

FAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Fawley Parish Council held on 16 February 2011 at 7.00 pm in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley.

Present: Cllr M Fidler (In the Chair from 7.10 pm), Cllr Mrs M Alderman, Cllr A Glass, Cllr B Hall, Cllr E Holtham, Mrs K Lord (from 7.15pm), Cllr A McDowall (from 8pm), Cllr Mrs L McDermott, Cllr M Palmer, Cllr Mrs S Read, Cllr R Wappet.

Also present: Alison Barnes, Chief Executive of the National Park, (until item 4), Rob Ainslie, National Park Planning Development Control, County Councillor Mrs A McEvoy (until item 11).
11 members of the public.

In Attendance:

Mr S Nash, Parish Clerk

Mrs S Markides HR& Admin Officer

As Cllr Fidler had not arrived at the meeting it was proposed and accepted that Cllr Holtham take the Chair.

- 1. Apologies:** Youth & Community Worker Debbie Elliott. Cllr Mrs Lord had advised that she would be late arriving to the meeting.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** Cllr Wappet declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute 6, Planning, as he is a member of the New Forest District Council Planning Committee. He stated that he would consider the applications on the evidence in front of him at this point in time.
- 3. A presentation from Alison Barnes, Chief Executive of the National Park:** The presentation by Alison Barnes provided the meeting with her first impressions after having now been in post for 8 months.
She thanked members for the invitation to attend the meeting and briefly explained recent events and the difficulties faced by the National Park to protect the New Forest for the future. She hoped that the National Park would be able to listen, support and get the best for the Forest by engaging with people, allowing the public and councils to have a say. This would be done in a variety of ways including drop-ins and working groups.

Cllr Holtham asked for views on the leasing of the New Forest and Miss Barnes advised that Members felt very strongly and that the Chairman of the NFNPA had invited Ministers to visit the New Forest to discuss the consultation on the future management of England's Forest Estates.

Cllr Holtham requested that a letter of thanks be sent from the Parish Council to MP Dr Julian Lewis for speaking up against the recent proposals.

Cllr Fidler apologised for arriving late and thanked her for a most interesting presentation.

4. Minutes:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 8 December 2010 be signed as a correct record.

- 5. Chairman's Announcements:** The Chairman advised that letters of thanks had been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau, Waterside Heritage and Oakhaven Hospice following recent grant payments.

PUBLIC SESSION: Members of the public wished to object against the proposed new play project at Wessex Close. Concerns raised included the positioning of the play equipment they considered to be so close to homes that there would be a loss of privacy, an increase in noise, the possibility of youths causing nuisance, litter problems, damage to the surrounding area, a decrease in the value of properties and the parking facilities available for users of the area. Problems with youths in the area already existed with residents advising that the Police had been unable to assist.

Item 7 was brought forward on the agenda.

7. To consider withdrawal of Wessex Close as a new play project with the exception of the fencing.

Members discussed the concerns of the residents of Wessex Close and advised that it was hoped the costs of fencing would be met from Developers Contributions, which were held by NFDC. A grant application had already been made. NFDC had advised that the play area would be for younger children but it was considered by this Council that perhaps the areas at Newlands and QEII could be upgraded.

RESOLVED: To not proceed with the new play project at Wessex Close with the exception of the fencing.

6. Planning: RESOLVED: To submit the following observations:

a) Parish List:

11/96598

Fawley Refinery, Cadland Road, Hardley, Fawley, SO45 1TX

2.4 metre high additional security fencing and temporary gravel track at Fawley Marine Terminal

(No 3) We recommend permission.

b) New Forest National Park Authority

11/96086

New House Field, Whitefield Farm, Langley, SO45 1YH

Installation of photovoltaic collectors in 12 ha field, associated works and landscaping

(No 3) We recommend permission, as the land would still be used for agricultural use, provide power to the homes closest to it and would not appear to visually impact on the area.

c) New Forest District Council Tree Works

11/0035

3 Hadley Field, Holbury, Southampton SO45 2JX

No 3 Oak – Crown thin by 10%, crown clean, reduce branches to give up to 1.5m clearance over garage roof and reduce branches over rear garden and road by up to 3m

The Parish Council **SUPPORTS** this application subject to the advice of the District Council's Arboriculturist, however it would like to raise a concern regarding the clearance of 3metres roadside which it considered perhaps excessive.

8. An update report from the Youth Worker. (Noted. See attached Appendix A).

9. County Councillor's report: County Councillor Mrs A McEvoy apologised, as she had not prepared an official report as usual due to an exceptionally heavy workload. She did advise of budget difficulties with efficiency savings being made by the County Council to save front line services.

The Clerk asked Cllr Mrs McEvoy if the County Council were also going to take action regarding the proposed leasing of the New Forest. Cllr McEvoy responded that she would be attending a group meeting on Thursday 17 February and that she would raise the matter then.

10. Reports from District Councillors:

Cllr Mrs Lord advised that budgets and proposed cuts were still being considered and asked that if any one had any suggestions they thought could assist, then she would happily pass them on.

