

Ordinary Meeting of Minstead Parish Council

Danby Room, Minstead Village Hall

Monday 6 March 2017 at 19.30

Present: Cllrs W Andrews (Chair), H Bennett, S Cattell, A Ferguson, G Hough, R Taylor, D Wakelin, Mrs P Osborne (Clerk), Cllr K Mans (HCC), Cllr Mrs Andrews (NFDC), Mr & Mrs Simpson, Mr D Donawa.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Public Participation Period

Mr & Mrs Simpson outlined their proposed plans for the Village Shop and asked for support from the Parish Council. Council raised concerns over several areas including lack of parking for guests and over-intensification of occupation of the site.

[Mr & Mrs Simpson left at 20.02]

3. Declarations of Interests

None.

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6 February 2017

These had been previously published. They were agreed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

- Annual Parish Meeting (15 March 2017): Cllr Edward Heron will attend as guest speaker.

6. Items Ongoing

- Remaining section of original wall around Castle Malwood kitchen garden: NFDC Building Control Officer visited and confirmed that 'the condition of the brickwork and the amount of lean don't really give cause for concern'. Clerk to contact Enforcement re high new brickwork and construction outside property boundary.
- Community SpeedWatch (CSW) [Items 2 & 5]: Mr Donawa reported on his recent meeting with Chief Superintendent John to discuss recent ban on CSW operation on 40 mph roads on the grounds that (a) the speeds on such roads make it difficult for information to be accurately recorded by volunteers and (b) there are concerns about the safety of volunteers. However, the inaccurate information was from one group only (not in New Forest) and resulted from the way the data was processed. Plus, all CSW sites have been vetted and risk assessed by the police and no incidents of safety have been reported in the 6 years that CSW has been active.

Also raised at the meeting was whether there has been a change in insurance affecting cover for CSW volunteers on 40 mph roads.

CS John will look into these matters and report back to the next Focus Group meeting.

[Mr Donawa left at 20.12]

- Adoption of telephone kiosk in village centre: No progress. Clerk to pursue.
- Dragons' teeth opposite North Lodge: Cllr Mans reported that HCC is contacting property owner.
- Muddy section on Footpath 9: Quotes received for work and £250 grant received from Cllr Mans. However, the landowner has been informed that HCC Countryside Access Service still plans to install a metal kissing gate, despite it being inappropriate - too wide for this narrow path; unsuited to rural scene; and will not make the path accessible since further along there is another stile and steps at both ends of a footbridge. Site meeting arranged with Senior Countryside Access Ranger on 16 March.
- Eroded edges on roads: Following a phone conversation with Richard Bastow (HCC), a site meeting close to the Study Centre was arranged with Bob Brown of HCC. He has noted the extreme erosion of the edges there and passed our concerns to his manager. He also emphasised that problems are best reported online to allow them to enter the maintenance system - depth and length of problem section to be reported. Cllr Taylor suggested allocating roads to each councillor and he distributed measuring sticks.

7. Reports from County and/or District Councillor

Cllr Mans (HCC):

- Extra government funding expected for social care.
- Forest roads were not built for heavy traffic and are suffering (potholes and edges) as a result.

Following electoral review, under the new arrangements Cllr Mans is moving on. So this was his last meeting. The Chairman expressed sincere thanks from the Parish Council for his support over the years.

[Cllr Mans left at 20.36]

Cllr Mrs Andrews (NFDC):

- NFDC Budget now released - £5 increase to Band D Council Tax.
- There are investment plans for commercial property.
- Universal Credit being introduced.

She said that replacement dragons' teeth for verge outside Congleton Cottage have been promised.

8. Report from Lengthsman

Work recorded during February:

- Two patrols undertaken (i.e. tour of the village and walk the foot paths).
- Re-erected footpath sign at bottom end of Footpath 4.

He reported a tree on Footpath 5 that is loose in the ground and leaning over the path and asked whether he should cut it down. **Yes** - landowner has given permission.

9. Reports from Parish Representatives

- Footpaths:
 - Ditch along Footpath 5 needs clearing. Quote received for £75 – agreed to accept. Cllr Mrs Andrews offered to fund this from her Community Grant.
 - Access to footbridge at Acres Down ford – Gravel will be renewed (by HCC) but there are administrative procedures to follow first because site is SSSI.
- Broadband - Wave 2 still expected and will include much of Minstead.
- Minstead Mail – Spring edition in preparation.
- Consultative Panel – developments on Waterside discussed. Forestry Commission is working with Parish Councils re verge deterioration.
- Hall Committee – will raise issue of condensation in Danby Room.

