

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 9 JUNE 2015

Present: Mr M Rollé (Chairman), Mrs H Klaassen (Vice Chairman), Mr G Bisson, Dr E Chell, Mr T Dunning, Mr K Kaljura, Mr S Se-upara, the Revd Dr C Wilkins, Mr A Wiltshire and Mrs P Wyeth.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs M Weston

In attendance: 2 members of the public

20. Public Participation

Mrs Palacio said that the road surface at the crossing near Budgens was uneven because a surface to aid the visually impaired had been added. Unfortunately, this meant that people unsteady on their feet could trip up.

21. Disclosures of Interest

None.

22. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Burden, Mrs Trend and County Councillor Mans.

23. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12 May 2015 were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

24. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Mr Bisson said he was under the impression that an item would be added to the June Agenda to allow the subject of Standing Orders to be further discussed. This had not been minuted and the item was not on the Agenda. The Clerk and Chairman had given reasons for this by email but Mr Bisson said he would like the matter to be discussed at the July meeting as he felt that, although a large amount of work had been undertaken by the Clerk on this matter in February, Councillors had not fully studied the standing orders and further changes needed to be made.

RESOLVED: That Standing Orders will be made an Agenda item for the July Parish Council meeting.

25. Committee Meetings

- (a) The minutes of the following Committee meeting held since the date of the last meeting were approved:

Planning Committee – Tuesday, 26 May 2015

- (b) Councillors were given another opportunity to join Committees and Mr Dunning said he would like to join the Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That Mr Dunning's name be added to the list of Planning Committee members.

The Clerk reported some Committees, particularly the Cemetery Committee, were short of members and it was usual, though not obligatory, for Councillors to join at least two Committees. Dr Chell said she would be willing to join the Cemetery Committee.

RESOLVED: That Dr Chell's name be added to the list of Cemetery Committee members.

26. County Councillor's Report

None.

27. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Wyeth reported that the Gosport Lane road closure would take place due to the fact that services were being installed at The Boltons development. The Forest Bus service operated by NFNPA would be extended in its service this year and would operate from 24 May to 31 October with an upgrade to the Blue Star bus route and the Forest Bus Baby.

Pollution in the High Street had again become a topic for discussion and there would be an updating and screening assessment for air quality. The subject had previously been discussed and minuted by the Parish Council. The area outside the school has never exceeded the recommended figures although lower down the High Street this did take place due to the high buildings causing a tunnel effect. Mrs Wyeth said representatives from NFDC (Carole Gallagher and Rachel Higgins) were prepared to attend the July Parish Council meeting to give further information about this topic. Dr Chell expressed concern about the level of pollution in the school playground. Mrs Klaassen said she would be interested to see figures showing pollution levels during the time the children were walking to school. The Revd Dr Wilkins asked if it would be possible to have a heavy lorry ban throughout the village and the Chairman suggested a pilot scheme to stop HGVs.

RESOLVED: To invite Rachel Higgins, Environmental Health Officer at NFDC to attend the July Parish Council meeting to further discuss this matter and give a report. Councillor Mans would also be consulted with regard to support for a blanket HGV ban in the High Street.

Mr Kaljura registered his thanks to those involved in the upgrading of the cycle path which was considered to be a great improvement. The Chairman asked if a byelaw could be enforced to ensure that all cyclists used the cycle path and not the road but Mrs Wyeth said she thought this would be impossible but suggested contacting Councillor Mans. Mrs Wyeth said it might eventually be possible to have a Lyndhurst to Brockenhurst cycle path and a cycle track between Southampton and Lymington was still being considered.

RESOLVED: To ask Councillor Mans if it was possible to enforce a byelaw concerning the use of the cycle track and not the road for all cyclists.

28. Correspondence

Letter sent by email from the Revd Dr James Bruce voicing his concerns at the levels of pollution occurring in the High Street and particularly in relation to school children's journeys to the Infant School.

Letter sent by email from the Chair of Governors of the Infant School voicing similar concerns.

RESOLVED: To advise the authors of these letters that it was hoped to be able to welcome representatives from NFDC to the July Parish Council meeting to hear further news on this matter.

The Clerk reported that all other items of correspondence had been sent by email to Councillors.

Letter from a local resident voicing concern that The Small School were causing a serious litter problem and eyesore when they put out refuse on the pavement on a Friday evening for collection on Tuesday morning. It was noted that the Clerk had forwarded this letter to NFDC.