Cllr Wappet advised on the NFDC Public Consultation currently being undertaken on where new development needed should be located. Several events were taking place including at Jubilee Hall on 21 February 2011 4.30pm-8pm.

As previously mentioned by the 2 other Councillors, budget cuts and the impact they would have on the Council were awaited, however at present no cuts to front line services were planned.

11. To formally elect Cllr Mrs L McDermott as the Council's Representative to the Charitable Trust Parent Link.

RESOLVED: Cllr Mrs L McDermott to represent the Council on the Charitable Trust Parent Link.

12. Reports from Representatives and Nominees on Local Bodies:

- a) New Forest Consultative Panel: Cllr Holtham had attended the meeting on 6 January 2011 when presentations from Dave Morris of the Forestry Commission on the Annual Management of the Open Forest and Sarah Richards of the New Forest Marque with items of various producers of their New Forest products had taken place. An update on the review of Governance of the National Parks had been received from David Illesley the NPA Head of Policy and Plans whilst Ian Barker, the National Park's Ecologist and Sarah Kelly the National Park's Landscape Officer provided an update of the NF Biodiversity Action plan and its Landscape Strategy.
- b) New Forest Sports Council: No report.
- c) Waterside Citizens Advice Bureau: Cllr McDowall advised of the numbers seeking personal bankruptcy whose cases were being passed on to solicitors, who were then charging large fees. The CAB was hoping to deal with this matter and he would report back to the Council.
- d) New Forest Environmental Liaison Committee: Cllr Fidler and Cllr Mrs Read reported on a recent meeting where specific questions were raised regarding the Waste Transfer Station at Holbury and the regulation changes which had allowed permission to be granted. The operator of the Waste Transfer Station had attended and answered queries at the meeting whilst questions directed to the Environment Agency representative had been requested to be resubmitted via email and responses were still awaited.
- e) Transport Committee: Cllr R Wappet. The Clerk had received an update on the Concessionary fares scheme, which he would forward to all Councillors. Concern was expressed for the future of the Hythe Ferry if it did not remain in the scheme. The Clerk advised that there might be grant funding available to the ferry.

RESOLVED: To send an open letter to the Daily Echo regarding the concessionary fares scheme and the impact it could have on the Hythe Ferry if removed.

- f) Waterside Youth Steering Committee: Cllr Mrs K Lord had been unable to attend the recent meeting, however the Youth and Community Worker had attended and updated the Committee on the activities taking place within the Parish.
- g) Calshot Project: Cllr G Smith was not present.
- h) Waterside Heritage: Cllr E Holtham advised the next meeting was 23 February 2011.
- i) Police Working Party: Cllrs M Fidler, A Glass, L McDermott and A McDowall. No meeting had been held.
- j) Age Concern: Cllr R Lewis was not present.

- k) Calshot Association: Cllr Holtham had been unable to attend.

Cllr Glass left the meeting.

13. Minutes of Committees:

- a) Cllr Mrs Read presented the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 12 January 2011.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 12 January 2011 be received and the recommendations be adopted.

Cllr Glass returned to the meeting.

- b) Cllr Holtham presented the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on 19 January 2011. Cllr Holtham also advised of the hard work and commitment of the members of the Holbury Manor & Warren Copse Conservation Group.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on 19 January 2011 be received and the recommendations be adopted.

- c) Cllr Mrs McDermott presented the minutes of the Policy, Resources & Personnel Committee meeting held on 2 February 2011.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Policy, Resources & Personnel Committee meeting held on 2 February 2011 be received and the recommendations be adopted.

Cllr Wappet left the meeting.

- 14. Annual Financial Risk Assessment:** This has been completed by the Officers of the Parish Council and is presented for the recommendations and comments of Councillors

RESOLVED: To accept the Annual Financial Risk Assessment which the Officers of the Parish Council had completed (see attached Appendix B).

Cllr Wappet returned to the meeting.

- 15. Nomination of two Councillors to complete the Internal Audit Review Checklist:**

RESOLVED: Cllr McDowall and Cllr Mrs Read to complete the Internal Audit Review Checklist.

- 16. Calendar of Meetings 2011/12 to be agreed:**

RESOLVED: To accept 11 May 2011 as the date for the Annual General meeting of the Parish Council.
To represent to the AGM the calendar of meetings for 2011/12.

- 17. Community Award for local school children:**

RESOLVED: To support in principle a Community Award for local children. The Youth Worker to liaise with schools and report back to Council at a later date.

18. Correspondence:

a)

i. Planning Inspectorate: Notice of Appeal Application 10/95992 Little Toller, Chapel Lane, Blackfield, Fawley, SO45 1YX (NB: Proposed legal agreement. House; bungalow; access; demolition of existing). Noted.

b) Available from the office upon request: Community Action Hampshire Action News Update, Local Councils Update January/February 2011. Noted.

19. Date of next meeting: 13 April 2011.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

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Chairman