

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

This meeting was held on at 6:45pm on Tuesday 18th June 2024
at The Church Rooms, Deerleap Lane, Colbury

In Attendance: Cllr Caroline Hubbard (Chair), Cllr, Trevor Jakeman, Cllr Sue Robinson, Cllr Caroline Smith, Cllr Bobbie Torkington, Cllr Clive White (Vice-Chair), Cllr Derek Tipp (NFDC), Karen Cramoysan (Clerk), 8 Members of the Public

17. **Apologies** – Cllr Keith Nutburn, Cllr Esther Sutherland, Cllr Joe Reilly (NFDC), Cllr Keith Mans (HCC)

18. **Declarations of Interest** - None

19. **Public Participation** – Resident advised that there were numerous camper vans parked up overnight at the entrance to the railway station. Clerk to contact Forestry England about this.

20. **To Receive Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st May 2024**

RESOLVED: Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21st May 2024 were received and agreed by all Councillors as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Robinson and Seconded by Cllr Jakeman, These were then signed by the Chair.

21. **Matters Arising At Chair's discretion (if not covered by agenda below)**

Allotments – Foxhills Plot – Cllr Hubbard advised that no work has been done to clear the plot. Allotment Chairman advised that the person who was helping the school do this clearance work will be carrying this out in the next couple of weeks.

District Councillor Grant – The Chair thanked Councillor Derek Tipp for his donation towards the fete which will pay for a climbing wall.

22. **Reports**

a. **Derek Tipp – NFDC**

NFNPA Local Plan – This is currently in review and they are looking at National Development Planning Policies, It is thought that these new policies may override local plans if they come in. They should be finished by September 2026 and adopted in 2027. An inspector will need to review the new plans before they are adopted. This is a costly process and will cost around £40k.

New Houses – NFDC are delivering new high-quality, affordable council housing across the New Forest. This is a result of our ambitious house building and acquisitions programme which focuses on the development of affordable housing for people with a local connection to the New Forest. Affordable homes are delivered on sites owned and land acquired by the council as part of larger schemes built by private developers. They will also buy back and re-let ex-council properties sold under the Right to Buy. The programme aims to deliver at least 600 new council homes by 2026. This includes properties for:

- social rent
- affordable rent
- shared ownership

Community Infrastructure Levy – The current funding window has now ended but it is hopeful that the scheme will continue next year. Applicants will need 50% of the amount needed and NFDC will match fund the other 50%. Details of which organisations who have benefitted this year can be found at <https://www.newforest.gov.uk/article/3423/CIL-bids-and-expenditure>

Rural Fund – has more or less been spent now.

b. **Committee Chairs/Working Parties –**

1) **Whartons Lane Drainage** – Cllr Robinson advised that she met with Steve Avery recently at an NFNPA meeting and outlined the Parish Council's concerns about the drainage problems along Whartons Lane. This was followed up by an email and she has heard nothing back from him or the planning officer, Natalie Walter. Councillor Robinson will contact him again and ask for a face to face meeting to discuss things further,

Signed:

- 2) **Draft Village Design Statement** – Cllr Robinson emailed the draft plan to David Ilsley at NFNPA. The draft plan was reviewed by the planning dept at NFNPA and building design and conservation and a few recommendations have been made. Cllr Robinson will organise a meeting with the working party and NFNPA to discuss this further.

c. **Parish Councillors –**

- 1) **Allotments** - Cllr Jakeman advised that he will be meeting one prospective tenant next week to show them the available plots and is waiting for confirmation from the other person. The Community Payback will be doing clearance work at the allotments on Tuesday 25th July 2024. The Allotment inspection was carried out on Friday 14th June. Generally the plots are in a good condition however some plot holders will be written to by the Clerk to highlight areas that need attention. A general letter is needed to all plot holders to remind them to secure any netting on their plots to stop birds getting trapped in them. A couple of plot numbers are broken beyond repair and need replacing. Cllr Jakeman has found some weather proof metal signs on Etsy for £10 each, and it was **AGREED**; that he will go ahead and order them for the ones that need replacing. Finance Committee will look at the replacement of all plot numbers when setting the precept request for next year.
- 2) **Defib** – Cllr Jakeman has met with the First responder who was looking after the maintenance of our Defib and now knows how to carry out the weekly checks. Clerk to add Cllr Jakeman to 'The Circuit' website as a guardian.
- 3) **Emergency Resilience Plan** – Cllr Hubbard advised that the Working Party met on 27th May and they have looked at other Parish Council plans, talked about allocating teams and will be creating a draft document. Cllr Sutherland will look at grants and Cllr Hubbard will contact the Outreach and Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators to form a joint plan. It was also **AGREED**; by all Members to adapt the current Pandemic Policy to incorporate the new Emergency Resilience Plan once the document is finalised. The next meeting will be held on Friday 5th July.

d. **Neighbourhood Watch** –Mandy Evans advised that;

Missing lad and puppy - On 10th June a mother reported her son and puppy were missing – there has been no update.

Vehicle theft - A blue campervan was stolen from a drive in Ash Grove on 5 June. Messages were sent round asking for CCTV images or any other information.

Thefts - All the trays of duck and chicken eggs and an honesty box were stolen from outside the gate at property near the Woodlands Road junction. This was not the first time, so sadly the lady has stopped doing it.

Bicycles were stolen from Ashurst campsite again. PCSO Richard said that visitors seem to think that the Forest is a safe place, but this is sadly not so.

Again, there were thefts from sheds in Ashurst.

