

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2008 AT 7.15 PM

Present: Mr G Bisson (Chairman), Mr M Abbott, Mr F Alexander, Mr M Böckle, Mr P Boyes, Mrs A Butcher, Mr J Charlesworth, Mr I Clarke, Miss H Palmer, Mr M Rollé, Mrs A Trend and Mrs P Wyeth.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs M H Weston
15 members of the public

88. Public Participation

Mr Herbert, speaking on behalf of Lyndhurst, Emery Down and Bank Residents Association drew the Parish Council's attention to their view that they felt the NF NPA should be dissolved or should consist of elected representatives and would be putting this point in their reply to the Plan questionnaire from the NF NPA.

89. Disclosures of Interest

As a member of the NF NPA Mrs Wyeth disclosed interests in Agenda Item Number 6 (NF NPA Plan) and Agenda Item Number 8 (Amenities Committee item regarding Great Mead). The Chairman and Mr Abbott also declared interests in Agenda Item Number 8.

90. Apology for Absence

None (all present).

91. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting dated 9 September 2008, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

92. Matters Arising

(a) Dearing Close

Mrs Wyeth reported that, following the September Parish Council meeting, she had contacted Swaythling Housing Society who had intimated that they could not see any reason why it would not be possible to place appropriate warning signage in Dearing Close. However, no further news had been forthcoming and Mrs Wyeth undertook to make further enquiries.

(b) CCTV – Car Park

The Clerk reported that an amended invoice for £700 had been received and would go forward for authorisation at this meeting.

ACTION BY

Mrs Wyeth

(c) Garages at Clay Hill

ACTION BY

Mrs Wyeth reported that NFDC Environmental Control had visited the site and had reported that no evidence of vermin had been found. Negotiations were in hand with the Crown Stirrup PH with regard to an alternative access. Enquiries were also being made as to predicted usage of the garages and whether the area could have an alternative use.

(d) Conservation Area Changes

Mrs Wyeth enquired whether the Clerk had received an update on proposals for changes to the Conservation Area. The Clerk replied that no information had been received.

(e) Village Walk

Mr Böckle explained that routes had been finalised and formal permission was now awaited from NFDC regarding positioning of the notice board in the car park. It was hoped to launch the walk in the Spring.

93. New Forest National Park Plan

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met with the Chairmen and Clerks of Sway, Brockenhurst and Ashurst and Colbury Parish Councils regarding the proposals contained in the plan that these villages become known as “service villages” and a combined reply had been formulated and sent to the Chairman of the NF NPA regarding these proposals. He stressed that Lyndhurst Parish Council would also be sending an independent reply in letter form to the NF NPA. A joint press release had also been prepared and sent out. Mrs Wyeth stressed that it was important that we retain 50% retail outlets among shops. NFDC had met to discuss the proposals and although Lyndhurst is already a service village (presently known as a defined village) councillors were against other proposals that the Plan might bring and do not want 100% affordable housing. As a village we need the right type of hi-tech, low impact employment. With regard to road pricing, the NF NPA is not a highway authority. It should also be noted that there was a lorry ban on part of the High Street and it was not thought that the village could accommodate more traffic.

94. Correspondence

A letter had been received from the Highway Authority stating that they had received a request from Internal Communications Systems a company who have an interest in installing a broadband service to the village. The Parish Council were warned that the work involved would cause severe disruption.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk reply stating the Parish Council did not think the proposals were necessary and would be against the disruption that would be caused.

Clerk

A letter had been received from the New Forest Small School stating that they were looking for alternative classroom accommodation and asking if the Parish Council had anything suitable that they could use.

ACTION BY

RESOLVED: To reply stating that the Parish Council were unable to offer any assistance.

Clerk

95. Minutes of Committee Meetings

The minutes of the following Committee meetings held since the date of the last meeting were received:

Planning Committee – 23 September

RESOLVED: To ask the NF NPA for a copy of permitted development rights which came in force on 1 October.

Clerk

It was noted that Mr Peart had written to the NF NPA again drawing their attention to the amount of rubbish left in the grounds of South View.

Allotment Committee – 24 September

Mrs Butcher reported that allotment holders had installed a new underground drain at the Westwood Road entrance to the allotments. It was noted that they were again attempting to form an allotment association. Work had commenced to cutting back of the perimeter hedge.

Mr Cooper had once again not vacated his former plots and it was noted that the plots and the chickens on the site were in an appalling state.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council authorise the taking of legal action to evict Mr Cooper.

