

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT LYNDHURST COMMUNITY CENTRE ON TUESDAY 10 JULY 2018 COMMENCING AT 7.15 PM

Present: Councillors Revd Dr C Wilkins (Vice Chairman), G Bisson, P Burrows, T Dunning, F Green, S Se-Upara, A Trend, A Wiltshire and P Wyeth.

Clerk/RFO: Mrs M Weston
Seven members of the public

39. Disclosures of Interest

The Chairman reminded Councillors of their responsibility to declare an interest in any matter on the Agenda where they might be considered to have a prejudicial interest.

40. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from the Chairman Mark Rollé, Councillors K Kaljura and C Willsher.

41. Public Participation

A member of the public voiced concern regarding the proposed signage that it had been proposed for erection to alleviate traffic problems in Mill Lane, Emery Down. Councillor Heron explained that signage on the road itself had taken place and there would be renewal of dragon's teeth in August. This work would require a road closure. A request was made by a resident to avoid road monitoring taking place during this period. Councillor Heron said the road monitoring was due to commence in August but would not take place during the road closure. It was felt that speeding commuter traffic at peak times was a big problem. Difficulties also arose due to holiday traffic. Councillor Heron drew attention to the fact that there were weight restrictions and width restrictions and it would be possible to get a fair picture from the monitoring exercise. He stressed that it was important that in solving one problem, another one was not created. The proposed signage would be erected in July although Councillor Heron stated that he felt it would take more than signage to relieve the problem. There was no exact timescale known at the present. The Vice Chairman asked if the problems were caused by tourism which NFNPA seemed to be encouraging. Councillor Heron did not feel this was the case and it was not in the NFNPA strategy to encourage tourism. He encouraged all residents to respond to the NFNPA Recreation Management Strategy. One resident felt that Emery Down residents in general had not been well enough informed and suggested a build out at Boulton Cottages so that people could cross the road more safely.

A resident drew attention to the speed limit on the A337 Lyndhurst to Brockenhurst road and asked if it could be reduced to 30 mph as far as the top of Clay Hill. At present the speed limit was 40 mph going up Clay Hill, although several other villages were cited where 30 mph speed limits were in force for long lengths of the road. Councillor Heron said he would look into this and report back to LPC. Councillor Bisson explained that the 30 mph limit used to extend to the top of Clay Hill but had been moved by HCC.

42. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 June 2018 were confirmed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Vice Chairman.

43. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Councillor Trend reported that although she had recommended that warning signage be added on the C17 at the bend in the road adjacent to the New Forest Inn no resolution had been passed. Councillor Heron did not feel he could support a recommendation as he considered the responsibility lay with motorists to drive carefully on Forest roads.

44. Committee Meetings

The Minutes of the following Committee meetings held since the date of the last Parish Council meeting was received and agreed:

Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting – Tuesday 12 June 2018

Planning Committee Meeting – Tuesday 26 June 2018

45. County Councillor's Report

Councillor Heron stated that much of his report had already been dealt with during Item 41 – Public Participation. HCC are working on communication with the public and town and parish councils so that it takes place in a timely and responsible way. They have been trying to channel the use of electronic facilities as the quickest and most efficient form of communication. Councillor Wyeth reported that both she, NFDC Officers and the LPC Clerk often found it difficult to contact the correct person to deal with queries and would often prefer contact details for a specific individual who was responsible for areas of expertise. The Vice Chairman asked if there was a support database and Councillor Heron explained that there was but it could be unweildy to operate.

Councillor Bisson asked about bus laybys which had been restructured and were now difficult to enter and exit, leading to stationary buses being partially in the road. Councillor Heron said he would make enquiries and report back.

46. District Councillor's Report

Councillor Wyeth reported that it was likely that the public inquiry regarding the planning appeal for the Lyndhurst Park Hotel would be heard in October and would last up to six days. The developer had applied for costs. It was important that LPC carefully prepared their case focusing on policy when compiling their reasons for dismissal of the appeal.

NFDC were working with Southampton City County regarding the Consultation on Air Quality Zone. This was partly due to traffic pollution problems in the area and also the situation with ships and ABP. The consultation period would last for 12 weeks from 24 June and Councillor Wyeth stated that everyone could take part in the online survey. It was noted that ABP have plans for reducing possible pollution. All the other options, particularly regarding traffic pollution, that have been considered have been rejected.

There had been an incident in High Street at the traffic lights when a large lorry with trailer that was turning left had scrapped along an adjacent car. Both drivers alighted their vehicles and the incident was reported to the Police but it appeared not to have been followed up. Our MP has been informed and County Councillor Heron is following it up with all correspondence forwarded to the Clerk. Councillor Wyeth reported that local people tended to hold back when they see a large lorry coming down the High Street as it is known they will have to turn left due to restrictions in place. However it

was felt that the large vehicle detector might not be working accurately and Councillor Heron agreed to follow this matter through.

