

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.15 PM

Present: Mr M Rollé (Chairman), Mr T Abbott, Mr G Bisson, Mr P Boyes, Mrs A Butcher, Mr J Charlesworth, Mr L Cornell, Mr K Kaljura, Mrs H Klaassen, Mrs A Trend, the Revd Dr C Wilkins and Mrs P Wyeth.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs M Weston

In attendance: Press representative
17 members of the public
County Councillor K Mans
PC Andy White (part of the meeting)

60. Public Participation

A resident, Mr Francome asked that the Council give consideration to requesting a Keep Clear box on the A337 southbound side of the road at the junction of the Pikes Hill road to enable motorists to safely exit this road.

RESOLVED: To ask HCC/NFDC if a Keep Clear sign could be added to their programme.

61. Disclosures of Interest

None.

62. Apologies for Absence

None – all present.

63. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 9 July 2013, having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

64. Matters Arising

The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by the resident of The Meadows following his request for lines on the road where Great Mead meets The Meadows. He had explained that he actually wanted a white line down the middle of the road to try to ensure motorists kept to the right side of the road. However, Councillors felt that this would not be beneficial as motorists were having to negotiate parked cars in this area.

With regard to the Parish Lengthsman Scheme, discussion took place regarding the possibility of joining the Brockenhurst, Sway and East Boldre cluster but it was felt more beneficial to have an individual lengthsman employed by this Parish Council as a stand alone item.

65. Correspondence

None.

66. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Wyeth reported that the development for Stag Yard had now been signed off and drainage had been approved. A small piece of land had been the subject of a planning application, which had gained approval. With regard to the Food Hygiene Scheme both the Crown Hotel and Mailmans Arms had received a 4 rating although it was understood that the Fox & Hounds, where a 4 rating had also been received, would be closing at the weekend.

There was now an opportunity for funding to resurface the cycle track alongside the A35 between Ashurst and Lyndhurst and it was hoped that a more suitable surface would be used to enable all cyclists to use the track and not the road. It was also hoped to get a Traffic Order to ensure cyclists used the track and not the road. Mr Mans agreed to support this suggestion.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to HCC to support resurfacing the cycle track with a more suitable material and to ask that a Traffic Order be made to ensure its proper use.

Mrs Wyeth asked if the Welcome to Lyndhurst sign on the A35 near Swan Green had been reported as missing and the Clerk stated that a replacement was in hand although it was hoped, at the suggestion of Mr Bisson, that the sign could be moved further towards Bank.

67. Future of Cranleigh Paddock

It was reported that Mrs Wyeth would be meeting with officers from NFDC in two weeks' time regarding the flats, which were in the ownership of NFDC. The Home, which caters for elderly dementia patients, is very worthwhile but is not purpose built and therefore does not meet modern day criteria. There are proposals to demolish the building and build a private care home. Proposals are open to consultation and no decision has been taken. County Councillor Mans asked residents to make their views known to HCC and explained that the authority was moving towards an extra care system of assisted living. Mr Mans gave an assurance that he would be keeping a close eye on the situation and all views would be taken into consideration. It was understood that a meeting would take place at the end of the month with HCC and interested parties would be notified. Mrs Wyeth, in answer to a question from a resident, stated that no planning applications have been received to date. The Chairman of the Friends of Cranleigh Paddock stated that she was concerned about future dementia care and the lack of consultation with residents and their relatives. Mr Mans stated that there was a need to ensure appropriate care for the elderly, particularly dementia patients. The possibility of upgrading the existing facilities would be assessed. Mr Mans would update the Parish Council at their next meeting and, giving apologies for absence at the next meeting, Mrs Wyeth said she would provide an email update to the Clerk with regard to the NFDC flats.

RESOLVED: That when the Parish Council has all the necessary information to make an informed comment they will do so.

68. Section 137 – Request for Grant Aid

Mr Stratford, Chairman of the Village Decorations and Lighting Committee, explained that the Committee had been formed in 1978 and the lighting strings that are erected across the High Street are now such a concern that they will not be erected this year. Costs for an electrician are also a problem and the sum of £12,000 is now required. Forty new strings are needed and an initiative has been launched with funds already coming forward. The Committee has decided to put strings from the Imperial China Restaurant to the Mailman's Arms. The Committee organise fund raising events but the gap for funding is getting bigger. It is recognised that as well as the Christmas lights the Committee erected bunting and flags in the summer months. Mr Bisson stated that the Christmas lights put the village on the map and are enjoyed by visitors and locals as well as being beneficial to traders. They are not funded by the Chamber of Trade but are a small, independent committee. He suggested that the Parish Council consider employing the electrician and the Committee's Treasurer reported that the cost of this service was likely to be £4.6k. Donations would pay for 25 strings and Mr Charlesworth said that the Community Centre would be prepared to assist in a buy a bulb scheme. Mr Mans suggested that the Committee contact the Chairman of the HCC Policy and Resources Committee regarding a grant.

RESOLVED: That, when the present scheme to gain donations had finished, the Parish Council make up any shortfall towards the amount needed of £5,000, up to a maximum of £2,500.

69. Minutes of Committee Meetings

The Minutes of Committee meetings held since the date of the last meeting were confirmed as follows:

Planning Committees dated 23 July and 27 August 2013

70. County Councillor's Report

None as Councillor Mans had made a contribution towards the debate on Cranleigh Paddock.

71. Accounts

- (a) 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) The Clerk submitted a statement of the Parish Council's income and expenditure from 1 April 2013 to 10 September 2013.