Correspondence from the Local Government Boundary Commission concerning the Electoral Review of Hampshire. Dr Chell said she had concerns regarding the review which would be designed to provide an

equal number of constituents to each Councillor, Population levels rose and fell over time whatever methods were used to try to provide equality of numbers.

RESOLVED: That Dr Chell study the information and forward her views to the Clerk for onward transmission to the Review Officer (Hampshire).

Correspondence from Community First New Forest thanking the Parish Council for renewing their membership.

29. 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 the Annual Audit Return 2014/15 including Annual Accounting Statement and Annual Governance Statement.
- (c) The Clerk submitted the Income and Expenditure Statement 2014/15.

RESOLVED: To approve items 10(a) and 10(b). The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the work undertaken on this matter.

- (d) Discussion took place regarding possible ways of re-investing £10,000 previously held on long term deposit with Lloyds Bank which had been withdrawn on maturity due to poor interest rates.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact Bob Jackson at NFDC to see if he could suggest any way of obtaining a better interest rate for the £10,000 previously held on long term investment and when an answer had been obtained further consideration could be given as to how the funds could be invested and whether to increase the amount

- (e) The Clerk explained that, having attended a very informative event organised recently by the Society of Local Council Clerks she would like to join the society but there was a fee involved. She felt that membership would be beneficial to the Parish Council as well as herself.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to join the Society and that the Parish Council would fund the cost of membership amounting to £167.00.

30. Traffic Calming Measures

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had previously voiced concern regarding speeding traffic in the parish and had suggested, and even agreed to finance, SIDS. In answer to a question from Mrs Klaassen about the prospect of obtaining roundels on roads where speeding was most prevalent Mrs Wyeth said that this would not be possible in any area where there was already street lighting. Dr Chell asked whether sleeping policemen had been considered but Mrs Wyeth said these caused noise in a built up area, as did rumble strips and neither measure was popular. Mr Se-upari felt not enough motorists were signalling right when on the High Street and turning into Gosport Lane and asked if signage could be provided. Mrs Wyeth said this had previously been requested and HCC had stated that they did not have a suitable sign.

RESOLVED: To consult County Councillor Mans regarding obtaining SIDS, signage in the High Street indicating traffic turning right into Gosport Lane and a request for LED lights for the crossing outside the school.

31. Welcome Signs

The Chairman reported that although the new Welcome to Lyndhurst signs had a good impact initially, they had now faded. Their removal to the beginning of the 30 mph limit on the Southampton Road had also meant that the gateway boards further towards Lyndhurst now looked out of place and the 30 mph signs did not look pleasing to the eye.

RESOLVED: That the subject of new signage be considered but advice would first be obtained from NFNPA (regarding funding) and Mandy Ware, HCC, would be invited to attend the September Parish Council meeting as she had suggested that she would be willing to advise on design, materials etc.

32. Lengthsman's Scheme

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council would again be taking part for another year in the Lengthsman's Scheme operated by HCC.

It was noted that the former green at Westwood Road had become very overgrown. Kevin Bennett, the Parish Council Lengthsman, had previously dug out a drain but the green was too big an area and was too overgrown to be tackled under this scheme.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Forestry Commission who were the recognised owners of the green, asking that remedial action be taken.

It was noted that A boards were still causing an obstruction problem in the High Street, particularly at the Stag Hotel. The Clerk had previously spoken to the landlady and had received an assurance that smaller A boards would be placed against the wall.

RESOLVED: That Mr Wiltshire and Mr Bisson take the matter up at the next Chamber of Trade meeting, although it was recognised that not all traders were members of this Association. If this was not successful the Clerk would write to Greene King asking for their support to rectify the situation.

33. Telephone Kiosks

The Clerk explained that the telephone kiosk at Romsey Road was deteriorating rapidly and as it was situated on one of the main entrances to the village it was felt that remedial action should be taken. This had previously been established and as a result the Clerk had sought funding through advertising in the Community Centre What's On. This had been successful and a donation of £100 had been forthcoming from a local individual with a further £100 from the NFNPA. The Clerk reported that in order to do justice to the project it was likely that a further £100 might be necessary to complete the work.

RESOLVED: That the work would be completed for as near to the £200 already donated but that a further £100 would be given from Parish Council funds if this proved necessary to complete the work.

