

Ordinary Meeting of Minstead Parish Council

Meeting held virtually

Monday 3 August 2020 at 19.30

Present: Cllrs W Andrews (Chair), S Cattell, H Bennett, G Saunders, R Taylor.

In Attendance: P Osborne (Clerk), Cllr Mrs Andrews (NFDC), 2 public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr G Hough

2. Public Participation Period

Two parishioners explained their applications for planning permissions.

3. Declarations of Interests

Cllr Andrews declared a personal interest as a member of PCC in Item 8, All Saints church.

Cllr Taylor declared a personal but not pecuniary interest as a neighbour in planning applications 20/00024 and 20/00025.

4. To confirm the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6 July 2020

These had been published and were agreed. They would be signed later.

5. Matters Arising

- Insurance cover for volunteers: clarification on this had been sought from the insurance company in April this year prior to renewal of insurance. See Minutes 2020 May item 11. Cllr Taylor stated that this would currently not cover litter picking since at present Forestry England (FE) is not giving permission for any group activities. **Closed**
- Cricket ground – renewal of licence: Forestry England Land Agent has suggested a site visit in September. This was agreed.
- Re-erection of fence around Manor Wood: Now done. **Closed**
- Rubbish bins on Village Green: Community Shop does provide a bin outside for customers but it is suspected that cups are also being deposited in the bins on the Green. The shop should arrange with NFDC for clearance. Cllr Saunders to speak to Community Shop Chairman.

6. Items Ongoing

None

7. Reports from County/District Councillors

Cllr Mrs Andrews (NFDC) reported:

The Council is continuing with the recovery process. It is still expensive to support basic services like refuse collection - extra vehicles have had to be hired to enable social distancing.

Fawley Power Station outline planning application was agreed by both the NFDC and NPA planning committees. Main issues continue to be the probable increase of traffic on the already busy A326. The design of the site itself and the mix of building types received praise for their design.

New NFDC website now up and running. Much clearer and easier to navigate than the old one.

The old NFDC 023-80285588 telephone number is no longer in use. There is a new system: each officer/department will have their own telephone number which will be at the bottom of their emails.

For the time being 023-8028-5000 will be answered by staff and direct you to the department you wish to speak to.

HCC and many other councils throughout Hampshire are suffering huge financial losses due to Covid-19. It is hoped that the government will make further grants to councils in the Autumn. If more money is not forthcoming we could see major changes in how the county of Hampshire is run in the future.

8. Reports from Parish Representatives

- All Saints church: the PCC request Parish Council support for permission to place an 'A' Board on Minstead Village Green promoting the new public Worship Services when these resume on 9th August. The board to be placed 30 minutes before service and removed immediately afterwards. This was agreed.
- NFNPA: all Quadrant-related activity has been centred around the NF Ambassador Scheme, with weekly Quadrant member virtual meetings to keep up to date. No date set for next virtual NE

Quadrant meeting. The Fawley Waterside outline planning permission has been granted by both NFNPA and NFDC subject to completion of an S106 legal agreement, but it might still be called in by the Secretary of State.

- Police:
 - Speedwatch - Although a Speed Indicator Device (SID) costs considerably more than a speed gun, it is educational, whereas a speed gun is not. The Minstead Speedwatch co-ordinator has given a view on not renewing our SID. Cllr Bennett to ask PCSO Williams whether he is of the same view as the Co-ordinator.
 - Verge parking - both FE and police have been active in discouraging drivers from parking on verges. Parishioners should report verge parking to the police.
 - Night-time activity in Football green car park has been reported, Cllr Bennett to advise RPCSO Williams.
- Village Hall now in use and accepting careful bookings.
- Footpaths: Lengthsman has been asked to clear brambles at The Grove and Robins Bush crossroads.

9. Report from Lengthsman

Work done in July:

- Footpaths 5, 9 and Old Court House Footway - strimmed grass, cut back hedges and whips.
- Bus Shelter at Lyndhurst Road/Football Green – painted with preservative.
- Cleared out silt from drain outside Furzy Gardens.
- Strimmed vegetation at Robins Bush corner to improve sight line for drivers entering C17.

10. Planning

Decisions

20/00346 Williams Hill House. Infill carport; alterations to garage doors and windows; external staircase. **Grant**

20/00313 Merrie Orchard. 1no outbuilding; demolition of existing outbuilding, **Grant**

20/00285 and 00286 Stable Block, Minstead Lodge. New toilet block; demolition of existing lean-to toilet (Application for Listed Building Consent). **Grant**

Decision Awaited

18/00954 Petrol Station, Ringwood Road. Single storey rear extension to sales building to provide sandwich bar.

20/00379 Hartings. Replacement outbuilding with storage over; demolition of 4no. existing outbuildings.

