

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 10 MAY 2016 COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM

Present: Mrs H Klaassen (Chairman), Mr G Bisson, Dr E Chell, Mr K Kaljura, Mr J Lock, Mr M Rollé, Mr S Se-upara, Mrs A Trend, the Revd Dr C Wilkins, Mr A Wiltshire and Mrs P Wyeth.
Clerk to the Council: Mrs M Weston
In attendance: 1 member of the public – part of the meeting
Ms Carolyn Griffiths (Press) – part of the meeting

1. Election of Chairman

The Clerk asked for nominations for the position of Chairman for the ensuing year. Mrs Wyeth proposed, seconded by Mr Bisson, that Mrs Klaassen be elected Chairman. Mr Kaljura proposed, seconded by Mrs Trend, that Mr Rollé, be elected Chairman. A secret ballot took place which was counted by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: That Mrs Klaassen is elected Chairman.

Mrs Klaassen duly took over as Chairman of the meeting.

2. Election of Vice Chairman

The Chairman asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman for the ensuing year. Mr Bisson proposed, seconded by Mr Se-upara, that Mr Lock be elected Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations and Mr Lock indicated that he would be prepared to undertake the role.

RESOLVED: That Mr Lock is elected Vice Chairman

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Appointment of Committees

RESOLVED: That the following Committees be appointed for the ensuing year:

Allotment Committee – Mr Wiltshire, Mrs Klaassen, Mr Kaljura and Mr Se-Upara

Amenities Committee – Mr Bisson, Mr Kaljura, Mr Lock, Mrs Trend and Mrs Wyeth

Cemetery Committee – Mr Wiltshire, Mr Rollé, Mrs Trend and the Revd Dr Wilkins

Planning Committee – Mrs Klaassen, Mr Bisson, Dr Chell, Mr Dunning, Mr Lock, Mr Se-Upara and the Revd Dr Caroline Wilkins

Recreation Committee – Mr Rollé, Mr Kaljura, Mrs Klaassen and Mrs Trend

Chairman and Vice Chairman to be invited to attend all Committees. A quorum will consist of two Councillors and the Clerk.

5. Outside Body Representation

RESOLVED: That the following representation to outside bodies be made for the ensuing year:

Village Decorations Committee – Mr Bisson

Public Transport – Mr Lock

Village Twinning Committee – Mrs Trend

Lyndhurst Welfare Charities – Mrs Wyeth, Mr Abbott

NFALC – Mr Bisson, Mr Lock

Chamber of Trade – Mr Bisson, Mr Wiltshire, Mr Se-Upara

6. Disclosures of Interest

None.

7. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Mr T Dunning.

8. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 April 2016 were approved as a true and accurate record.

9. Matters Arising

It was noted that, along with other libraries that it had been rumoured were under threat, the Lyndhurst Library would not be closed but that the mobile library service in Hampshire had been discontinued.

The Clerk said she had now contacted the Head of Environment Services at NFDC twice regarding the fact that the Parish Council felt that the lighting in the centre of the car park was inadequate. To date she had not received a reply.

The Clerk said she had written to the Highways Manager West at HCC regarding the problem with roadside vegetation and had received an encouraging letter stating that this problem was on a programme for work to be undertaken although an Assent for the work and Method Statement had to be agreed with Natural England before work could commence. Mr Bisson said that he felt that the Clerk's request to HCC had been misleading as it was dead wood that required action but both Mrs Wyeth and the Clerk were firm that the work would be actioned as required.

10. Air Quality Report

Mrs Trend stated that she felt the air quality figures for the Easter bank holiday period had been better due to inclement weather conditions resulting in less traffic. The Clerk said attention had been drawn to this in the previous minutes. Dr Chell asked for more detailed statistics and was informed these could be obtained from the NFDC website. Ideas floated related to a ban on HGVs, more foliage to "soak up" pollution and the need for hybrid vehicles.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to HCC regarding concerns over low level pollution and that any correspondence should also be sent to the NFNPA and County Councillor Mans.

11. Committee Meetings

The Clerk reported that although the Planning Committee meeting minutes of 26 April was an agenda item she had been unable to bring them to the meeting. She had not attended the meeting due to ill health and had not yet received the necessary information in order to finish compiling the minutes.

