

Parish Council
 Ordinary Meeting of Minstead Parish Council
 The Surgery, Minstead Village Hall
Monday 4 August 2014 at 19.30

Present: Cllrs W Andrews (Chair), H Bennett, M Bridle, S Cattell, A Ferguson, P Glover, R Taylor.

In attendance: P Osborne (Clerk), James Brown (NFNPA), Ms D Wakelin.

1. Public Participation Period

James Brown (NFNPA) gave brief outline of the £4.5m project *Our Past Our Future*, supported by Heritage Lottery, which is focused on Forest lands outside Crown lands. Currently at development stage and following consultation with relevant bodies (NFNPA, Forestry Commission, Verderers, CDA, English Nature etc), there are three main programmes: restoring landscapes; developing Forest skills; discovering Forest heritage. There are now surveys for community to submit their project ideas.

Some discussion followed. Cllrs felt that there are a number of potential contradictions in *Our Past Our Future*: e.g. difficult to establish hedgerows if Verderers do not agree to prevent them being grazed; not much call for traditional building skills any more as most new-build in the Forest uses modern methods. Council expressed concern that NFNPA may have an idealised chocolate-box vision for the Forest which does not relate to reality.

Cllr Taylor commented that the views of the community of more than 34,000 people who live and work in the Forest tend to be overlooked and he made a plea for the community to be included.

[James Brown left meeting at 20.09]

2. Apologies for Absence

Cllr K Mans (HCC), Cllr Mrs Andrews (NFDC)

3. Declarations of Interests

Cllr Taylor – Personal Interest in Appeal **14/00277** (Item 11).

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 7 July 2014

These had been previously circulated. In Item 18 typing error 'CDC' in two places was amended to 'CDA'. Minutes were then agreed and signed as a correct record.

5. Matters Arising

- Ragwort removal [Item 17]: Chairman said this had been effective but asked Cllrs to please pull the odd bits that remain – and then burn them. **Closed**
- Cleaning of telephone boxes [Item 18]: Cllr Cattell still to ask Lengthsman to clean box at Newtown. Clerk had contacted BT re cleaning and repainting of box at village centre; BT had noted request and said engineer would clean box but repainting unlikely before October, more likely to be next year. **Ongoing**
- Repair/replacement of Union flag [Item 18]: Cllr Ferguson reported cost of new flag £48 +VAT. It was proposed by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Bennett and agreed to purchase new St George flag now and, subject to result of Scottish Referendum, to purchase new Union flag in September. **Ongoing**
- Cleaning War Memorial [Item 18]: Clerk reported that the stone is oolitic limestone and she had circulated information on cleaning from War Memorials Trust. Cllr Cattell had talked to their Conservation Officer who wants photo before commenting. Cllr Bennett to coordinate cleaning, hopefully at end of August. **Ongoing**

6. Items Ongoing

- Bridleway 15 – consideration of grant for improvements: No news. **Ongoing**
- Water on roads (several places on Lyndhurst Road + Football Green outside Woodley House): A run-off has been dug outside Woodley House. Cllr Cattell to clarify with Rob Millar what has been done. **Ongoing**

- Potholes/eroded edges on roads: Still pothole by cattle grid 1, reported many times. **Ongoing**
- Bridleway 10 Phase 2: **Ongoing**
- Clearance of brambles on Top Green: See item 11, application **SFLA/14/0845**. **Ongoing**
- Drainage – mapping to show where standing water on roads: **Ongoing**

7. Reports from County and/or District Councillor

Neither was present.

8. Report from Lengthsman:

Email report of work done in July:

- Bull Lane footpath - grass strimming and cutting back hedge.
- Church footpath - grass strimming and whips.
- Creosote outside wood of Football Green bus shelter & clear undergrowth around the road sign.
- Creosote outside wood of Village Hall bus shelter.
- Remove undergrowth around road furniture posts at Village Hall, Football Green car park and Lyndhurst Road.

9. Report from Councillors' Surgeries:

There had been several consultations re planning issues.

