

Ordinary Meeting of Minstead Parish Council

The Surgery, Minstead Village Hall

Monday 7 July 2014**Present:** Cllrs W Andrews (Chair), H Bennett, M Bridle, S Cattell, A Ferguson, P Glover, R Taylor.**In attendance:** P Osborne (Clerk), Cllr Mrs Andrews (NFDC), Cllr K Mans (HCC), Ms D Wakelin, Mr A Gibbons.**1. Public Participation Period**

None wished to speak.

2. Apologies for Absence

None

3. Declarations of Interests

Cllr Bennett - Personal Interest in planning application 00454 (Item 12); Cllrs W Andrews and Mrs Andrews – Personal & Prejudicial interest in Cons/14/0690 (Item 12).

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 2 June 2014

These had been previously circulated and were agreed by all then signed.

5. Matters Arising

None

6. Items Ongoing

- Bridleway 15 – consideration of grant for improvements: Mr J Cartwright (HCC) has reported by email that this track has SSSI status so he would need permission for any work. **Ongoing**
- Dogs Trust offer of free microchipping in the community: Negligible interest resulted from publicity. **Closed**
- Minstead petition for 20mph speed limit: In his response, PC Morant said that enforcement would be difficult and evidence from SID device of poor compliance would be required before regular attendance in the camera van would be considered. Council noted that the petition had attracted only 39 signatories and that there are parishioners opposed to the proposal but who were not able to record their views. Council felt that there is insufficient support within the community and that it would not be feasible to enforce a 20mph speed limit. Clerk to report back to Mrs S Cole, instigator of the petition. **Closed**
- Water on roads (several places on Lyndhurst Road + Football Green outside Woodley House): Repair work already done in several places on Lyndhurst Road and more in progress. **Ongoing**
- Potholes/eroded edges on roads: Repair work in progress. **Ongoing**
- Bridleway 10 Phase 2: **Ongoing**
- Clearance of brambles on Top Green: **Ongoing**
- Drainage – mapping to show where standing water on roads: Cllr Cattell is now working on larger scale maps. **Ongoing**

7. Report from Police/Community Support Officer

Chairman reported that an Officer will now attend a Parish Council meeting only for a specific reason. Therefore this item will be removed from the agenda in future.

8. Reports from County and/or District CouncillorCllr K Mans (HCC):

- Government funding coming in for flood repairs. Work is being done clearing ditches/drains.
- There is increased pressure to look after children in care and the elderly as a result of changes in rules, tightening up of rules and people being more risk-averse. HCC has to absorb increased costs with reduced budget. Partnerships for service delivery are saving money. Increasing Council Tax brings in only a very small proportion.

- More money now available for sustainable transport and rural development - could be used for faster broadband.

Cllr Andrews reported that faster broadband will be available in Minstead by September- not end of June, as previously stated. BT has additional funding for further improvements by 2017.

Cllr Mrs Andrews:

- Strike on 10 July by UNISON, UNITE and GMB members will affect schools and councils.
- NFDC has produced *Tree Safe Management Policy* for managing its own trees that could be scaled down for use at parish council level.
- NFDC is pooling investment funds with other bodies to get higher rates of interest.
- Unexpectedly, Government has funded repair work to Hurst Spit following winter storm damage.

9. Report from Lengthsman

Mr Short had reported work on three footpaths: Bull Lane and Red House footpaths - grass strimming and cutting back hedge; Church footpath - grass strimming through to Study Centre.

10. Report from Councillors' Surgeries

Nothing of significance to report.

11. Reports from Parish Representatives

- Consultative Panel - Cllr Glover: He had previously circulated report and papers from recent meeting.
- Village Hall – Cllr Andrews: Roof repairs now completed.

[Cllr Mans left meeting at 20.15]

12. Planning

NPA Decisions

00340 Myrtle Tree Cottage. Single story rear extension.

Grant

Decision Awaited

00394 Sluffers Inclosure. Wetland restoration: replacement of drain with restored meander; bed level raising; infilling of side drains; replacement of eleven concrete culverts; replacement of one gravel ford; and the installation of an additional gravel ford.