Cemetery Committee – 30 September

Mr Boyes reported that he undertaken remedial action to the war graves and was bringing them up to an acceptable standard.

Mrs Wyeth asked what procedure was adopted for the laying down of unsafe memorial stones. Mr Boyes said that grave owners were contacted where possible although this was frequently impossible. Mrs Wyeth had received an enquiry from a grave owner who had been upset to learn that her husband's grave had been laid flat. Details were handed to the Clerk who undertook to contact the lady concerned.

Clerk

Amenities Committee – 1 October

Mr Böckle thanked members of the Amenities Committee for attending the meeting and said he felt they had agreed a very good long term plan. He hoped it would be possible to undertake fund raising in the future. The bulbs

would be planted shortly.

ACTION BY

Mrs Wyeth said she had been approached by residents requesting a wild flower meadow at Great Mead.

Mr Alexander stated that following the Amenities Committee meeting he had made enquiries about budget capping and had been informed that Parish Councils were not capped at the present time and their budgets did not affect the amounts claimed by the higher tiers of local government.

Recreation Committee – 7 October

Mr Rollé reported that the new equipment was proving very popular and it had been a worthwhile investment.

96. Accounts

- (a) The Clerk submitted accounts which had become due for payment or had already been paid since the date of the last meeting, as detailed on Appendix A and these were approved.
- (b) The Clerk submitted details of Parish Council spending for the period 1 April 2008 to 14 October 2008.

97. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

Mr Abbott had attended a meeting of the Open Forest Advisory Committee. Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed had been discussed. Trimming of trees at Bench Hill would take place shortly.

Mr Charlesworth reported that the Community Centre would be hosting a children's party on 13 December which would be free of charge. A cheese and wine evening would be held on 15 October to ascertain the views of parents with young children on what they would like to see at the Community Centre in the forthcoming year. A meeting had been held with the Lottery Fund and a bid would be made in November.

Mr Boyes had attended a meeting that gave ideas for funding in the voluntary sector.

The Chairman, Mr Alexander, Mr Boyes, Mrs Wyeth and the Clerk had attended a Lyndhurst Traffic Management meeting at which various schemes had been discussed but had been subsequently dismissed, except for the possibility of moving the traffic lights at present situated at the Romsey Road junction back towards the school in order to alleviate the pollution problems. A feasibility study would be conducted. Another meeting would be held in January.

Mrs Wyeth stated that she had been contacted by the governors of the local school regarding cars parking outside School House. Following negotiations

a bollard would be placed outside School House.

ACTION BY

98. Handy Person

RESOLVED: That following completion of the three months probationary period the handy person role revert to a preferred contractor status and that specifications of work continue to be drawn up and tenders sought for work over £1,000 in value. Mr Todd would now be asked to undertake a trial period on cemetery maintenance, this being the only regular work on a weekly basis.

99. Use of Cemetery Chapel

RESOLVED: That the idea of use of the Chapel by the Independent Anglican Union be agreed and Mr Boyes suggestion of a fee of £10 per visit be further discussed at the next Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting. Further ways of using the chapel would be explored.

100. Dates of Future Committee Meetings

Planning Committee – 28 October

Finance and General Purposes Committee – 18 November

RESOLVED: That Miss Palmer and Mr Clark join the Cemetery Committee.

101. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from Agenda for the October meeting.

Any other items brought to the Clerk's attention by 3 November 2008.

102. Rumour Corner

None.

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

Chairman _____

Date _____

APPENDIX A – PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 14.10.08

The following accounts have been paid between meetings:

Mr A Todd

Cemetery work £360.00

The following accounts have become due for payment since the date of the last meeting:

Mrs M Weston

Clerk's Salary and Expenses £1036.57

Lyndhurst and District Community Association

Planning Committee meeting	£18.50	
Parish Council meeting	£18.50	
Amenities Committee meeting	£18.50	
Total		£55.50

Mr Paul Carter

Cemetery Maintenance 4 August to 25 August	£180.00	
Cemetery Maintenance 1 Sept to 29 Sept	£225.00	
Total		£405.00

Forestry Commission

Annual Rent – Allotment Gardens	£450.00	
6-monthly Rent – Recreation Ground	£300.00	
Total		£750.00

NFDC

CCTV Surveillance £700.00

Mr P Boyes

Materials for Cemetery Graves £165.00

Bibby Factors Bristol Limited

Stationery £24.56

M J Giddings Farm Produce Limited

Recreation Ground Play Surface £1,382.09

Total for the period 10.09.08 to 14.10.08

Voucher Numbers 1313 to 1311 in the sum of £4,878.72