72. Arthur Phillip

Mrs Trend outlined the importance of Arthur Phillip to Lyndhurst. 2014 is the bicentenary of his death and it will be celebrated in Australia and in this country. Together with Mr Cornell, Mrs Trend has discussed with the New Forest Centre the possibility of an exhibition at the Centre in June/July 2014. There would also be leaflets and a walk around Lyndhurst which would give other information. There will be a welcome event for Australian visitors. Funding would be needed and Mrs Trend asked for the Parish Council's support. There will be an event at the Community Centre on 27 January 2014 with cheese and wine and a raffle to raise funds. Postcards from children will go to and from Australia and the Library will have Australian books and there will be an exhibition of life when Arthur Phillip lived both here and in Australia. There will be a small permanent display in the New Forest Centre and exhibits will also be stored there.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council support the project and that a letter be sent to the Australian Prime Minister, Tony Abbott and the Australian High Commissioner.

73. St Michael and All Angels Church Closed Churchyard

A meeting between the Benefice, NFDC and the Parish Council would be held shortly.

74. Air Pollution and Traffic Problems

Mr Boyes stated that he has obtained further information on what effect traffic pollution can have on health. He has written to the Environment Minister and has had a letter published in the Lymington Times. Pollution problems were mentioned in the Parish Plan. Other solutions might include heavy lorry restrictions and pinch points. He found the NFDC graphs difficult to understand and had two expert opinions to back this up. Mr Cornell suggested that a low emission zone would be beneficial and stated that he felt the age and condition of the buses was polluting the atmosphere. Mrs Wyeth said that NFDC have invited the Parish Council to talk to them and said she discussed this matter with NFNPA whenever there was a new strategy. Mr Boyes asked for a vote on whether the Parish Council were going to pursue this matter.

RESOLVED: That the matter be pursued and that the Parish Council attend a meeting in October to see what measures can be taken and to present the findings to the Revd Dr Wilkins report.

75. Christmas Tree Festival

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council purchase a tree and take up the offer from Mr and Mrs Bisson to decorate it. Mr Bisson stated that there would be no cost to the Parish Council other than the purchase of the tree.

76. WW1 Centenary Commemoration

Mr Wiltshire reported that the newly formed Lyndhurst Branch of the Royal British Legion was thriving and it was hoped to dedicate the flag on Sunday 6 October at 11.00 am in St Michael and All Angels Church. It was also hoped to commemorate the outbreak of WW1 in some way, perhaps with information and artefacts and a service at the War Memorial. On 25 September there would be a meeting of the Royal British Legion at 7.00 pm in the Workmen's Club and the Parish Council's presence was requested. A dinner dance would be held on 18 October for the Poppy Appeal.

77. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

Mr Charlesworth reported that film shows would commence at the Community Centre on 13 November.

Mr Bisson said he would be attending the NFALC meeting later this week.

PC White reported that there had been 97 reported incidents the previous month, 29 of which were crime related including burglary (non dwelling) and Superglue to a shop door. Burglaries had also taken place in several car parks. There had been parking problems caused by the developers in Gosport Lane and residents had asked if a clause could be added to planning permissions in future to prevent this occurring again. Mrs Wyeth stated that this would be possible and an appendix would be added in the permission at Stag Yard asking for consideration to be given. Speedwatch is going well with 42% of 533 cars recorded as speeding (35 mph or over). Motorbikes had been reported in the Recreation Ground and parking outside the Mailman's Arms is causing problems. The CCTV in the High Street is up and running with two cameras.

78. Parish Lengthsman Scheme

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council would prefer to employ a stand alone lengthsman than join a cluster with other Parish Councils.

79. Dates of Future Committee Meetings

Dates were set for Committee meetings as follows:

Planning Committee	24 September	Lyndhurst Community Centre	7.15 pm
Amenities Committee	1 October	Lyndhurst Community Centre	7.15 pm

80. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the September Agenda and meeting.
Any items brought to the attention of the Clerk by 30 September 2013.

Mr Boyes tendered his resignation from the Parish Council and as Cemetery Committee Chairman. He stated that he had not signed the Declaration of Interest documents and although, due to a technicality, he could stay until the next election he had decided not to do so. Other reasons for his resignation including the fact that he disagreed with the Localism Bill, health problems and other commitments. He had joined the Parish Council approximately eight years ago and seen it go through changes, mainly due to the increased budget, for which he thanked the two Chairmen he had served with – Mr Bisson and Mr Rollé.

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

Chairman _____

Clerk _____

ACCOUNTS PAID OR DUE FOR PAYMENT AT SEPTEMBER 2013 MEETING

Accounts paid between meetings	Amount	VAT	Total
Solvent computers			
Printer	125.00		125.00
Information Commissioner			
Data Protection Licence - CCTV	35.00		35.00
Ideal Fire & Security			
Maintenance - CCTV	49.00	9.80	58.80
John Lewis			
3no iPads & Cases	874.42	174.89	1049.31
Mrs M Weston			
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	1550.03		1550.03
Solvent Computers			
Laptop repair	116.10	23.32	139.42
BDO			
Audit fee	430.00	86.00	516.00
Ringwood Pest Control			
Allotment vermin control	576.80		576.80
Hampshire Probation Trust			
Cemetery maintenance	75.00		75.00
K Bennett			
Allotment maintenance	175.00		
Cemetery maintenance	768.00		
Recreation Ground maintenance	542.00		
Total			1485.00
Lyndhurst & District Community Association			
Room hire planning meeting x2	43.00		
Room hire PC meeting	21.50		
Room hire PITP meeting	25.00		
Room hire Arthur Phillip meeting	21.50		
Total			111.00
Accounts due for payment			
Mrs M Weston			
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	1683.00	18.62	1701.62
Hampshire County Council			
Exploring Lyndhurst leaflet	1095.00		1095.00
TOTAL	8205.35	312.63	8517.98