With regard to the NFNPA Recreation Management Consultation, Councillor Wyeth urged everyone to go on line and complete the questionnaire. There is a need for a cycle lane from Lyndhurst to Brockenhurst and the possibility of a route partially on the road and partially through the forest is being explored. Councillor Bisson said he felt there was a danger in using too much of the forest particularly as cycle lanes were often used by commuters who needed a direct route. There are also cycling events on a regular basis which can cause problems. Councillor Burrows said there is a NFNPA steering/advisory group.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk flag this matter up in Clerk's Corner in the Community Centre What's On.

47. Planning Appeal – Lyndhurst Park Hotel

Councillor Green asked if there would be a site visit and would LPC be invited to attend. Councillor Wyeth said this was unlikely although people should go along to the Appeal itself which she felt was likely to take place in October.

RESOLVED: To send a representative from LPC to speak on our behalf who is familiar with the planning policies of the NFNPA. We need to register as a Council and not as an individual.

48. Silent Soldier Proposal

A flyer had been inserted by the Parish Council in the Community Centre What's On concerning possible purchase of silent soldier figures to commemorate the end of the First World War. Since that time more information had come to light. It was now known that there were two commemorative figures, one was the RBL Silent Soldier costing £250 to organisations and £150 to private individuals and the other was known as the "There But Not There" Tommy costing £750. It was now known that neither could be regarded as a permanent feature and should be taken down after approximately one month although it could re-erected the following year. Councillor Wiltshire said that he had received requests for two Silent Soldiers.

The Clerk asked if it might be more appropriate to provide a more practical option such as a commemorative seat, as purchased at Copythorne and placed near their war memorial. Councillor Wiltshire suggested laying 100 wreaths at the war memorial and Councillor Trend explained that she had seen something similar displayed on a stand. She also stated that Emery Down would like to feel more included in any commemoration as 22 men had lost their lives during world wars and there were four Commonwealth war graves.

Councillor Wiltshire drew Councillors' attention to the fact that the seat near the war memorial needed to be painted, as did the railings around the war memorial. It was suggested that the renovations take place as the Parish Council's contribution to a commemoration but the Clerk pointed out that there was finance available for this work in the annual precept.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk ascertain the cost of a commemorative seat and obtain more details of size, etc. At this stage the Parish Council would not purchase a commemorative figure but Councillor Trend would inform the residents of Emery Down that if they wished to do so independently they would need to locate an appropriate site and could proceed with their own purchase by fundraising as they considered to be appropriate.

49. Village Information Leaflet

Councillors Se-Upara and Trend, together with the Clerk, had discussed the possibility of producing, on an annual basis, a leaflet which would contain advertising and promote coming events and attractions in the village environment. An emphasis could also be placed on getting the message across of how precious the forest is to all of us.

RESOLVED: To make this matter an Agenda item for the November Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting.

50. Recreation Management Strategy

It was noted that the closing date for comments is 12 August 2018. In line with the strategy it was considered that the LPC Parish Walk needs to be made more passable in several places. Councillor Bisson said he and the Clerk had worked with NFNPA on the parish walk and also the FC who had done some remedial work. However the FC had asked that their logo be removed from the leaflet as they do not sponsor it as an authorized walk. The main problem was the wet ground from Gritnam to Allum Green. Councillor Bisson suggested that when there is a reprint this section could be made optional. There was a need to improve what we already have, especially with locating the direction of the route.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact the Access to the Countryside team to ascertain if there was any funding and/or expertise available. Councillor Burrows will contact Nigel Matthews at NFNPA to ask for assistance.

51. Private Policing

The Vice Chairman reported that as a result of three separate concerns that had recently occurred in the village she had contacted a private policing company to explore ideas for private policing.

RESOLVED: That the Vice Chairman send round the information she had obtained to all Councillors. The Clerk was asked to write to the Police Commissioner for Hampshire (copied to our MP Julian Lewis) to voice the Parish Council's grave concern at the level of policing being experienced by our residents. It was also considered that letters were needed in the local Press.

52. Football Clubs in Lyndhurst

(a) Junior Football Club "Hut" Roof

The Clerk explained that the Junior Football Club Hut Roof needed replacement, partly due to vandals. It was noted that the building housed LPC's CCTV equipment. There was a danger to the integrity of this equipment due to the fact that the building was no longer weatherproof and might be further vandalized. The Chairman, who was also Chairman of the Recreation Committee, had indicated that he would be prepared to allow £350 from the Recreation Committee budget to be given to the Junior Football Club to assist towards the costs of the roof replacement, which were likely to be in the region of £1,000.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to draw a cheque in the sum of £350 made payable to Lyndhurst Junior Football Club to be used specifically towards the repair of the clubhouse roof.