10. Reports from Parish Representatives

- PCC – Cllr Cattell: recent lengthy meeting focussed mainly on 5-4-50.
- Village Hall – Cllr Andrews: next meeting 2 September.

11. Planning

NPA Decisions

00390 Land of Muffins. Stable.

Grant

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.

Grant

00454 Little Thatch. Demolish and replace single-storey garage. Fell 1x Scots pine.

Grant

New Planning Applications

00488 Fernhill. Single storey extension with pitched roof over flat roof. **Comment No 3 because we see no reason not to.**

Notice of Appeal

14/00277 (PINS REF AA/B9506/A/14/2222082) Hazel Hill Yard. Determination as to whether prior approval is required for proposed change of use of office building to dwelling. *Appeal lodged 23 July, representations by 27 August 2014.* **Chairman stated that comments previously made by Parish Council will be noted at the Hearing. Individuals can make personal representations.**

Trees

No objections were raised to the following applications:

SFLA/14/0845 Top Green. Fell selected mature trees to restore area to its former lawn status: fell 3 oak trees, 1 snapped out beech tree and 2 willow trees. Also some scrub clearance and cutting of a single rhododendron bush.

TPO/14/0870 2 Blackwater House. Fell oak (TPO no. 4/99).

12. Correspondence

E-mail correspondence previously circulated was **noted**:

- HALC: NALC *Parish Pulse Survey 2014* on Community Rights closes 11 August.
- PC Morant: Speeding camera detection figures (Nov 2013 to June 2014).

- James Brown (NFNPA): New Forest Heritage - A Chance to share your views – questionnaire.
- HALC: CLG Inquiry into Litter – submissions by 16 October.
- HALC: Booking form for AGM on 4 October.
- NFDC: New regulations from 31 July on Filming and Recording Council meetings with attached suggested Protocol for PC use. **Chairman said there were no plans to change meeting room. Clerk to customise the Protocol and circulate for consideration at next meeting.**

Other correspondence:

None

To Read:

None

13. Finance

- Receipts & Payments for July 2014:

	£	£
July Payments:		
Salaries and expenses (by Standing Order)	390.88	
Bank Balance as at 31.07.2014		14,044.28

- Report on Income & Expenditure compared with amounts budgeted: The Clerk had previously circulated table showing expenditure to date against amounts budgeted. Payments to 31 July total £2800 compared with one-third annual budget of £3251, which is satisfactory. Clerk reported that income is in line with budget.

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

Cllr Taylor had drafted and circulated response from Parish Council. Slight amendment was agreed: that there should be some evening opening to cater for those at work during day. He will circulate amended version then send if no objections.

15. Matters raised by Councillors

- Cllr Bennett – queried possible purchase and location of defibrillator: it would need to be in central location and accessible - both pub and shop are sometimes closed. She will find out cost.
- Cllr Bennett – queried whether PC should do more on social media: Facebook, Twitter etc? Chairman said that Facebook had been set up but there was little interest at present.
- Cllr Taylor – will look at survey for *Our Past, Our Future*.
- Cllr Bridle – hedges encroaching highways are causing problems for large vehicles: he will ask Mr Chris Green if he would contribute to cost of cutting back hedges encroaching roads on Manor land. Cllr Ferguson will include reminder to cut hedges and clear ditches in Weekly Notices. Where this is not done, Council may write to individual householders, cc Highways.
- Cllr Bridle – several dragons teeth have been removed, some at entrance to Petershold Farm to facilitate parking for Study Centre; there have been complaints about vehicles blocking entry to Petershold Farm. Clerk to write to Study Centre to ask that they park in their yard.
- Cllr Bridle - old signs, posts etc around the village. Cllr Cattell to ask Rob Millar to collect all old signs and metalwork.
- Cllr Ferguson – design work for Minstead Mail. He will put request in Weekly Notices for volunteer to do graphic design for MM, maximum four times a year.
- Cllr Ferguson – request for photos for website.
- Cllr Andrews – complaints received re parking on bend by new residents at Ivy Cottage. He will speak to them.

16. Date of next Ordinary meeting: Monday 1 September 2014 at 19.30

Meeting closed at 20.57