

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2015 COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM

Present: Mr M Rollé (Chairman), Mr G Bisson, Dr E Chell, Mr T Dunning, Mr K Kaljura, Mrs H Klaassen, Mr J Lock, 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: 8 members of the public
County Councillor K Mans
Carolyn Griffith, Lymington Times

102. Presentation by Bob Jackson, Chief Executive, NFDC

Mr Jackson explained that he was attending the meeting to give a brief update on the proposals for the new public open space on the site of the old public conveniences in Lyndhurst car park. In future Jill Colclough would be dealing with this matter and should be contacted regarding any items that the Parish Council would be prepared to fund on the site.

It was noted that a gully was blocked adjacent to the site and Mr Jackson agreed to report this to NFDC. Mr Bisson said the noticeboards in the two bus shelters at the bottom of the High Street were being well used.

103. Update from PC Andy White

PC White reported that he would be retiring from the Police Force on 6 January, although he had Jury Service before this date. He introduced PCSO Dan Carlin and PC Jason Eastwood who would form the new team and would be based at Lyndhurst Police Station. PC Eastwood would also cover Brockenhurst, Exbury and Beaulieu. Beat Surgeries would still be held on a regular basis.

104. Public Participation

A resident drew the Parish Council's attention to the fact that her husband, who is partially sighted, found it very difficult to walk along Lyndhurst High Street due to the large amount of advertising A boards, tables and chairs that were being placed on pavements outside shops, restaurants, public houses and businesses by traders. Mrs Wyeth explained that such obstruction of the pavement was illegal and the Parish Council had previously discussed this matter. If either the District Councillor or Parish Council makes a formal complaint HCC will remove all obstructions not on private land. It was suggested that Press assistance be sought to publish these possible repercussions and that Councillor Mans write to the businesses in the High Street to explain the situation and ask for co-operation.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mans write to businesses in the High Street to explain the situation with regard to obstruction of the pavement and that Carolyn Griffith, the Lymington Times Press representative, endeavour to give coverage to the problem in a future edition.

A spokesperson for the group of residents from Pikes Hill who had attended the October Parish Council meeting asked if it was possible to provide an update for residents experiencing problems in trying to ensure that their children had a safe walk to and from school from Pikes Hill to the bus stop on the Romsey Road. The Clerk explained that although problems had initially been experienced during negotiations with Hampshire Highways West it now seemed that some progress could be made with safety issues. The overgrown shrubbery was the responsibility of Southampton Law Courts and HCC were pressing them for action to cut back the shrubbery encroaching the road and double yellow lines. Richard Bastow had reported that he would clear debris from the double yellow lines and look at the possibility of repainting them as this was a safety issue. However, it was difficult to do the work in the winter months. With regard to the gravel track across the green to the bus shelter, HCC could not finance the necessary work but suggested that the sidings were done by the Parish Council under the lengthsman's scheme and HCC

would provide and lay the gravel. HCC would not be able to reinstall the dragon's teeth on the green outside the Forest Lodge Hotel as this was not a safety issue but would liaise with the Parish Council if they wished to do the work themselves from the point of view of providing guidance on essential services that might be buried underground in the area. The Clerk reported that she was looking into the possibility of obtaining funding elsewhere for this item.

Councillor Mans said he had also spoken to HCC about this matter and felt that a compromise could be achieved, recognising that front line services and safety issues must be maintained.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk ask PC Andy White if it would be possible to obtain official Police cones to put round the green in front of Forest Lodge Hotel to prevent parking on it during a forthcoming wedding fair.

105. Disclosures of Interest

None.

106. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Mrs A Trend.

107. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 October 2015 were approved as a true and accurate record.

108. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

109. Future Planning Considerations

Mrs Wyeth stated that of the neighbourhood plans already commenced in this area, none had been completed and to do so would be a very costly exercise. Most towns and villages had opted for a village design statement. There was a need to flag up possible sites for affordable housing and one possibility was a site at Clay Hill although at the present time access would be a problem. The statement would need to take into account the policies for the area.

RESOLVED: That a sub-committee of the Planning Committee be set up, headed by Mrs Klaassen and consisting of Mr Bisson, Mrs Trend, the Revd Dr Wilkins and Mr Lock.

110. Committee Meetings

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

Planning Committee – Tuesday, 27 October 2015

The Revd Dr Wilkins had circulated an email containing her thoughts regarding Planning Application No 00294 – Pondhead, Lyndhurst which contained proposals for wetland restoration. The Parish Council had recommended refusal of the application, whereas NFNPA officers were recommending that permission be granted. The application would be considered at the NFNPA Planning Development Control meeting on Tuesday, 17 November.

