

## FAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Fawley Parish Council held on Wednesday 10 December 2008 at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley.

Present: Cllr M Fidler (In the Chair), Cllr L Dunsdon (Vice-Chairman), Cllr Mrs M Alderman, Cllr A Glass, Cllr B Hall, Cllr E Holtham, Cllr R Lewis, Cllr Mrs K Lord, Cllr Mrs B Maynard, Cllr A McDowall, Cllr Mrs S Read, Cllr G Smith, Cllr R Wappet.

### **In attendance:**

Mrs M A Hitch, Clerk to the Council.

Mr K Lobley, Centre Manager.

Mrs S Markides, Clerical Assistant (from item 91).

**Also Present:** Inspector K Leckey, Hythe Police, Police Community Safety Officer Bev Hayes, Youth Worker Debbie Elliott (until item 97), 4 members of the public.

- 88. Apologies:** Cllr Mrs S Courtney, District Councillor Mrs A McEvoy.
- 89. Declarations of interest.** Cllrs Dunsdon and Wappet declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 93 Planning, as they are members of the New Forest Planning Committee. They stated that they would consider the applications on the evidence in front of them at this point in time. Cllr Lewis declared a personal interest in planning application 08/93228.
- 90. To sign the minutes** of the meeting held on 15 October and the Extraordinary meeting held on 29 October 2008.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of 15 October 2008 meeting be signed as a correct record.

Regarding the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on 29 October 2008 Cllr Holtham stated that he wished it to be recorded that he strongly objected to the proposal (item 85) regarding the post of the Centre Manager becoming redundant and that any proposal regarding the staff in future should be conducted in a proper legal manner taking into account appropriate employment law. Cllr Glass seconded this, which was then unanimously voted in.

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

A local resident and youth spoke on behalf of the young people in the village who had suggested that the park at Church Lane have bigger goal posts, a covered seating area and a small lighting facility for night use. Cllr Glass advised that the Parish Council had previously supported this proposal. Cllr Mrs Lord suggested that they could liaise with the Youth Worker and Cllr Mrs Read advised that Hardley School Council invited recommendations for the parish.

Another member of the public requested to keep the Police Community Safety Officer in the parish and thanked them for the excellent job they were doing. It was considered that their presence was a visible deterrent and had improved the community. Officer Hayes was praised for her approachability and communication with local people and the success of the Fawley Fun Day, drop-ins and beat surgeries held at Gang Warily was noted. Officer Hayes provided a brief outline of her work in the parish during the last 2 months, which included reports of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour and extra patrols provided, neighbourhood disputes, parking issues, traffic patrol during the Solent half-marathon, drop-

ins to the Colours Youth Club with cycle safety a topic and working with the housing association which had resulted in new fencing for part of Heather Road.

Inspector Leckey reported that the part funding of the Community Safety Officer guaranteed her full time presence in the parish and highlighted the advantages of partnership working. He hoped that a two-year agreement at £6000 per year could be reached. A member of the public considered that the area was under policed without a village bobby, as in the old days.

- 91. Chairman's Remarks.** The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from HM Revenue & Customs regarding the VAT liability of the new QEII building. It advised that enquiries were taking place and a response hoped for shortly.  
A Non-Domestic rate demand notice had been received from New Forest District Council for the QEII Community building and it was noted that although rates were included in the 2009/10 budget these were not budgeted for in the current year. Payment to be authorised but also to be challenged.  
The grand opening of the QEII Community building was to take place on Saturday 17 January 2009 at 11am and planning was in progress, any suggestions from members to be presented to the Centre Manager before 19 December 2008.
- 92. Referred from Policy, Resources and Personnel Meeting of 26 November 2008:** Members discussed an offer of £6000 funding plus free accommodation for a Police Community Safety Officer. Some considered this to be double taxation although supported area policing and the service provided. Other members considered this to be money well spent and again praised the work undertaken.

**RESOLVED:** To agree to a 2-year contract to provide accommodation and part fund a PCSO at a cost of £6000 per year and to review this in 2010. A recorded vote was taken

For: Cllrs Fidler, Dunsdon, Lewis, Lord, McDowall, Maynard, Read and Smith.

Against: Cllrs Alderman, Glass, Hall, Holtham, Wappet.

Cllr Lewis left the meeting.

- 93. Planning: RESOLVED:** To submit observations on planning applications, as follows:

**a) New Forest District Council:**

08/93228

7 Faircross Close, Holbury, Fawley, SO45 2HR

Use ground floor as flat.

**No 1** We recommend permission but would accept the decision reached by the District Officers under their delegated powers.

Cllr Lewis returned to the meeting.

