

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 8 APRIL 2014

Present: Mr M Rollé (Chairman), Mr M Abbott, Mr G Bisson, Mr J Charlesworth, Mr L Cornell, Mrs A Trend, Mr A Wiltshire and Mrs P Wyeth.
Clerk to the Council: Mrs M Weston
In attendance: Mr C Marsh, Press representative

184. Public Participation

None.

185. Disclosures of Interest

None.

186. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Butcher, Mr K Kaljura, Mrs H Klaassen and the Revd Dr C Wilkins.

187. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11 March 2014 were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

188. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

189. Minutes of Committee Meetings

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

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 18 March 2014
Planning Committee – Tuesday 25 March 2014

190. Public Transport

Mr Cornell explained that he had attended two HCC meetings, both of which had been to discuss the HCC review of local bus and community transport services. HCC needed to save between £1.25 - £1.5 million from its transport budget, which represents 12% of the budget as the Government is cutting its revenue support grant for 2015/16 by 12%. As well as cuts and reductions to bus services, HCC are also considering changing the start time for the older persons bus pass from 9 am to 9.30 am. This will affect the 9.28 am bus to Lymington, meaning that the first bus won't be available to bus pass users until 10.28 am. Savings could also be made by making cuts to printing of publicity and administration. Most savings will come from reduction in grant for all HCC subsidised bus services, thus affecting virtually all bus services in the New Forest, but particularly the Route 6 service running between Lymington and Southampton. HCC has promised that any community that currently has transport will still have a transport option. It is important that residents respond to the HCC consultation exercise. This can be found at www.hants.gov.uk/transportconsultation2014

RESOLVED: That contact details for the form be placed on the website and in Clerk's Corner. Mr Charlesworth would also print forms for distribution at the Community Centre and Mr Cornell would take the matter to the next Residents Association meeting.

191. Village of the Year

Mr Charlesworth reported that he would be submitting the Parish Council's application in approximately three weeks' time and asked for comments within a week. Mr Rollé suggested that the application be made in the form of a Powerpoint presentation and Mr Charlesworth agreed to look at this.

192. Dementia Friendly Parish Council

RESOLVED: That in the absence of the Revd Dr Wilkins this Agenda item be held in abeyance until the May meeting.

193. Old Toilet Block in the Car Park

Mrs Wyeth outlined some of the ideas that had been mooted whereby this area could be turned into a public open space, perhaps with some public information boards or a statue. It was agreed that it would not be practical to widen the pavement outside the New Forest Centre as it would immediately become narrow again towards the car park exit. However the possibility of turning the long stay car parking immediately outside the Centre into short stay car parking was considered to be an improvement.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to NFDC to see if it would be possible to utilise this site as a Parish Council office.

194. Skateboard Equipment Project

In the absence of Mr Kaljura who was leading this project, the Chairman and Clerk gave a brief update on the project, explaining that a slightly cheaper estimate had been secured although it had been decided to delay the work until after the Picnic in the Park event due to disruption to the ground surface and it was important that the CCTV equipment was in place before the skateboard equipment was installed.

195. County Councillor's Report

None.

196. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Wyeth reported that the planning application by McCarthy and Stone for 16 apartments at Cedar Mount had been validated. This would include a pavement between Cedar Mount and Sandy Lane although a pedestrian crossing across Shrubbs Hill Road would not be allowed due to statistical information. There would be 24 car parking spaces under the building. The NFNPA would be looking at policy, impact on the area and landscaping when determining their decision. New Government planning regulations would mean that development of up to 10 dwellings would not require a contribution to affordable housing. Mrs Wyeth also reported that refuse bins would be provided by NFDC for Picnic in the Park.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Nick Bowles and Julian Lewis to voice the Parish Council's concerns regarding the above change in the planning regulations.

Mrs Wyeth said that she received a rural grant of £600 and this year would like to give £300 to the Bowls Club and £300 to Boulton Cottages, which would provide four units of housing to rent for local people and was of historical value.

