New Applications

ACPC Decision

[24/00158FULL](#)

18 Dene Road, Ashurst

Roof alterations to include raising the eaves and ridgeline; 2no. dormer windows to front; 3no rooflights; Juliet balcony; ground floor extension; render; alterations to doors and windows; porch (demolition of single garage)

Refusal (2)

[24/00271FULL](#)

141 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst

Single storey side extension; remove existing conservatory

Permission (1)

[24/00358TPO](#)

20 Dene Way, Ashurst

*Prune 2 Oak trees (shown as T1 & T2 on the plan)
Both trees above are part of G1 of TPO/0114/03*

Defer to NFNPA (5)

65 Decisions

[24/00051FULL](#)

70 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst

Single storey rear extension with rooflights

**Grant
18.03.2024**

[24/00002FULL](#)

32 Lyndhurst Road, Ashurst

Air source heat pump

**Grant
19.03.2024**

[24/00227TPO](#)

57 Whartons Lane, Ashurst

Prune 1 x Oak trees (T1 on the plan - also T1 of TPO: 0035/03)) Prune 8 x Oak trees (shown T9 to T16 on the plan - only 4 of these are protected by G4 of TPO: 0035/03) (The trees above are all highlighted on the Specification of Works Report submitted)

**Grant
26.03.2024**

Signed:

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

This meeting was held on at 7:30pm on Tuesday 16th April 2024
at The Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury

In Attendance: Cllr Caroline Hubbard (Chair), Cllr, Trevor Jakeman, Cllr Keith Nutburn, Cllr Sue Robinson, Cllr Caroline Smith, Cllr Esther Sutherland, Cllr Clive White, Karen Cramoysan (Clerk), 6 Members of the Public

94 Apologies – Cllr Bobbie Torkington, Cllr Joe Reilly (NFDC), Cllr Derek Tipp (NFDC), Cllr Mans (HCC)

95 Declarations of Interest - None

96 Public Participation – 3 Members of the Public expressed their concerns about the flooding along Whartons Lane and showed Councillors photographs of recent flooding around their properties. An email had been sent in from them on the morning of the meeting. Cllr Hubbard advised that unfortunately the email hadn't been seen by all Councillors as they had been busy that day with the Playground Regeneration Event and getting ready for the meetings and asked for time to respond via email answering the questions raised. The email content was as follows;

Our concerns are prompted by the recent BBC News article regarding a completed Vivid Homes development. We appreciate the efforts already made by the parish councillors, we just want to put our concerns on record and can provide further information if necessary.

- What is happening about the current road and property flooding (04/01/2024 – bottom of Lakewood Road and junction of Ashdene and Whartons Lane) and are there capacity issues with surface water and waste water drainage?
- If there are capacity issues and we have evidence of flooding, what does that mean for the new development and effect on our properties. Will it just be joining existing drainage? Who do we need to speak to?
- We are writing to Sir Julian Lewis regarding our concerns, in light of his support for Mr Penny's plight with Vivid Homes development <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy7z28d9grvo>.
- Is there anything else us as residents can do to support the parish council in moving forward with protecting the community from future flooding?
- We are happy to meet with other residents to put together a joint letter to Sir Julian Lewis to express our concerns as a community. We could take contact details at the end of the meeting.

One other resident asked if the Parish Council had any further information about the development and when the building work will start. Cllr Robinson advised that as a Parish Council, there is no obligation for the Parish Council to be regularly kept informed, and that she is still waiting for an email response from Natalie Walter at NFNPA. Cllr Robinson advised that she will provide regular updates in the Parish Magazine and via Facebook and our website as soon as any information is received.

97 To Receive Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th March 2024

RESOLVED: Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 19th March 2024 were received and agreed by all Councillors as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Councillor Sutherland and seconded by Councillor Nutburn. These were then signed by the Chair,

98 Matters Arising At Chair's discretion (if not covered by agenda below)

Foxhills Federation – Cllr Hubbard advised that she and Councillor Jakeman met with the Deputy Head and Caretaker from Foxhills on 2nd March and showed them their allotment plot.

Gas Works along Hunters Hill, Colbury – These are still ongoing. Cllr Hubbard asked Clerk if she had had any response from SGN. Clerk advised that she had written but had had no reply. Clerk noted that HCC have advised that works are still ongoing until 24th May 2024 via the online email reporting system one.network and that has been relayed to residents via daily Facebook updates.

