

## **LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Amenities Committee was held on Tuesday 16 April 2019 at 7.15 pm in the Parish Council Office at 13 High Street, Lyndhurst.

**Present:** Councillor G Bisson (Chairman), Councillors Dr P Burrows and A Trend.

**In Attendance:** Mrs M Weston (Clerk to the Council)

### **1. Declarations of Interest**

As a resident of The Meadows whose land abutted Great Mead, the Chairman declared a non-prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 10 – Great Mead.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

None.

### **3. Public Participation**

None.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting (9 October 2018)**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2018 were approved.

### **5. Matters Arising**

The Chairman reported that the Precept had been reduced to £2,400.00 as this was thought to be a prudent measure in view of the fact that there was a considerable amount in reserves, even allowing for the projected cost of the new bus shelter and that there was an amount exceeding £9,000 for maintenance of Great Mead which would be used for any necessary tree work.

### **6. Maintenance Programme**

#### **(a) Seats**

The Chairman reported that the seats/benches were now inspected annually rather than being on a rolling programme of work. This meant that they only received maintenance when it was really needed and not as a matter of course because it was the year when maintenance was scheduled. This seemed to be more cost effective.

It was noted that a seat in memory of Jeffrey John Brixton had been removed by the Forestry Commission as it could not be repaired. The Clerk had put the family of Mr Brixton in touch with the Forestry Commission and they would be purchasing a similar seat from the Forestry Commission which would be engraved and installed at the family's expense. It will be put in the original position near the cricket pavilion at Bolton's Bench.

Discussion took place regarding the Arthur Phillip memorial seat in the car park public open space. It was confirmed that the Parish Council would continue to maintain this seat.

The Chairman stated that he remembered that at one time there was a back to the seat around the trees on Bolton's Bench hill that had an engraving on it.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Trend research any details that might be available.

## **(b) Bus Shelters**

The Chairman reported that the bus shelters were inspected annually, with any remedial and cleaning work taking place as necessary. The noticeboard in the bus shelter opposite the Lyndhurst Park Hotel has been removed due to vandalism and it is planned that it will be repaired or replaced. The bus shelter at Clay Hill, although not professional in construction, is in good condition.

Concern was expressed regarding the amount of fly posting once again appearing around the village and attention was drawn to the fact the NFDC had, at one time, had a very stringent policy on fly posting, taking down any such notices.

**RESOLVED:** To ask NFDC for information regarding their present policy on fly posting.

## **7. Additional Bus Shelter**

The Chairman stated that he felt we had been poorly served by the solicitor acting on our behalf in this matter and this was reiterated by the Clerk. However, it was hoped that Land Registry should be obtained by the end of the month and we will be approaching the solicitor again at that time. It was noted that the owners of the land had changed their minds slightly regarding the proposed position of the bus shelter. The bus shelter supplier had indicated that they had increased their prices since giving the initial quotation but would hold their price in this case.

## **8. Dedication of the Memorial Seat to the fallen of WW1**

It was reported that the seat is now in place outside the Fire Station.

**RESOLVED:** To send a report to the Lymington Times and Daily Echo drawing attention to the fact that the seat had been funded by local donations. This could coincide with the D-Day celebrations on 6 June. The local connection with troops leaving Bolton's Bench for service in France in 1915 would also be mentioned.

## **9. Telephone boxes**

It was noted that all three phone boxes were generally in good order. Some glass had been broken in the telephone box at Racecourse View and this will be replaced with the correct materials. It was noted that acknowledgement to LPC should have been made on the information boards in the phone box at Bank. Councillor Trend volunteered to continue to update these boards and Councillor Dr Burrows said he would continue to keep a watchful eye on the phone box at Bank.

## **10. Great Mead**

It was reported that this area is well used. Two willow trees had died and had been removed. They had now been replaced with a further three trees.

The Clerk reported that a request for a wild flower meadow had been mentioned on Twitter. The Chairman said this had been requested before but in order to create a meadow the grass would need to be cut only once a year and the grass removed. The same method would have to be used for wild flowers. If the grass was left long there would be a problem with seeing any dog excrement.

## 11. Dog waste bins

There was nothing to report regarding existing dog waste bins. The one at the top of Great Mead had previously been reported as over full at times but this seems to have been rectified. Grit bins would be checked to see that nothing else had been deposited in them.

## 12. Parish Walk

The Chairman thanked Councillor Dr Burrows for his work on updating the Parish Walk. Various negotiations had taken place with NFNPA and the FC to try to find an alternative to the existing Allum Green loop which was not easy to follow and the ground was muddy in winter. Unfortunately it had not been possible to reach agreement with the Forestry Commission and the only alternative was to take out this part of the walk and substitute a route from the Oak PH to the A35, cross the road and continue towards Lyndhurst until the box gate was reached on the left hand side. Walkers could then proceed back into the open forest and continue their walk.

Existing copies of the walk map/directions had now all been used so it would be necessary to make the necessary amendments and produce a new leaflet and map for the public open space in the car park. Councillor Dr Burrows asked that some historical facts be included where appropriate. These could be provided by Councillor Trend.

The Chairman said that the Parish Council had not forgotten that there is another walk leaflet and it was hoped that this could also be taken forward. Councillor Trend stated that new information boards would shortly be arriving which could be placed on noticeboards or in the office window.

## 13. Accounts

The Chairman explained the reasons for the reduction in Precept and the Committee accepted the following accounts:

### AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET 2019/20

| Estimated Income |          | Estimated Expenditure         |          |
|------------------|----------|-------------------------------|----------|
| Opening Balance  | 27128.00 | Dog Waste Collection          | 625.00   |
| Precept          | 2400.00  | Treework                      | 500.00   |
|                  |          | Main Grasscutting (NFDC)      | 800.00   |
|                  |          | Strimming, etc (Mint Gardens) | 200.00   |
|                  |          | Benches/Noticeboards          | 800.00   |
|                  |          | Telephone box maintenance     | 300.00   |
|                  |          | New bus shelter               | 9000.00  |
|                  |          | Bus shelter maintenance       | 1000.00  |
| Total            | 29528.00 |                               | 13225.00 |

## 14. Any Other Business for the next meeting

None.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Angela Trend and Dr Peter Burrows for their contribution and wished them well in the future. The meeting then closed.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_