197. Correspondence

An email had been received from Mr Wilding asking if a sign could be placed in the High Street asking motorists to indicate if they were going to turn right into Gosport Lane as it was confusing to people who wanted to cross the road at this point. It was agreed that a request had been made previously but there were no suitable signs that could be used.

Correspondence had been received from Mr Fowler who asked that the pavement at the bottom of the High Street between the tea rooms and the bus shelter receive remedial action.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to HCC to see what action could be taken.

198. Accounts

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

199. Arthur Phillip

Mrs Trend reported that arrangements were going well. The boards for the exhibition were progressing. When the Australian group visited on 14 July a reception had been arranged at Appletree Court, courtesy of NFDC and from there the visitors would move to the New Forest Centre to view the exhibition and to have a guided tour of the village with points of interest that Arthur Phillip would have known. There would be a private reception at the Lime Wood and from there the group would travel to Boldre and on to Lymington for a reception. They would be entertained in Lyndhurst by the Community Choir and Steve Timms would be giving a talk at the Lime Wood. The Governor of New South Wales would be among the party. Australian flags and bunting would be on display in the High Street. It was proving difficult to get artefacts. Mr Charlesworth asked about the lasting legacy and Mrs Trend replied that this was in hand.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council's thanks are recorded to the Lime Wood and to Ineos for the significant part they were playing in this event.

200. Cemetery

The Clerk stated that, as was usual at this time of the year, the Cemetery was not looking at its best due to the fact that the grass could not receive its first cut until the bluebells had significantly died back.

Mr Wiltshire reported that he had asked SSE for estimates for laying water and electricity to the Cemetery but the problem would seem to be the method of installation – drilling or a trench. He felt that the estimate he had received from SSE in the sum of £28,000 was too expensive and would be asking for a site meeting to discuss the matter more fully. So far both Natural England and the Forestry Commission had been supportive of the project.

201. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

Mr Abbott reported that he had attended a Forest Advisory Committee meeting. The burning programme had gone well considering the weather conditions. Open forest work has been held up by the weather.

Mr Cornell had attended a meeting in Winchester regarding fibre optic broadband and confirmed it would be coming to Lyndhurst. Green boxes should be installed by June and would give an average speed of 6.5. Participants would have to pay for the service.

Mr Charlesworth reported that the new store has been opened at the Community Centre and had been very well received. A Press Release would be issued next week.

It was agreed that the daffodils had given a good show this year on the grass verges around the village and Mr Bisson asked Councillors to decide where more would need to be planted in the Autumn.

Concern was expressed regarding the new station building that had been transported through the village recently. It had necessitated taking down the centre island bollards en route through Ashurst and approaching Lyndhurst and negotiating the left hand turn from the High Street into Gosport Lane had been a very difficult and lengthy exercise, causing problems with traffic.

202. Dates for Future Committee Meetings

Dates set for future Committee meeting as follows:

Planning Committee	Tuesday 22 April 2014	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre
Picnic in the Park Meeting	Thursday 24 April 2014	7.30 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre
Amenities Committee	Tuesday 29 April 2014	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre

203. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the April Agenda and meeting
Any items brought to the attention of the Clerk by 5 May 2014

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

Chairman _____

Date _____

APPENDIX A

The following accounts which had become due for payment or have been paid since the date of the last meeting were authorised for payment:-

ACCOUNTS PAID BETWEEN MEETINGS - MARCH/APRIL 2014

	Amount	VAT	Total
Flag & Bunting Store			
Street Decorations re Arthur Phillips event	142.63	28.53	171.15

ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT - APRIL 2014 MEETING

Mrs M Weston			
Clerk's Salary and Expenses	1631.23		1631.23
Hampshire Association of Local Councils			
Affiliation fee and NALC levy	571.00		571.00
Lyndhurst & District Community Association			
Room hire - PC meeting	22.50		
Room hire - PITP meeting	22.50		
Room hire - Planning Cte	22.50		
Room hire, etc - APM	118.50		
Advertising - APM	15.00		
Total			201.00
Mr K Bennett			
Cemetery Maintenance	704.00		704.00
Total	3249.86	28.52	3278.38