

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 14 JULY 2015 COMMENCING AT 7.00 PM

Present: Mr M Rollé (Chairman), Mrs H Klaassen (Vice Chairman), Mr G Bisson, Mr G Burden, Dr E Chell, Mr T Dunning (from 7.30 pm), Mr K Kaljura, Mr S Se-upara, Mrs A Trend, the Revd Dr C Wilkins (from 7.20 pm), Mr A Wiltshire and Mrs P Wyeth.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs M Weston

In attendance: Bob Jackson, Rachel Higgins and Carole Gallagher (NFDC)
County Councillor Mans (from 7.40 pm)
6 members of the public

39. Ideas Exchange with Bob Jackson, Executive Director, NFDC regarding proposed Open Space in Lyndhurst Car Park

Bob Jackson explained that NFDC had tidied up the area where the old toilet block stood in the main car park and had obtained planning permission to demolish the toilets and develop the area into a public open space. They had already been in consultation with the Workmen's Club and the New Forest Centre and the purpose of his visit this evening was to seek the views of the Parish Council. The initial design had been mooted in August 2014 and NFDC had first consulted the Parish Council in October 2014, after which planning permission had been obtained. It was planned the work for Spring 2016 with completion by the summer. Suggestions made this evening would be taken away and re-presented in the Autumn. It was recognised that the Parish Council would like to include a commemoration to Arthur Phillip as he had been the subject of a project in 2014/15. Fencing and bollards would be erected around part of the project for safety and interest and some trees and shrubs would be added. There would be a Parish Council noticeboard as well as an interactive noticeboard as well as a commemoration to the Hargreaves family. There would be provision for public seating.

The Revd Dr Wilkins said she did not agree with commemorating Arthur Phillip as public opinion on him was not always favourable but Mrs Trend said that the times in which he lived and values determined at that time needed to be taken into account when forming any opinion.

Mr Wiltshire declared a personal interest as President of the Workmen's Club and reported that there were security concerns among female members of staff as they would be leaving the Club late at night and would have to walk alongside a high wall. Bob Jackson agreed to address this problem as far as possible and confirmed that the area would be lit at night.

RESOLVED: That Bob Jackson would bring updated plans to the Parish Council November meeting.

40. Presentation by Carole Gallagher and Rachel Higgins, NFDC concerning air pollution in Lyndhurst

Rachel Higgins, on behalf of NFDC, gave a comprehensive presentation regarding the salient points in the latest information regarding air pollution in Lyndhurst, particularly having regard to the situation in the High Street, where pollution levels were at their highest, although somewhat reduced from the previous report. Nitrogen oxides are the main point of interest in Lyndhurst and it was confirmed that longstanding high levels impacted on the lung function of children and can inhibit development. However Rachel Higgins pointed out that there are alternative routes to school and Mrs Wyeth stated that three quarters of children have a safe route to school. The Revd Dr Wilkins asked if a case could be made for a HGV ban but Rachel Higgins felt this was unlikely.

Councillors voiced their concerns, particularly with regard to the levels of pollution experienced by young children attending the village school on their way to and from the school and perhaps in the playground itself. It was felt that significant monitoring was taking place but more action was needed. Rachel Higgins stated that it was hoped that a government statement would be forthcoming by the end of the year.

Mrs Trend stated that large lorries were a problem and Mr Se Upara asked if the pollution management plan had worked. Rachel explained that it was still ongoing in Fawley and Totton. The question was asked as to which direction the traffic was travelling when entering the village and the answer was that traffic surveys had been conducted which showed that it came from and travelled in all directions with no particular road or direction experiencing a higher level of traffic. County Councillor Mans felt that the stop/start technique was having an effect and that as use of electric cars increased this would be beneficial. It was considered that the filter at the traffic lights needed better signage and that the loading space in Romsey Road caused problems. Perhaps an alternative route to school from children walking from the Pikes Hill/Romsey Road area could be explored by opening up the footpath between Burwood House and Forest Gardens. Mrs Trend felt that the traffic problems in Emery Down needed to be addressed.

Rachel Higgins extended an invitation to those present to contact her at NFDC for further information, if required.

41. Public Participation

A resident reported that bracken was growing in Romsey Road/corner of Kings Close and this was carcinogenic and should be addressed. It was pointed out that this was on private land although the fence had been moved so that it appeared to be on highway land.

42. Disclosures of Interest

Mr Wiltshire declared an interest in Agenda Item 39 as he was President of Lyndhurst Workmen's Club.

43. Apologies for Absence

None – all present.

44. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 June 2015 were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

45. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

46. Standing Orders

Mr Bisson had circulated an amended copy of the standing orders that appear on the website. However, the Clerk explained that she had already circulated a copy of the NALC standing orders that are now widely adopted by other Parish and Town Councils. Mrs Wyeth said that these were the same standing orders used by NFDC and NFNPA.

RESOLVED: That as Councillors had not had time to fully consider the standing orders the subject would be held in abeyance until the next meeting to give them the opportunity to make further comments.

47. Committee Meetings

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

Allotment Committee – Monday, 22 June 2015
Planning Committee – Tuesday, 23 June 2015
Amenities Committee – Tuesday, 30 June 2015

48. County Councillor's Report

Mr Mans drew the Parish Council's attention to the fact that the Hampshire County Council will pass a recommendation that changes are not made in the New Forest to the Boundary Commission Review. However, Eastleigh Borough Council is recommending that they be given an additional seat, taking one away from Hampshire County Council. Also under discussion is the Government's proposals for a living wage as this will put an extra 2% on the Council Tax by 2020. The unleaded petrol bill had been passed.