Christmas Lights – Cllr Hubbard asked Cllr Nutburn if he had managed to arrange another date to get the Working Party together to discuss the lighting, which he had not been able to. It was agreed to contact the resident that had offered some help and Clerk would contact him to arrange a date to meet.

Hedgehog Highways – These have now arrived and will be held by Councillor Torkington. Any resident wishing to have a Hedgehog Highway should contact the Clerk and collection will be made available. These will also be displayed and given out to residents at the Summer Fete.

99 Reports

- a. **County Councillors – Keith Mans – HCC.** Cllr Mans attended the Annual Parish Meeting and gave his report there.

Cllr Mans advised that this has been a particularly difficult year for the County Council. Costs for elderly Social Care and young people have risen steeply. This now accounts for almost two thirds of Council spending after the Education Grant from Central Government has been passed directly to Schools. Hampshire County Council has still found 173 million pounds for Capital Investment for the elderly. The County has sufficient experience and knowledge in-house to ensure that the contracts from private sector companies are good ones. This isn't typical across the country and the vast majority of other Councils have sub-contracted out their services to companies in the private sector.

90% of parents were given their 1st, 2nd or 3rd choices in schools this year. A reduction of 3% from last year. Overall, the County has sufficient places for children in schools. When Cllr Mans first became responsible for school transport the costs were 32 million pounds per annum, these have now risen to 65 million pounds,

Cllr Mans has a £8,000 budget which he can spread between the 9 Parish Councils in his area which will be available from the end of May 2024.

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- a. **Derek Tipp – NFDC** - Cllr Tipp was unable to attend the Annual Parish Meeting. His report (listed below) which was read out there.

The District Council continues to be financially sound with a balanced budget for the coming year. The NFDC council tax for this year is £3.83 per week for a band D property. I hope you agree that is pretty good value! There is still concern over a shortfall in 2027, but that is expected to be addressed by increasing income from fees and charges and cutting the costs of service delivery through the use of IT. Our own assets, such as Appletree Court, are being appraised to see if they can be used to increase revenue by renting out a part of it. We are also purchasing carefully selected property such as the Salisbury Road Precinct in Totton, which is to be refurbished. There are other business premises like the New Forest Enterprise Centre at Hounsdown with units for start-up businesses and Crow Lane industrial units in Ringwood as well as several more.

Waste - Our waste collection service is undergoing a major change due to government legislation requiring us to collect food waste separately on a weekly basis. We are expecting to start this in 2026, provided the facility to dispose of it is ready. This year residents who sign up for garden waste are being provided with wheelie bins. Next year we will be changing from a sack collection to an alternate week wheelie bin service. One week is for recycling and the next week is for non-recycling.

Litter - The Council is trying to encourage people not to throw litter out of cars with a new "game approach" on the A35. There are two scoreboards one at the Lyndhurst end and one at Hinton displaying the "litter score". The rating will be from A (good) to D (bad), with an overall percentage score on display based on how much litter is on the roadside. The higher the score, the less litter. The scheme is set to last until September.

Grants - A number of grant schemes have been run by the Council over the past year to support both community projects and local businesses. Much of the funding has come from the government. Funding is also being directed to improving our town centres, with a particular focus on Totton where £136,000 is to be spent on a number of small schemes this summer. A Partnership Board is looking at the possibility of putting forward more ambitious ideas for the medium and longer term, in the hope of attracting funding from the Freeport.

Freeport - The Solent Freeport has now been established and includes a number of key areas in our district called Tax Sites which are expected to attract new and expanded businesses with a range of tax advantages. The retained business rates from this growth can be used to benefit our district over the coming years.

CCTV - CCTV cameras have been increased and upgraded across the district. This will help the police as well as deterring criminal behaviour

Apprenticeships - Several schemes have been implemented to encourage businesses to start and grow using government funding. A new Apprenticeship and Skills scheme is free to all businesses who are looking to take on new apprentices. Information on the New Forest Apprenticeship & Skills Hub can be found at <https://newforest.gov.uk/article/3520/New-Forest-Apprenticeship-and-Skills-Hub>