12. Speed Indicator Devices

The Clerk reported that since the date of the last meeting she had written to Dr Julian Lewis, MP and the Rt Hon Patrick Loughlin, MP, Minister of Transport to highlight the Parish Council's desire for permanent SIDS within the parish boundaries. A reply had been received from Dr Lewis with a copy of a letter he had sent to County Councillor Rob Humby, Executive Member for Economy, Transport and the Environment asking him to reconsider his previous decision.

13. Public Open Space in the Car Park

Discussion centred on the plan that had been sent through from NFDC showing the proposed seat in commemoration of Arthur Phillip. Mrs Trend emphasised that any recommendation needed to be discussed with the New Forest Centre and the Heritage Lottery Fund. After further discussion the Clerk pointed out that Parish Council Standing Orders stated that once a resolution had been passed, as it had at the April Parish Council meeting concerning the commemorative seat, it could not be reversed for at least three months. Mrs Wyeth said she would like to see a mock up of the proposal but it was pointed out that there was an adequate architectural diagram on the information sheet that had been provided by NFDC. It was recognised that the proposed inscription was incorrect. Mrs Trend reiterated that whatever was chosen would need to be of merit in order to satisfy the HLF criteria for which the money had been given.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk obtain costings for the timber and necessary work and that Mrs Trend provide accurate wording for the seating.

Discussion took place regarding the proposal to erect a seat for the Lyndhurst Decorations and Lighting Committee and it was reported that no firm agreement had been given for this item. Mr Bisson asked that it be minuted that he was exceptionally disappointed that this matter had not been addressed.

RESOLVED: That Mr Bisson inform the Decorations and Lighting Committee that the Parish Council would need to set up the existing seating proposals before they were able to move forward with any other ideas.

Some discussion took place regarding the mapboard showing the village walk and the proposal to place the historic walk map on the other side. Due to the NFDC proposed siting for the mapboard this would not be possible and further consideration would have to be given to this matter in order that a space could be found for the Historic Lyndhurst Walk map and information.

14. County Councillor's Report

County Councillor Mans presented his report. He confirmed that there were no problems and it appeared that there never had been, regarding the possible closure of the Lyndhurst Library. However, the mobile library service had now been disbanded. New ideas regarding devolution were now under discussion. The Secretary of State for Education has now reversed the new policy and this would not now happen. Councillor Mans confirmed that schools are only controlled if they fail an Ofsted report. The Boundary Commission have come up with a report but it does not move the changes back from 10 to 11 divisions and there is an opportunity until August to comment. With regard to broadband speeds discussions are under way with the Head Verderer regarding green boxes. Due to take up Hampshire will be given a £1.75M payback which will be available within the next few months.

15. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Wyeth said she had received several requests for a crossing refuge at the end of Beechen Lane.

RESOLVED: That this item be added to the June Agenda.

Mrs Wyeth said she would find out if any progress was being made regarding lighting in the car park. Reports had recently been received regarding refuse in the road caused when bin liners were left out prior to refuse collection and were emptied by animals, possibly cats or foxes. She reported that this had been cleared in Calpe Avenue.

Mrs Wyeth said she was happy to take up any issue with NFDC or NFNPA if Councillors had queries.

16. Correspondence

The Clerk reminded Councillors about the Local Plan Review – the Defined Villages consultation that would take place on 7 June. Further details would be provided by Steve Avery in due course.

An email had been received from NFNPA Landscape Officer concerning a consultation meeting on local distinctiveness in the village.

RESOLVED: That a meeting would be set up between interested parties.

The Clerk reported that at the request today of HCC she had sent a purchase order in respect of the Welcome signage.

Correspondence had been received from HCC regarding the HALC conference on 9 March on planning for gypsy and traveller site.

Notification had been received regarding the NFNPA awards scheme for the New Forest's best new buildings. Nominations are open until 7 October 2016.

The Clerk reported that since the date of the last meeting all other items of correspondence that required the attention of Councillors had been forwarded by email and further action had not been requested by any of the Councillors.

17. Accounts

(a) *Accounts paid and due for payment since the date of the last meeting*

The Clerk submitted accounts which had been paid or had become due for payment since the date of the last meeting, as detailed in Appendix A, and these were approved.