Councillor Mans said he fully endorsed the sentiments expressed at this evening's meeting regarding air quality control. Dr Chell asked what would be the next step and Mr Mans said that NFDC would submit proposals and the Parish Council, or anyone else, could submit counter proposals if that was their view.

49. District Councillor's Report

Mrs Wyeth reported that the NFNPA draft management report has now been published and there are few significant changes. In September the Parish Council will discuss what they would like to see in the village. Plans for the former Lyndhurst Park Hotel are progressing very slowly. Mrs Wyeth asked Councillors to think carefully about what they would like to see in the village and whether they would like to move from being classed as one of the four defined villages to becoming an exception village which would give more stringent regulations when dealing with planning and other matters. The development at Stag Yard is nearing completion and it was hoped that the three affordable flats would shortly be handed over. Mrs Wyeth said that, with the Parish Council's approval, she would like to donate half of her devolved budget for this year to the Scouts and half to the Pre-School for a storage shed. It was also noted that Boulton Cottages have won the Prince of Wales Patron's Award.

50. Correspondence

NFNPA – Notification of New Forest National Park Building Design Awards 2015 and asking for nominations.

RESOLVED: To nominate The Boltons and Boulton Cottages.

The Revd Dr Caroline Wilkins – Email circulated to all Councillors expressing concern regarding correspondence from HCC on the consultation regarding the draft Supplementary Planning Documents on Minerals and Waste Safeguarding in Hampshire and Oil and Gas Development in Hampshire which stated that major developments (including oil and gas developments) within designated areas should be refused planning permission except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated they are in the public interest. Permission had recently been granted for oil exploration in the North York Moors National Park for this reason.

RESOLVED: To send the email as the Parish Council response.

NFDC - Email from Holly Price, GIS Support Officer concerning the new system and how this could best be used advantageously by the Parish Council

RESOLVED: To contact Holly Price, add The Revd Dr Wilkins to the list of participants, make any other necessary corrections and proceed to make the system operational to existing users.

51. 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.

52. Traffic Calming Measures

It was noted that arrangements would be made to hold a meeting with Mandy Ware from HCC to explore ways that could be used to alleviate speeding traffic in the village.

53. Pavement obstruction in the High Street

Discussion took place regarding the proliferation of pavement obstructions in the High Street. It was understood that by taking further action with the NFNPA enforcement team this would lead to all A boards and other items being removed.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Greene King regarding the A boards outside the Stag Hotel and Mailman's Arms and that Councillors would continue to monitor the situation outside other premises.

54. Welcome Signs

It was noted that some of the Welcome to Lyndhurst signage continued to deteriorate and it would be necessary to take advice as to the best way forward to rectify this matter.

55. Telephone Kiosks

Mrs Trend reported that she and the Clerk had met with Jim Mitchell, Interpretation Officer at NFNPA and had moved forward plans for the telephone kiosk refurbishment at Racecourse View. Mrs Trend, together with Sara Hall, had since supplied specific local information, some of which could be used at the telephone kiosk at Bank. County Councillor Mans suggested that he might be able to find some funding for the project in his devolved budget fund.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk send an initial email to Councillor Mans, outlining the project to ensure it fell within the remit of the devolved budget fund.

56. Arthur Phillip

Mrs Trend reported that the celebration event had taken place and the Heritage Lottery Fund were happy with the work that had been completed. They had granted a time extension as the project would not be drawn to a final conclusion until 2016.

57. The Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Hampshire

Dr Chell reported that she had sent an email round to all Councillors with comments regarding the review.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk send Dr Chell's suggestions to the Boundary Commission as the response from the Parish Council.

58. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

Mr Wiltshire explained that the necessary agreement had still not been reached with other bodies involved in order that work could commence to prevent dogs from entering the allotment gardens. The subject would be discussed by the Verderers Court at their meeting the following day. He also reported that he hoped to be able to meet a representative from the Verderers regarding the remedial work the Parish Council would like to undertake at the war memorial and on the installation of electricity and water at the cemetery. With regard to the Cemetery there had been further vandalism and the door of the shed had been destroyed, although another one had been fitted.

Mr Wiltshire reported that the British Legion had raised approximately £200 at their recent band concert.

Mr Bisson reported that he had been appointed as the quadrant representative of the NFNPA.

The Revd Dr Wilkins had attended a meeting of the New Forest Consultative Panel and had circulated notes to the Councillors and Clerk. It was agreed that this had been a very useful form of communicating the items discussed at these meetings.

Mrs Trend reported that the Hargreaves grave in St Michael and All Angels churchyard had been renovated. It was planned to have a thanksgiving service for the Hargreaves family.

Mr Dunning asked if the litter bin at the far end of the skateboard ramp could be moved in order to accommodate another football pitch. The Clerk pointed out that the litter bin had only recently been installed and it was likely to cost a considerable sum of money to reposition it.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk make further enquiries regarding this matter and, if possible, take the matter forward.

59. Dates for Future Committee Meetings

Planning Committee Tuesday 28 July 2015 7.15 pm Lyndhurst Community Centre

60. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the July

Agenda and meeting

Any items brought to the attention of the Clerk by 31 August 2015

Standing Orders

Future plans for Lyndhurst

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