Planning - Planning in the National Park is not the responsibility of NFDC, but it is worth noting that both are reviewing their Local Plans. Most new house building will take place outside the National Park, but it will undoubtedly affect us all in terms of increased traffic, pressure on health provision, etc. Our housing provision, as calculated by the government's formula, is likely to increase substantially to around 1000 homes a year from its present figure of around 500. I hope that we will be able to reduce that by demonstrating that it is not realistic to build that many in such a constrained area. It is worth noting that BCP Council has just submitted its final draft plan which shows a 1200 a year shortfall on the formula number. It will be interesting to see what the Planning Inspector makes of it!

b. Committee Chairs/Working Parties –

- 1) **Play Area** - Councillor Sutherland advised that the Play Area Regeneration Event this afternoon was well attended.
- 2) **Summer Fete** – Councillor Robinson advised that the Working Party Meetings have produced a long 'to do' list and they will use the same format as last year.
- 3) **Emergency Resilience** - Councillors Robinson and Sutherland attended the HALC Annual Conference and New Forest Forum in Lyndhurst to learn more.
The next Working Party meeting will be held on Thursday 18th April.

c. Parish Councillors – Nothing to report

d. Neighbourhood Watch – Report given by Mandy Evans at the Annual Parish Meeting.

I have been a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator for over 35 years covering the top of Ashdene Road and Pine Close. It was my privilege to take on the role as Lead Coordinator last year and build on the hard work of Karen and Ian Oliver. With over 800 homes in Ashurst and Colbury covering the area from Ashurst Lodge to the A326 south of the railway line, including Pound Lane and part of Deerleap Lane, there was much to do to raise the profile of Neighbourhood Watch together with our Coordinators who do a great job looking after their residents. Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood Watch come under Hampshire and Isle of Wight Neighbourhood Watch and ultimately Ourwatch which is the national Neighbourhood Watch organisation. There are many benefits to joining both Ashurst and Colbury Neighbourhood Watch and Ourwatch.

Our aim is to encourage residents to get to know their neighbours and look out for each other, to raise the alarm if they had any concerns about suspicious activity give them details of who to contact. Hopefully this makes everyone feel more connected. Neighbourhood Watch strapline is 'Together We Can Make a Difference for a Safer Neighbourhood.' Over the last year our activities have increased the number of members by 210. Information is usually by email but residents who are not online get hardcopies. We pass on the monthly Beat Report from our PCSO Richard Williams and PC Mark Roberts, Neighbourhood Alerts from Ourwatch, Action Fraud, Which? Scam Alerts, NFDC Updates and local information.

In the past few months Neighbourhood Watch has joined the monthly Police surgeries and we have been alternating between daytime at the Happy Cheese one month and early evenings at St Joseph's on alternate months for those who work during the day. These are short half hour sessions where anyone can come along to speak to PCSO Richard, PC Mark or a Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator.

Our first social evening in January was held at the Happy Cheese in January with Coordinator and Cyber Champion Trevor Brookes who gave a talk on cyber security. PCSO Richard Williams gave an update about his role in the community at our second social evening and quiz recently held at the New Forest Hotel and also gave an update on what Hampshire Police are doing at Lyndhurst and Totton.

I am happy to talk to anyone who would like more information on how they can benefit from being a member of Neighbourhood Watch. My contact details can be found in the Parish Magazine where you will find regular Neighbourhood Watch items

100 Policy

- a.
- 1) **Emergency Resilience Plan Update from Working Party meeting -**
RESOLVED: The next Working Party meeting will be held on Thursday 18th April..
 - 2) **To Note the New Tree Works Contract from NDFDC**
RESOLVED: Councillors noted new supplier contact details.
 - 3) **To Receive the Internal Audit Covering March 2023 –**
RESOLVED: Presented to and Received by Full Council.
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90 Community & Environment
a. Recreation Ground

- 1) **Removal of Slide** - The Clerk advised that the slide has still not been removed and she has not heard from the contractor. The ROSPA inspection is due in May and we would be marked down as no action had been taken since it was noted that it needed removal or replacement last year. It was therefore **AGREED:** by all Councillors to contact Infinity Playgrounds to quote for the removal and if it was around the same price then to go ahead with them.
 - 2) **To Discuss the New Playground Equipment Project -**
RESOLVED: Councillor Sutherland gave an update earlier at the Annual Parish Meeting.
 - 3) **Play Area Algae Cleaning and Resurfacing –** The Clerk advised that the works had been carried out and completed. Councillor Jakeman checked the area and was happy with the works carried out. The invoice was paid.
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b. Allotments