10. Report from Working Party addressing traffic issues

Vegetation on Blackwater Road has been cut back so Parish Council is now responsible for annual cutting – early October. R Bastow (HCC) has promised to check if signs warning of unsuitability for caravans are possible.

11. Planning

Decisions

16/01052 Field 13 North of School Lane. Erection of agricultural storage barn.

Withdrawn

16/01053 Thrifty Gate. Replacement outbuilding with room over; demolish existing outbuilding. **Grant**

16/01066 and **01067 LBC** Faeries Cottage. Single storey extension; covered link from main house to barn; flue; re-roofing of barn.

Withdrawn

Decision Awaited

16/01068 and **16/01069 LBC** Faeries Cottage. Increase height of 2no existing chimneys; flue.

16/01071 and **16/01072 LBC** Faeries Cottage. Addition of 3no dormer windows; internal alterations.

16/01019 Myrtle Cottage. Two-storey extension; demolition of existing conservatory.

17/00023 Holly Hatch, Emery Down. Roof alterations to create additional first floor habitable accommodation; dormer with Juliette balcony; 2no rear rooflights; demolition of existing conservatory.

[Multiple Parish – for information only.]

New Planning Applications

16/01075 Cartref Cottage. Single storey extension; new double garage with room over. **Comment No 4. We stand by our previous comment that we recommend refusal because it would impinge on neighbouring properties and the size is disproportionate. We are concerned that its size might lend itself to use not incidental to the main building and feel that the buildings proposed are not appropriate to the existing building and its curtilage. Plus, in our opinion the omission of Beecroft on the plan invalidates the application.**

[Cllr Mrs Andrews left at 21.20]

17/00123 Merrie Orchard. Detached garage with storage over (Demolition of existing outbuilding). **Comment No 4. Whilst we see the need for replacing the existing outbuildings, we see no need for such a tall building which is a significant alteration to the traditional New Forest street scene and may lend itself to eventual conversion to living accommodation.**

17/00162 Field 13. Erection of agricultural storage barn. **Comment No 3 because they appear to have resolved previous objections.**

Trees

CONS/17/0125 Yew Tree Cottage, Woodside. Prune 1 x Ash. **No objections raised.**

CONS/17/0148 Church Lane. Fell 1 x unidentified tree; prune 3 x Sycamore, 2 x Poplar. **Objection because detail is not accessible. [Detailed map subsequently accessed and objection withdrawn.]**

CONS/17/0174 Minstead Study Centre. Fell 1 x group mixed tree species, 1 x Ash, 1 x Oak. Prune 1 x Hawthorn, 1 x Oak, 1 x Ash. **No objections raised.**

CONS/17/0197 Gardeners Cottage. Fell 1 x Maple. **Clerk to enquire whether written arboricultural advice from an appropriate expert was provided. [This was subsequently found to be not required in Conservation Area, so no objections.]**

12. Correspondence

E-mail correspondence previously circulated:

- Hampshire Police and Crime Panel: Letter plus written evidence request form.
- NFDC: Invitation to *Community Emergency Workshop*. **Cllr Bennett to attend.**
- Pre-consultation for proposed telecommunications site at Broomy Lodge.

To Read

- LCU (January/February 2017)
- LCU (March 2017)

13. Finance

- Non-domestic Rate for Cricket ground - notification received of charge for financial year 2017/18: £675.70. However, Small Business Rate Relief remains so there is nothing to pay.

- Receipts & Payments for February 2017:

	£	£	£
	Net	VAT (recoverable)	
Balance at 31 January			14,019.14
Receipts:			
Standing Order/Direct Debit payments			
Salaries and expenses	445.03		
Cheques to pay:			
Total payments for February	445.03		445.03
Balance after payments			13,574.11

Proposed for payment by Cllr Andrews, seconded by Cllr Cattell and agreed.

14. Village Name Signs

Cllr Hough hopes to have a sample soon.

15. Matters raised by Councillors

- Litter Pick – Agreed 10.00 Sat 1 April. Clerk to organise sacks, litter pickers, gloves and ask NFDC to pick up from The Old Cottage. Cllr Bennett to organise volunteers.
- Dragons Teeth missing on Football Green (between Woodley House and Merrie Orchard) – Clerk to write to Forestry Commission.
- Most of Minstead is now within a nitrate-vulnerable zone.
- Village Fete - date needs to be decided in conjunction with Trusty Servant.

16. Date of next Ordinary Meeting: 3 April 2017 at 19.30

Meeting closed at 21.58