RESOLVED: Having indicated that she would be willing to attend the meeting, the Clerk inform NFNPA that the Parish Council would be represented by the Revd Dr Wilkins at the Planning Development Control meeting on 17 November.

Allotments Committee – Tuesday, 3 November 2015

Cemetery Committee – Tuesday 3 November 2015

111. County Councillor's Report

Mr Mans congratulated Mr Wiltshire, Lyndhurst Branch, Royal British Legion and the Parish Council on the success of the Remembrance Sunday commemoration in Lyndhurst.

Mr Mans reported that he was involved with housing from the local enterprise partnership point of view and was interested to see what developed and was proposed for the site of the Lyndhurst Park Hotel. Mrs Wyeth said that any proposals must comply with policies.

112. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Wyeth reported on the proposed local plan and said there had been some discussion on whether we should remain as a defined local village or whether there would be advantages to opting out. She had subsequently been told by Steve Avery that the possibility of allowing more housebuilding in other forest villages might be explored which would alleviate pressure on the four defined villages.

There would be free district wide car parking on Saturday, 5 and Sunday, 6 December which will coincide with Small Business Day and the Parish Council Fun Day

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to NFDC to ensure that Lyndhurst car park fees were waived on the above days.

Attention was drawn to the potholes in Cemetery Road.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to the Forestry Commission requesting that remedial action be taken.

Mrs Wyeth drew Councillors' attention to correspondence she had received from both the Lyndhurst Football Club (adults) and a local resident writing on behalf of a group of aggrieved residents.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council contact the Land Agent at the Forestry Commission to try to arrange a meeting to gain some long term resolution of this matter.

Mrs Wyeth reported on correspondence she had received from District Councillor Michael Harris from Brockenhurst who had applied for and obtained a grant in the sum of £250.00 from the governing body of Christ Church Oxford to be put towards the refurbishment of Alice Liddell's (Hargreaves) grave in St Michael and All Angels, Lyndhurst churchyard.

RESOLVED: That the grant is to be used towards any future refurbishment work on the Hargreaves grave and that the Clerk write to Mr Harris to thank him for the work and thought involved in obtaining the grant.

113. Correspondence

The Clerk reported that since the date of the last meeting all items of correspondence that required the attention of Councillors had been forwarded by email.

114. Accounts

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.

115. Association with Armed Forces

Mr Wiltshire reported that the Army based at Bulford Camp would be pleased to accept an invitation from the Parish Council that involved Freedom of the Village and Marchwood military had also intimated that if they were to be afforded the same offer they would consider it an honour. A vote took place and a resolution was passed by nine votes to two votes.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council offer the Freedom of the Village of Lyndhurst to Bulford Camp and Marchwood Military Port.

Mr Wiltshire reported that Remembrance Sunday had gone very well although inclement weather had meant that the flypast could not take place and had led to procedure being curtailed to some extent. This meant that those laying wreaths had not been announced although the intention had been to do so.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to express the Parish Council's thanks to the Lyndhurst Branch of the Royal British Legion for the way the event had been organised.

116. **Traffic Calming Measures and Pollution/Welcome Signs**

(a) *Traffic Calming Measures*

Discussion took place and disappointment was expressed regarding the meeting that had been held between Mandy Ware, HCC and the Parish Council. It was noted that the Parish Council did have funds available to assist in paying for SIDs but had been informed that none of the possible sites around the parish met HCC's criteria. The Parish Council would also like to see more warning notification at the school and elevated reminders of speed signs.

RESOLVED: That the Chairman find previous correspondence with relevant companies on the subject and that the subject of SIDs be made an Agenda item for the next meeting.

(b) *Welcome Signage*

Mandy Ware had sent three possible Welcome signs for the Council to consider.

RESOLVED: That the subject of Welcome signage be made an Agenda item for the next meeting.

117. **Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies**

Mr Wiltshire reported that the Lyndhurst Branch of the Royal British Legion would be holding a ceremony at Minstead on 11 November with a view to holding one at Emery Down in 2016.

Mr Bisson reported that FOLS were holding a Christmas tree festival but that the organisation would be different this year in that a nominal £5 charge would be made but contributors would provide their own tree which they would decorate and display.

RESOLVED: That the Vice Chairman and her daughter Eloise organise the Parish Council entry.