- 1) **Vacant Plots –**
RESOLVED: Councillor Jakeman advised that there was still 1 half plot and 1 full plot available. No residents have come forward for this despite the Clerk advertising this on Facebook and numerous articles appearing in the Parish Magazine and it was still **AGREED:** by all Councillors to start offering these out to non-residents on the waiting list at the end of April.
 - 2) **Broken Paving Slab and Plot Numbers –**
RESOLVED: Clerk advised that the Lengthsman had replaced the broken paving slab and was working on replacing the broken plot numbers and had turned the water back on at the end of March. An allotment holder at the Annual Parish Meeting asked the Clerk when the water would be turned on as it hadn't been done so far and Cllr Hubbard didn't think that the broken plot numbers had been replaced yet. Clerk to contact Lengthsman to ask for clarification.
 - 3) **Flooding Problem –** Cllr Jakeman advised that following the Clerk's email from Tony Barron, he went down to the allotments and looked at the drainage problem. The ditch that runs along the perimeter between our allotments and Totton & Eling's allotments are backed up and not draining away properly. There looks to be debris in the pipework. It was discussed by all Councillors and **AGREED:** for Cllr Jakeman to contact Drain Rescue to have a look at. Item to be discussed at the next Open Spaces Meeting in May and to be put back on the main May Full Council Meeting agenda.
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c. Precinct – Installation of benches – update.

- 1) **Planter Signage –** Cllr Hubbard advised that the husband of one of the shop owners has offered to make a wooden sign to commemorate the D-Day 80th Anniversary at no cost to the Council. The Council have accepted this with thanks and the sign will soon appear in the planters.
 - 2) **Benches -** The Clerk said that Cllr Tipp contacted NFDC about the benches. The Estates Dept have contacted the Clerk asking for further information and the Clerk is still working on this. Item deferred to May agenda.
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- d. **Flagpole Installation** – This took place on Friday 12th April. Cllr Jakeman has out some hazard tape around the flag sleeve as it could be a trip hazard or could be damaged by the Grounds Maintenance contractors who may not be aware that it was there. The St Georges Flag will be put up next week ready for St Georges Day next Tuesday. Cllr Hubbard advised that we may need to look at some sort of peg to keep the pole in the sleeve as it moves and doesn't slot in tightly. It was **AGREED**: by all Councillors to keep the pole insitu all the time and this will combat the problem of the sleeve being damaged or tripped over. Cllr Jakeman also asked if the Council could consider some removable matting around the soldier area as it is very wet around Remembrance Sunday. Item to go on Open Spaces agenda for May.
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- e. **To Receive Infinity Playgrounds Bus Shelter Cleaning Quote of £150 each - RESOLVED**: All Councillors agreed unanimously to have 3 shelters cleaned sited on the A35 opposite Co-op, A35 opposite car wash and Ashdene Road
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- f. **Request from Resident to contact HCC re Double Yellow Lines and Dangerous Parking along Ashdene Road-Whartons Lane and New Road-Ashdene Road – RESOLVED**: Resident received a reply from the Traffic Management Team at HCC expressing how sorry they were about the parking issues but explaining that due to the costly (approx. £12,000) and time-consuming process they were not able to consider their request.
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102 Finance

- a. **To Approve Online Payment Schedule dated 16th April 2024**
This was presented to all Councillors and **APPROVED**.
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- b. **To Ratify Approval of Online Payment Schedules 3rd and 15th April 2024**
These were presented to all Councillors and **APPROVED**
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- c. **To Receive Income & Expenditure Reports from 19th March onwards**
These were presented to all Councillors and **APPROVED**
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- d. **To Receive Q4 Bank Reconciliation – RESOLVED**: This was presented to all Councillors and **APPROVED**.
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- e. **To Consider Grant Request of £200 from New Forest Disability – RESOLVED**: All Councillors agreed to award New Forest Disability £50. Clerk to arrange payment.
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103 Future Meeting Dates;

Emergency Resilience Working Party – Thursday 18th April at 2pm – St Josephs

Staff Working Party – Tuesday 23rd April at 11am - Colbury Church Rooms

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- a. **Open Spaces Meeting – Tuesday 23rd April 2024 at 2:30pm – Colbury Church Rooms**
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- b. **Planning Meeting – Tuesday 21st May at 2024 at 6:30pm - Colbury Church Rooms**
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- c. **Annual General Meeting followed by Full Council Meeting– Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 7:00pm – Colbury Church Rooms**
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Meeting Closed at 8:24pm