34. Councillor Profiles for Website

Dr Chell asked if it would be possible for Councillors to provide short profiles about themselves for the Parish Council website.

RESOLVED: That Councillors compile short profiles and forward them to the Clerk for submission onto the website.

35. Arthur Phillip

The Chairman reported that work on this project was proceeding well towards the deadline which would see its culmination. There were several outstanding items such as the wall brickwork which would be used

in a commemoration once the new area of open space had been created in the car park but this matter was outside the Parish Council's hands. The HLF seemed pleased with the outcome and a celebration reception would be held on Thursday 25 June at the New Forest Centre.

36. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

Mr Bisson reported that the Twinning Association had celebrated their 25th anniversary in France. Two plaques had been presented and it was hoped that one could be placed temporarily on the Eric Dearing Memorial Gardens and later on the new area of open space in the car park. The second plaque might be placed in either the Library or New Forest Centre, depending on whether permission could be obtained.

The Decorations Committee AGM would take place on 16 June. Mrs Klaassen asked if bunting would be erected this year and Mr Bisson said that this might be possible.

The Chamber of Trade would be holding an Alice event on the weekend of 20/21 June.

The Chairman had attended a meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel. Items discussed and reports given had included the subjects of accuracy of recording of flooded properties reported to the Environment Agency, protecting and disrupting commercial fungi pickers, broadband, Salisbury to New Forest cycle route update, cycling strategy consultation to be published by HCC (on website to 26 July for review), panel tour on 4 June, NFNPA update (including Forest Bus), management plan consultation, recreation sustainable management and cycling updates, core strategy review process. Bruce Rothnie gave a report concerning the Forestry Commission including concerns about forest fires, rave parties and vehicles on verges. Campsites are now all open, clearance of wind blown trees from 2014, recovering lost lawns for grazing, rolling programme of replacement of enclosure fencing, vandalism on signs and gates and the renewal of ditches and dragons teeth to reduce erosional pressure. He also reported on the deer census, removal of bracken at Beaulieu aerodrome, heather bales for wetland recovery and the programme to clear rhododendron. The Pondhead wetland restoration planning application was again under consideration. Hannah Thacker had given a report from Natural England Countryside Stewardship regarding rural development, CSF sensitive farming and grant application process. Future items for discussion would include wetland restoration schemes and looking at the efficiencies, eg posting items on paper. SE and SW quadrant vacancies would be filled and the next Panel meeting would be on 2 July 2015.

37. Dates for Future Committee Meetings

Allotment Committee Monday 22 June 2015	6.30 pm	Allotment Gardens, Westwood Road
Planning Committee Tuesday 23 June 2015	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre
Amenities Committee Tuesday 30 June 2015	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre

38. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the June Agenda and meeting
Any items brought to the attention of the Clerk by 6 July 2015
Standing Orders

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:-

			Amount	VAT	Total
Accounts paid between meetings					
NALC					
LCR Review x 6 copies			81.00		81.00
Mr K Bennett					
Cemetery Maintenance			960.00		
Recreation Equipment Maintenance			1040.00		
Cemetery Disabled Access			160.00		
Total					£2,160.00
TLC Online					
Arthur Phillip Printing			542.00		
Website Maintenance			100.00		
Total					642.00
Solvent Computers					
New laptop and repair existing laptop			829.00	165.00	994.00
BT					
Telephone account			189.89		189.89
Mrs M Weston					
Computer hardware			859.68		
Computer consumables			154.87		
Postage - Arthur Phillip Project			54.00		
Stationery			58.37		
Total					1126.92
Accounts due for payment:					
Far Post Design Limited					
Arthur Phillip media for NFC			440.00	88.00	528.00
M D Witney (New Forest Tree Services)					
Treework in Cemetery			180.00		180.00
Reeves Electrical					
Defibrillator installation			125.00		125.00
Everton Nurseries					
Cemetery tree			28.07	5.62	33.69
Mrs M Weston					
Clerk's Salary and Expenses			1664.54		1664.54
Mr S Forman					
Internal Audit Fee 2014/15			275.00		275.00
Lyndhurst & District Community Association					
Room hire - PC and Planning meetings					47.00
Mr K Bennett					
Allotment maintenance			150.00		
Play equipment maintenance			1486.00		
Cemetery maintenance			1584.00		
Total					3220.00
Total			10961.42	258.62	11267.04