(b) *End of Year accounts 2015/16*

The Statement of Income and Expenditure for the financial year ended 31 March 2016 was presented.

The Clerk reported that, pending clarification, she had withdrawn the item for payment of the zip wire repair from the list of items due for payment as the zip wire had subsequently broken. However, Mr Rollé stated that he considered that the only way forward was to pay the invoice and arrange for the zip wire to be repaired again.

RESOLVED: That the invoice for the initial repair of the zip wire be paid and that steps be taken by the Clerk to have it repaired again.

18. Staff and Councillor Training

Mr Lock reported that he had attended a CFNF course and felt it would be beneficial to Councillors and the Clerk to undertake regular training. He had also taken the matter up at a NFALC meeting and Goff Beck had undertaken to pursue this further with HALC.

The Clerk stated that at the last Parish Council meeting she had been asked to obtain information on what would be available from HALC in the way of suitable training for Councillors and staff. She had spoken to Stephen Lugg on this matter. He had confirmed that it would not be appropriate to involve business people in a course designed for local government members but had suggested that he could undertake a two hour evening session at a cost of £275 on a vision for business planning – where do the Parish Council want to go?

RESOLVED: To await further information from Goff Beck/HALC.

19. Foxlease Activities

Mr Bisson asked that it be clearly defined as to the subject under discussion and it was confirmed that it was centred on traffic issues that might occur, especially during the period when the New Forest Show was taking place, as Foxlease might also be bringing in large numbers of participants. Mrs Wyeth confirmed that the New Forest Show had permission from HCC for traffic lights but at the present time this did not appear to be the case for Foxlease.

RESOLVED: That contact is made with Foxlease to ascertain possible numbers and any contingency traffic control plans that had been put in place.

20. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

Mr Lock had attended a Passenger Transport Forum meeting. The Buses Bill represented potentially the biggest change in 30 years as it would allow franchising of the transport system and is to run in line with the plan for devolution of power to the new areas. Franchises will only be allowed in areas that have already gone down the devolution route. Benefits will include a single ticketing system provided by one regulated organisation. No changes are planned for local bus operators although funding for the X1 service has been reduced by two thirds. The New Forest Tour bus will operate this summer. There is a new operating model for community transport services and contracts with HCC and travel operators are in place until March 2017 with a reduced budget.

Thanks were expressed to Mrs Trend who had organised and curated the Curiouser and Curiouser Exhibition at the New Forest Centre.

The Decorations Committee AGM will be held on 13 June at 6.30 for 7.00 pm in the Crown Manor Hotel.

The Twinning Association are hosting their French counterparts during the coming weekend.

21. Dates for Future Committee Meetings

Planning Committee	24 May	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre
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22. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the May Agenda and meeting
Any items brought to the attention of the Clerk by 6 June 2016
Refuge opposite Beechen Lane

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

Chairman _____

Date _____

Appendix A

Accounts presented at the May 2016 Parish Council Meeting:-

	Amount	VAT	Total
Accounts paid between meetings			
Mr K Bennett			
Allotment maintenance	560.00		
Cemetery maintenance	1734.00		
Recreation Ground maintenance	150.00		
Total			2444.00
Raymond Brown Waste Solutions			
Allotment path gravel	422.82	84.56	507.38
HMRC			
Clerk's Income Tax and National Insurance	1088.63		1088.63
NFDC			
GIS Contribution	50.00		50.00
Accounts due for payment			
Mr C Payne			
Reconnection of allotment water supply	65.00		65.00
Elliott			
2no portable toilets for Paws in the Park	205.00	41.00	246.00
Community First New Forest			
Mr Lock - leadership skills training course	45.00		45.00
Ava Recreation Ltd			
Remedial work to aerial runway	558.33	111.67	670.00
Lyndhurst & District Community Association			
Room hire PC meeting	23.50		
Planning meeting	23.50		
Laminating	1.40		
Total			48.40
Mrs M Weston			
Clerk's Salary and Expenses	1970.8		1970.8
Hampshire Association of Local Councils			
Allotment Information	9.00		9.00
Total Amount Paid	6906.98	237.23	7144.21