Accidents - On 3rd June a vehicle came off the road outside the Forest Inn and knocked down a streetlamp. The occupant was airlifted to hospital and the road closed for a time. Traffic was diverted down Whartons Lane and through Ashdene Road. Police have renewed their appeal for witnesses to a serious accident between lorry and car on A326 at Monkton Lane 3.15am on Thursday 13 June, sadly resulting in a fatality of 51-year-old man from Christchurch. The silver Peugeot had been stolen from Fordingbridge on 23 December last year and had cloned licence plates.

Street signs application - 20 new plastic signs ready to go up once I have informed Enerveo which lamp posts I intend to put them on.

Police and Neighbourhood Watch Surgery - Our last joint surgery was on Tuesday 11 June at St Joseph's and there were 6 of us there this time so as it was only the second evening surgery there, we can see that it is growing and worthwhile. Those who were not already NW members signed up on the night.

The next joint surgery will be at The Happy Cheese on Tuesday 2 July from 11am -11.30am, although people do stay longer. Our two previous socials were in the evenings but I am aware that some people don't like going out in the evenings so I booked an afternoon for next time. This will be on Monday 22 July at The Happy Cheese from 2pm – 4pm. I had booked a speaker from The Blue Lamp Trust Bobby Scheme to talk about home and personal security, but they later cancelled due to pressure of work and lack of speakers. Age Concern will be giving a talk.

Talks - On Wednesday 12 June I spoke at the Ashurst and Colbury Community Group AGM at Longdown and on Thursday 13 June I spoke at Ashurst and District Probus Club before lunch at Dibden Golf Club. They also gave a donation to A&C NW which will be put to good use and I will acknowledge this donation in the next magazine.

Emails –12 emails sent out to groups since the last Parish Council meeting x 222 = 2664 emails.

New members - 4 new members sign up last month.

Parish magazine - I am just putting in a poster about the next social meeting on 22 July which will have details of a talk by Teresa Blakey from Age Concern.

23. Policy

- 1) **a. To Review and Adopt the updated Financial Regulations** – Deferred to the July meeting.
- 2) **To Review & Re-adopt the following; Restrictive Activity/Pandemic Policy, Complaints Procedure Policy, Vexatious Complainant Policy- RESOLVED:** The Pandemic Policy will be deferred to a future agenda to incorporate the Emergency Resilience Plan details. The other policies were re-adopted.

24. Community & Environment

a., Recreation Ground

- 1) **To Receive Play Area Annual Inspection Report from Play Safety – RESOLVED:** The report has been reviewed and as all the items flagged are low risk, no action will be taken.
- 2) **D-Day 80th Anniversary update** – Cllr Hubbard advised that Cllr Jakeman put the D-Day Flag up before the anniversary and on Thursday 6th June there was a short ceremony attended by approximately 40 residents. Local resident Dennis Hart raised the flag.

b.Allotments

- 1) **Drainage Update** – Cllr Jakeman advised that local contractor JSN Arnold had provided a quote to dig trial holes by the manhole cover and plot 5 and will hopefully find the membrane. If no luck, then he will dig a trench. The quote received was for £234. All Councillors **AGREED** for this to go ahead.
- 2) **Rat Problems** – The Clerk advised that Rokill had been called to site on 12th June and identified two rat burrows around plots 20 and 30 which were baited and closed over.
- 3) **Competition judging** – Councillor Jakeman advised that judging took place on Tuesday 18th June 2024. Only 4 plot holders had entered the competition. Cllr Jakeman said that it had been a hard job to pick a winner as all the plots were in a lovely condition. Allotment Chairman said that a lot of plot holders hadn't put themselves forward for their plots to be judged due to the water problems at the allotments and being unable to water their crops.
- 4) **Low water pressure/ Water Leak** – Cllr Jakeman advised that following reports from plot holders about low water pressure, the Clerk had been contacted by a local contractor who had identified a leak coming from our supply in the field behind our allotments. Our water meter housing was filled with water. The stopcock was turned off at the pavement and also the feed to the water troughs and Southern Water were called. Southern Water identified that there is a leak from the meter to our feed into the allotments and Clancy Docwra have been called to attend. Unfortunately over the past few days, they have been calling to private residents addresses instead of the meter outside the allotments. Cllr Jakeman is continuing to deal with this.

c. Precinct

- 1) **Installation of Benches** – Clerk advised that she was still waiting to hear back from HCC regarding ownership of the benches. Cllr Hubbard suggested contacting a handyman to see if the benches can be repaired and also ask Cllr Mans for a grant to cover the cost of the repairs. Clerk to organise this.
- 2) **Planters** Cllr Hubbard advised that the planters were planted up at the weekend. The watering rota is up and running and all the planters look beautiful. The ferns have now matured and taking up a lot more space so with the home-grown bedding, they look really good. The Chair also thanked the local resident who stores the water bowser for us.

d., Christmas Lights Working Party – Cllr Nutburn was unable to make the meeting and had not sent in a report in time for the meeting. Item deferred to the July meeting,

25. Finance

- a) **To Approve Online Payment Schedule Dated 18th June 2024 - RESOLVED:** The Online Payment Schedule for 18th June 2024 was approved by all Councillors.
 - b) **To Ratify Approval of Online Payment Schedule Dated 22nd May 5th & 14th June 2024 - RESOLVED:** The Online Payment Schedule for 22nd May 5th & 14th June 2024 was approved by all Councillors.
 - c) **To Receive Income & Expenditure Reports from 21st May to 18th June 2024- RESOLVED:** Financial Transactions from 21st May to 18th June 2024 were received by all Councillors.
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26. Next Meeting Dates

- a. **Planning Meeting – 16th July 2024 – 6:30pm**
 - b. **Full Council Meeting – 16th July 2024 – 6:45pm**
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Meeting Closed at 7:39pm