Mr Lock had accompanied Mr Bisson to a quadrant meeting. Mr Bisson was now Chairman of our quadrant. Mr Lock presented a report in which it was noted that Sarah Kelly had distributed leaflets which gave advice and guidance for owners of properties adjoining the Open Forest which had been produced by the FC and Verderers. Copies are available on the NFNPA website. Discussion had taken place on ways to alleviate the litter problem in the Forest. Copies of the Landscape Character Assessment were handed out and this is a useful document in determining planning decisions. Steve Avery had reported on the recent award of a £2.8M grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to support a new Landscape Partnership Scheme. With matched partnership funding this scheme is worth over £4.4M over four years and includes projects to restore lost habitats, develop Forest skills and inspire a new generation to champion and care for the Forest. Also discussed had been recent initiatives taken by the FC and NFNPA to discourage and disrupt commercial mushroom picking in the Forest, a successful walking festival, wetland restoration, encroachments on the Open Forest and an encouraging response to the NFNPA annual Building Design Award. The initial consultation on the Local Plan Review had now closed and there had been a good response to the call for sites which would now be assessed for suitability. Councils should now give thought to which policies they would like to see changed/updated/introduced, bearing in mind that the New

Forest would have to provide at least the same number of new dwellings as detailed at present, if not more. Consideration should be given to an appropriate settlement hierarchy, ie whether to keep the existing defined villages and/or have a more dispersed pattern of development throughout the NFNPA. The Right to Buy proposal to extend to housing association owned properties would have an influence on the emerging local plan. The next meeting would be on Wednesday 3 February.

The Revd Dr Wilkins had attended a meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel at which the proposals for wetland restoration at Pondhead had been discussed. The Revd Dr Wilkins reported that she was concerned that the proposals, if implemented, would cause flooding to nearby properties and also destruction to wildlife habitat which had not been fully taken into consideration. Alison Barnes, CEO NFNPA had reported that the Partnership Plan had been signed off by all statutory bodies and £4.4M grant aid had been secured which would focus on projects outside Crown lands over the next five years. The Local Plan would be updated by Spring 2017. A walking festival had recently taken place. Hector Pearson (National Grid) gave a presentation regarding proposals to bury power lines at Hale, thus negating the need for pylons across the protected landscape. The project would only go ahead if there was local support. Bruce Rothnie, Deputy Surveyor, FC reported on key event programmes that had taken place during the Summer/Autumn months. With regard to forestry operations thinning works, opening rides for butterflies, collecting fuel wood, fencing repairs, tree inspection and safety work, rhododendron removal and wetland restoration and monitoring had taken place. Monitoring was taking place regarding fungi picking. Poaching was monitored. Queen's Hall was being restored and would then be open to the public. There was a programme to reduce encroachments on the open forest. Driftways leading into ponds were being cleared. Discussion had taken place on the frequency of meetings and the cost involved and it had been decided to move the meeting venue to the Community Centre in Lyndhurst, reduce meeting frequency from six to four per annum and use email as the method of distribution of agendas. Items for discussion at the next meeting would include ragwort, Southern Powerhouse, Southern Electricity cable burying and litter across the Forest. Clive Chatters will lead the agenda setting committee in future.

118. Dates for Future Committee Meetings

F&GP Committee	17 November	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre
Planning Committee	24 November	7.15 pm	Lyndhurst Community Centre

119. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the November Agenda and meeting
Any items brought to the attention of the Clerk by 1 December 2015

Chairman _____

Date _____

APPENDIX A**Accounts presented at the November 2015 Parish Council Meeting:-**

	Amount	VAT	Total
Accounts paid between meetings			
Mr J Donnelly			
Telephone box refurbishment	450.00		450.00
Mrs J Gregory			
Burial plot reimbursement	50.00		50.00
Accounts due for payment			
M Weston			
Clerk's Salary and Expenses	1707.96	15.49	1723.45
L&DCA			
Planning Committee meeting	23.50		
Meeting re HCC (Mandy Ware)	23.50		
Allotment/Cemetery Committee meetings	23.50		
PC meeting	23.50		
Total			94.00
TLC Online			
Website maintenance (Sept/Oct/Nov)	100.00		100.00
TLC Online			
Arthur Phillip booklets	1040.00		1040.00
Mrs A Trend			
Ink cartridges	237.60		
Nat Portrait Gallery - Arthur Phillip	94.50	18.90	
Nat Portrait Gallery - William Gilpin	36.34	7.27	
Total			394.61
Southern Water			
Allotment water supply - Jul to Oct 2015	201.38	40.28	241.66
Mr K Bennett			
Bulb planting (Amenities)	304.00		
Cemetery maintenance	1464.00		
Allotment clearance	288.00		
Recreation Ground maintenance	440.46		
Lengthsman's work	225.00		
Total			2721.46
Total	6733.24	81.94	6815.18