New Planning Applications

00390 Land of Muffins. Stable. **Comment No 5. The proposed stable appears to be excessively high and there should be condition imposed that it can never be used for habitable accommodation.**

00454 Little Thatch. Demolish and replace single-storey garage. Fell 1x Scots pine. **Comment No 1 – a sensible use of space.**

Trees

No objections were raised to any of the following applications:

CONS/14/0682 Skymers Minor. Fell 1 x cherry.

CONS/14/0690 Castle Malwood Park. Fell 2 x oak; remove limbs and deadwood 4 x oak, 1 x beech.

CONS/14/0745 Pinelands, The Grove. Fell 1 X spruce.

13. Correspondence

E-mail correspondence previously circulated:

- HALC: Rural Housing Policy Review questionnaire – submit by 25 July. **Agreed not relevant at present so no response.**
- Local Works: inviting proposals requesting government to give parish and town councils the right to sell electricity generated from local schemes. **Agreed no interest.**

Other correspondence:

HALC: copies of *HALC 2014 Service Brochure* + reminder of new *Model Financial Regulations*, new *Governance and Accountability (2014)* document, new Social Media and Marketing Advisor support.
Noted.

To Read:

- *LCR* (Summer 2014)
- *Local Councils Update* (June, July 2014)
- *Clerks & Councils Direct* (July 2014)

14. Finance

- Receipts & Payments for June 2014:

	£	£
Bank Balance as at 30.06.2014		15,119.24
Receipts:		
HCC: Parish Lengthsman Scheme		1,000
Accounts to Pay:		
Salaries and expenses (by Standing Order)	390.88	
HMRC: PAYE (1 st quarter) for Clerk & Lengthsman	293.20	

Reconciliation	£
Balance at 30.06.2014 (before payment of SOs)	15,119.24
Subtract: payments listed above	-684.08
Actual balance at 07.07.2014	14,435.16

Proposed for payment by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Andrews and agreed by all.

- Purchase of laminator (for posters): Clerk has purchased Swordfish Superslim A4 laminator (£24.31 + VAT) plus 100 pouches ((£10.08 + VAT). She will reclaim this cost at end of August together with other expenses for June to August.

15. HCC consultation on Household Waste Recycling Centres (ends 22 August)

Cllr Taylor will draft response from Council. Cllr Ferguson will publicise the consultation in Weekly News with suggestion that residents respond direct to HCC or else send their comments to Parish Council.

16. Superfast Broadband

See Item 8 above.

17. Ragwort removal

Agreed that Council members will pull ragwort around village on Thursday 17 July. Clerk to inform Mrs A Cooper. Cllr Taylor will supply sacks and Cllr Mrs Andrews will ask NFDC if they can collect them.

[Cllr Mrs Andrews left meeting at 20.50]

18. Matters raised by Councillors

- Cllr Glover – at recent Consultative Panel meeting, representative from CDA asked that Minstead PC investigate barrier erected by Acorns, Seamans Lane, preventing access to grazing. This is not Council land so CDA should take it up with owner of land (FC or Minstead Manor).
- Cllr Taylor – met with Paul Walton (Head of Environment and Rural Economy, NFNPA) as discussed at last meeting and explained how Minstead PC feel the NFNPA does not adequately represent the views and needs of the vast majority of New Forest residents who are not involved in commoning; this can lead to frustration. Mr Walton understood this point of view and stated that Cllr Taylor was the first person who had raised this concern - but his contacts to date had been limited. Asked for clarification of the *Conserving the Forest Fringe* project, Mr Walton has since referred Cllr Taylor to Zoe Cox (Community Manager South East Forest District, FC) who is in charge of this. Since it is part of the *Our Past Our Future* project it would seem sensible to ask James Brown (NFNPA) to cover it when he attends the August meeting.
- Cllr Taylor – Council has sent response to Hampshire Police and Crime Panel's *Rural Crime survey*.
- Cllr Cattell – there had been overnight campers in Glebe Field, but they left in morning.

- Cllr Andrews – telephone boxes very dirty: Cllr Cattell to ask Lengthsman to clean box at Newtown belonging to Minstead PC. Clerk to write to BT re cleaning of box in village centre.
- Cllr Cattell - union flag needs repair or replacement. Cllr Ferguson will make enquiries.
- Cllr Cattell – complaint received re state of War Memorial stonework. Clerk to find out type of stone and how to clean it, then Cllr Bennett will organise working party.

19. Date of next Ordinary meeting: Monday 4 August 2014 at 19.30

Meeting closed at 21.07