(b) *Wellands Road ground*

The Clerk reported that she, together with the Chairman and Councillor Willsher, had attended a meeting with the Deputy Land Agent at the Forestry Commission and representatives from the Junior and Senior Football Clubs at which the new lease for the Senior ground had been discussed. Both the Junior Club and LPC had stated that they would prefer the lease to be in the hands of the Parish Council and the Deputy Land Agent had said that he would also prefer this option. There were reservations expressed by the Senior Football Club representatives but by the end of the meeting it was unanimously considered that these could be overcome and the new lease, which was due to commence in eight weeks' time, should pass into the hands of LPC.

53. Accounts

(a) Accounts paid or due for payment to the date of the meeting were submitted and authorised, as follows:

| | Amount | VAT | Total |
|--|---------------|------------|--------------|
| Accounts paid between meetings | | | |
| TLC Online | 220.00 | | £220.00 |
| Printing | | | |
| SBC Solutions | 597.50 | 119.50 | 717.00 |
| Laptop, software and ancillaries | | | |
| Accounts due for payment | | | |
| NFDC | 298.06 | 59.61 | 357.67 |
| Dog Waste Collection | | | |
| Forestry Commission | 325.00 | | 325.00 |
| Coles Mead rent | | | |
| Sophie's Services | 70.00 | | 70.00 |
| Office cleaning x 7 weeks | | | |
| Mary Corbett Accountancy Ltd | 27.00 | | 27.00 |
| Payroll services | | | |
| ADH Cleaning & Maintenance Services | 50.00 | | 50.00 |
| Office window cleaning | | | |
| N H Barwood | 377.45 | | 377.45 |
| Replacement cheque | | | |
| Mrs M Weston | 1974.30 | | 1974.30 |
| Clerk's Salary & Expenses | | | |
| ITEC | 58.22 | 11.64 | 69.86 |
| Photocopying | | | |
| L&DCA | | | 167.50 |
| Room hire LPC meetings x2 | 47.00 | | |
| Room hire Planning meetings x2 | 47.00 | | |
| Affiliation fee | 18.00 | | |
| Room hire F&GP meeting | 23.50 | | |
| What's On advertisement 2no x 1.5 pages | 32.00 | | |
| Mint Gardens Ltd | | | 2884.27 |

| | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Great Mead | 45.00 | 9.00 | |
| Cemetery maintenance | 1632.00 | 326.40 | |
| Allotment maintenance | 150.00 | 30.00 | |
| Recreation ground - inspection/fencing | 325.00 | 65.00 | |
| Concrete base for cycle repair hub | 251.56 | 50.31 | |
| Total | 6348.59 | 671.46 | £7,020.05 |

54. Correspondence

(a) *Southampton Clean Air Zone Consultation*

It was noted that the closing date for taking part in the survey is 13 September 2018. The subject had been covered by Councillor Wyeth in her District Councillor Report. The link to the website consultation is www.Southampton.gov.uk/CAZconsultation to take part.

(b) *NFNPA request for letter of support re Leader funding for churchyard work*

Correspondence had been received from Fiona Wynne at NFNPA asking if LPC would be prepared to write an expression of support for their application for New Forest Leader funding towards a project at Lyndhurst churchyard to safeguard and increase access to the churchyard's important heritage features and raise awareness of their significance through greater enhancement and promotion of the site.

The project will involve a new footpath, approximately 35 metres long, providing improved access to Alice Liddell's headstone; lifting and cleaning 72 redundant headstones (some of which are currently used as steps) and digitally recording the information they contain providing increased access; repositioning the headstones into a new seating area overlooking the ashes burial area providing greater and more usable amenity space within the churchyard; repairing and reinstating five broken and dilapidated monuments in order to safeguard these features

Discussion took place regarding the request. It was noted that the churchyard provides a HCC Safe Route to School. NFDC maintain the graveyard but only have the responsibility to keep it clean and tidy. NFNPA is conducting archaeological projects on many churchyards in the forest. They have an accurate map, an assessment is made and eventually all the information will go on line. This involves conservation and preservation. The Alice grave will have a footpath leading to it making it more accessible. The gravestones that are steps at present will be moved and catalogued and will be used to make a seat. A cross will be moved and restored. The faculty application, agreed with the diocese, will include making a seating area.

The Vice Chairman voiced strong concerns against the part of the scheme that involved use of the headstones to make a seat, finding it irreverent and questioned whether it should take place in view of the fact that the headstones had been purchased by relatives, etc for their loved ones. A vote to ascertain whether a letter of support should be given took place.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Fiona Wynne at NFNPA giving LPC's support to the grant application by a vote of 5:2 in favour with one abstention.

55. Reports from Representatives of Outside Bodies

None.

56. Dates for Future Committee Meetings

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|---------------------|------------------------------|---------|------------------|
| Planning Committee | Tuesday, 24 July & 28 August | 7.15 pm | Community Centre |
| Amenities Committee | Tuesday 11 September | 6.00 pm | Community Centre |

57. Items for Discussion at the Next Meeting

Items brought forward from the July Agenda.

Items brought to the Clerk's attention by Monday 3 September 2018.

Chairman _____

Date _____