20/00409 Stoney Cross Lodge. Installation of replacement sewage treatment system; demolition of existing tank

New Planning Applications

20/00440 Thrifty Beeches. Outbuilding for land management. **Confirmation of support now that the Parish Briefing Note is available. Comment No 3.**

19/00911 Peters Hold Farm. Replacement dwelling; detached garage/carport; associated works and landscaping. (demolition of existing dwelling and annex) (AMENDED PLANS). **Comment No 4 Refuse because it does not comply with the suggestions made by Authority's Officers for mitigating the impact of the appearances and layout of the buildings' impact. Page 18/79 of the National Park Design Guide discusses scale and form. The proposed development has an impact which has not been mitigated by following the recommendations in this guide. It still appears to be a substantial block building and designed not to minimise its impact on the broader landscape.**

20/00422 Merrie Orchard. Single storey rear extension with roof terrace over; single storey infill extension; demolition of lean-to. **Comment No 3.**

20/00024 and 00025 Minstead Lodge. Replacement external roof ladder and Application for Listed Building Consent. **Comment No 3.**

20/00464 Camphill Cottage, Emery Down. Replacement building and greenhouse. **Defer to next meeting since no Parish Briefing is available yet.**

20/00465 Appletrees Farm. Swimsa pool; decking and terrace. **Comment No 3.**

20/00452 The Cottage, Toms Lane Corner. First floor extensions; conversion of attached stables to facilitate additional accommodation; alterations to fenestration; raised patio; demolition of existing porch; associated landscaping. **Comment deferred to next meeting since applicant is amending plans (to reduce size of extension) and will resubmit.**

20/00453 The Orchard, The Grove. Replacement outbuilding. **Defer to next meeting since no Parish Briefing is available yet.**

20/00445 Wembdon. 2No.Carport outbuildings. **Comment No 1.**

Trees

CONS/20/0334 The Thatched House, Blackwater Road. Fell 1 x Ash tree, Prune 1 x group of Birch trees.

CONS?20/0367 The Rise. Fell 1 x Oak, 3 x Beech. Prune 1 x Oak, 1 x Beech.

No comments on these applications.

11. Correspondence

Emails:

- Safer New Forest Conference, 16 November, 08:30 – 16:30, Brockenhurst: **Clerk to book 2 places (Cllrs Bennet and Saunders).**
- LGA Member Code of Conduct consultation: It was agreed that Minstead Council’s *Code of Conduct* should include ‘gifts and hospitality’. Cllrs Bennett and Taylor to draft a paragraph for inclusion.

To Read: LCU (circulated)

12. Finance

- Receipts & Payments for July 2020:

	£	£	£
	Net	VAT (recoverable)	
Provisional Balance at 30 June 2020			9,888.21
Receipts:			
Standing Order/Direct Debit payments:			
SOs: Salaries and expenses	525.67		525.67
Debit card payment:			
1&1: website monthly fee	5.00	1.00	6.00
Cheques/Online payments:			
Total payments for July			531.67
Balance after payments (This balance is in addition to £6,000 reserve)			9,356.54

Payments proposed by Cllr Bennett, seconded by Cllr Andrews and agreed.

13. Election of new councillor

NFDC reported that it did not receive requests from ten electors for an election to take place so Parish Council should now co-opt a member. Pass suggestions to Chairman.

14. Proposed NFPA’s New Forest Ambassador Scheme

The New Forest Ambassador Scheme has been launched by NFNPA to provide advice and practical assistance for those who want to help manage the effects of the increased visitor numbers the New Forest is experiencing at present, whilst staying safe. It was agreed to post details of the scheme on the Parish website along with the revised New Forest Code.

15. Access to properties on A31 at Stoney Cross

No progress. Cllr Andrews to chase those agencies that had responded to his request for help to alleviate the dangers.

16. Council Regulatory documents

These have all been reviewed and any necessary updates agreed.

17. Minstead Resilience

Clerk to thank Esmé and Sarah for doing deliveries to those self-isolating during lockdown.

18. Matters raised by Councillors

- The recent spate of local crime was raised with police, but they disagreed that it was a 'spike'.
- Travellers on A31 at Stoney Cross have now moved on.
- Junior Minstead has asked to use the cricket pitch in early September for a rounders match and picnic. Agreed.
- The fourteen trees for which Council is responsible should be inspected regularly. Cllr Cattell to ask Mr Byford if he would be willing to do this. Council should have a regulatory document on management of its assets, including trees.
- Newsletter this week – will include Housing Association vacancy at Church Close.
- Broadband - Cllr Taylor has contacted the various stakeholders again, and an update from the Verderers was hopeful of progress allowing Openreach to start work in the Forest this week. No dates for work in Minstead are available yet.
- Dragons teeth - Clerk to write to FE to ask for notification of all new dragons teeth to be installed within Minstead civil parish.
- Surface water on Newtown Road still running. Report this when there is rain. It has already been reported to Highways.
- Cllr Andrews has had discussions with Bournemouth Water over subsidence on bend at London Minstead.

19. Date of next Ordinary moved on Meeting: 7 September 2020 at 19.30

Meeting closed at 21.35.