

LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held at Lyndhurst Community Centre on Tuesday 7 April 2015 at 7.15 pm.

Present: Mr G Bisson (Chairman), Mr L Cornell (Vice Chairman), Mr J Charlesworth, Mrs A Trend and Mrs P Wyeth.

In Attendance: Mrs M Weston (Clerk to the Council).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Rollé, Mrs H Klaassen and Mr K Kaljura.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Bisson declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7 – Great Mead as he owned property abutting this land. Mrs Wyeth declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 7 – Great Mead as her brother (Mr Bisson) owned property abutting this land.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 4 November 2015 were approved as an accurate record.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Bulbs

Discussion took place regarding likely planting sites for bulbs in Autumn 2015.

RESOLVED: That bulbs will be planted on the C17 at the junction of A35 and C17 at Swan Green, on the triangular piece of land opposite the Fire Station and on Romsey Road. It would be requested that they be placed in large groupings.

6. Maintenance Programme

(a) Seats

Mr and Mrs Bisson had conducted a survey of the 36 seats in the Parish Council's ownership. Three seats needed new slats and repainting as necessary, one seat needed cleaning, 19 seats needed repainting, two seats needed surrounding groundwork and the remaining seats were either in good order or would shortly need repainting.

RESOLVED: That quotations will be obtained for the work involved and that enquiries will be made to see if replacement slats could be obtained from Neptune.

It was noted that the seats at the top of the Bench hill had badly deteriorated and the Clerk said this had been reported to the Forestry Commission. Mr Bisson said that there was a holly tree growing through the yew trees.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Forestry Commission drawing attention to this matter.

Mr and Mrs Bisson were thanked by the Committee for undertaking a comprehensive report on the condition of the seats.

(b) Bus Shelters

Mr Cornell reported that he had conducted a survey of the bus shelters and this had been circulated to members of the Committee. Most of the shelters were in good order although the shelter on the opposite

side of the road to the Lyndhurst Park Hotel needed revarnishing. On the Lyndhurst Park Hotel side of the road clearance was needed behind the bus shelter. Moss needed to be cleared from the bus shelter near Ineos at Clay Hill and leaves should be cleared from the shelter near Foxlease.

RESOLVED: That Kevin Bennett be asked to provide a quotation for the work involved, some of which can be taken from the Lengthsman's budget.

Mr Cornell was thanked for the work in order to compile this survey.

7. Noticeboards

(a) *Public Noticeboard – to consider*

It was noted that at the present time there was little likelihood at the present time that the old toilet block would be removed in order to make way for an open space where a public noticeboard could be placed although it was recognised that due to NFDC's policy of zero tolerance to flyposting some sort of noticeboard was very necessary. Mr Charlesworth highlighted the fact that he had offered some space on Community Centre land where a noticeboard could be placed.

RESOLVED: That Mr Bisson and the Clerk source information regarding possible noticeboards for the next meeting.

(b) *Small Noticeboards inside bus shelters – to consider*

Discussion took place regarding the feasibility and desirability of providing a small lockable noticeboard in bus shelters that could be used either by the Parish Council or on a charged basis to local organisations.

RESOLVED: That Mr Bisson obtain prices for two trial noticeboards, A3 size to be placed in the bus shelters on either side of the road at the Lyndhurst Park Hotel. £10 per month would be charged to anyone wishing to use this facility.

Mr Bisson agreed to put up any posters and the Clerk will send out invoices.

8. Great Mead

It was noted that it would now be necessary to pay NFDC for grasscutting at Great Mead. The charge would be £48.00 for each of ten cuts throughout the year. Herbicide would be applied twice a year at a cost of £32 per application.

A local resident had complained about the use of herbicide on the ground at Great Mead and thought it could be causing sickness to dogs and other animals, including wildlife. However the local vet had sent an email stating that the substance used was not poisonous to animals or wildlife. Kevin Bennett had suggested strimming around the trees and against the wall as an alternative but this was not considered practical.

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from a local resident who said that the ditch at the rear of properties in Shaggs Meadow was blocked. It was noted that homeowners in Shaggs Meadow are responsible for keeping this ditch clear.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the resident to inform her of the position.

It was noted that Kevin Bennett had carried out a good deal of maintenance work to the perimeter between Great Mead and Shaggs Meadow and this remedial work would continue as necessary. The trees had been tidied and this would also be ongoing.

9. Village Signs

It was noted that HCC had completed Phase 2 of the signage programme before Phase 1. Work was now completed but was not considered to be satisfactory and the Welcome signs appeared to be fading again.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk investigate the possibility of new signage with HCC/NFNPA.

10. Silver Street to Blackwater Path

Mr Bisson reported that he had walked the path and the edging boards were breaking up in places and part of the path was considered too muddy to pass easily in inclement weather. It was thought desirable to undertake remedial action before the situation became worse.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk consult the Forestry Commission regarding the necessary permissions and ascertain whether any Countryside Access finance might be available from HCC.

11. BT Telephone Kiosks

The condition of the kiosk at Racecourse View had deteriorated and was in need of repainting and internal refurbishment. The Clerk reported that she had, so far, been unable to get any firm plans from Jim Mitchell at NFNPA who had undertaken to provide information and finance to refurbish the inside of the kiosk. It was unclear as to how much assistance would be forthcoming from local residents and Mr Charlesworth undertook to make enquiries.

RESOLVED: That Mr Charlesworth report back when there is further information.

12. Dog Waste Bins

Mr Bisson reported that the dog waste bin at the top of Great Mead was regularly overflowing and discussion took place as to whether it would be advisable to add another bin or ask for a more regular collection. The possibility of an additional bin at the top of Emery Down hill was also discussed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk enquire of NFDC the cost of providing an additional bin at the top of Great Mead alongside the present bin and a further bin at Emery Down, preferably to be placed on highway land.

13. Defibrillator

Mr Charlesworth agreed to contact the electrician used by the Community Centre with a view to hard wiring the defibrillator box and once arrangements had been agreed the Clerk would place an order.

14. Flower Tubs

Mr Bisson reported that once remedial works commenced to the pavement at the bottom of the High Street two of the flower tubs would be removed. This would leave two tubs there and another two tubs at the junction of the A35 with Knightwood Avenue.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council pay for planting of these tubs. Hartwood House had already agreed to water the tubs near Knightwood Avenue and the owner of the Tearooms at the bottom of the High Street would be asked if they would take over watering the two tubs outside their premises.

15. Any Other Business

In the absence of any other business the Chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date