08/93327

39 Cadland Park, Holbury, Fawley, SO45 2PF

Two-storey side extension.

**No 1** We recommend permission but would accept the decision reached by the District Officers under their delegated powers.

08/91938

Windermere, The Pentagon, Fawley, SO45 1EE

Detached garage.

**No 1** We recommend permission but would accept the decision reached by the District Officers under their delegated powers.

08/93409

23 Nicholas Road, Blackfield, Fawley, SO45 1YS

First floor side extension.

**No 1** We recommend permission but would accept the decision reached by the District Officers under their delegated powers.

- 94. County Councillor's report:** Councillor Dunsdon reported that a meeting had recently taken place regarding the school crossing at Blackfield Primary. A feasibility study was to be undertaken to assess the best way forward. Options discussed included the moving of the crossing with the possibility that a nearby tree may have to be removed, the trimming of the hedge in Pavilion Gardens to enable better pedestrian access and the starting up of a rota system for a "walking bus". A questionnaire had been sent to parents of children at the school and the Centre Manager had been present at the meeting to offer the car park at Gang Warily as an alternative place to walk to school from. The school was also in the process of joining the "20 is Plenty" campaign and grants were available within this project. Another meeting was arranged for 6 February 2009.

Councillor Dunsdon also reported on the fluoridation debate where the vote was overwhelmingly against fluoride being put in the water supply, as it concluded not enough research had been done.

**95. Reports from District Councillors.**

Councillor Mrs Lord reported that although New Forest District Council will be affected by lower interest rates Health and Leisure services would not be affected for the next financial year.

Councillor Wappet reported that every effort was being made to get social housing into the supply. Recycling targets were being met and repairs to the sea wall at New Milton would be going ahead.

Councillor McEvoy sent a report to the meeting. See attached Appendix A.

- 96. Provision of and responsibility for future maintenance of street lighting at the Newlands Park site:** Youth Worker Debbie Elliott reported that a new quote for street lighting had been received, valid until March. Members agreed that the future upkeep and maintenance would be the responsibility of the Council as owners of the land. Further investigation on the types of lighting available such as solar panels was requested. Cllr Mrs Lord suggested contacting the local Youth Parliament member to see if any funding could be available.

**RESOLVED:** The Youth Worker to investigate further the lighting options available at Newlands Park and to report back to the meeting of the Public Services committee on 21 January 2008.

**97. An update report on the Fawley Youth Trust Working Party.**

Councillor Mrs Lord reported on the meeting held on 9 December. A competition had been held at Hardley School with the winning idea a drop in place for young people to be able to go. The Centre Manager reported that Blackfield and Langley Football Club were happy to assist the project with 2 hours per week during their contracted hours at Gang Warily, which would provide partnership working for Youth Worker Debbie Elliott. Concerns were raised over funding plus the need for all workers to be Criminal Records Bureau checked.

**RESOLVED:** To investigate further the facilities required and the costs involved in providing a drop in café at Gang Warily and to report to the next meeting of the Amenities committee on 7 January 2009. All involved to be CRB checked.

**98. Reports from Representatives and Nominees on Local Bodies:**

- a) Community First, New Forest: Cllr Mrs Maynard reported that no meeting had taken place.
- b) New Forest Consultative Panel: Cllr Holtham had been unable to attend.
- c) New Forest Sports Council: Cllr Lewis had been unable to attend and wished to resign as representative due to the distances involved.
- d) Waterside Citizens Advice Bureau: Cllr McDowall reported that the Bureau was seeing an increase in users due to the credit crunch.
- e) New Forest Environmental Liaison Committee: Cllr Fidler reported. See attached Appendix B.
- f) Transport Committee: Cllr Wappet reported that there would be no change in the bus service currently provided and although there was an increase in users in some areas, in other areas figures remained static. Rail use had increased this year and branch line funding was to be brought forward.
- g) Waterside Youth Steering Committee: Cllr Mrs Lord reported that funds were available for Youth Opportunity Projects. The Youth text was to be re-launched with young people to be kept informed by text of events within the area. A Young/Old interaction project was to take place where older members of the community entered schools to inform the children what their life was like when they were younger. Colours Youth Club was to hold a Christmas party, a rock festival and a panto. Wheelchair basketball had proved to be a big hit not just amongst the disabled but with the able bodied playing and being able to appreciate what it was like to be wheel chair bound. Waterside Tennis Club had received lottery funding which should make it easier for people to play there.
- h) Calshot Project: The meeting had been cancelled.
- i) Waterside Heritage: Cllr Holtham reported that no significant finds had been made during the recent archaeological dig there.
- j) New Forest Beach Hut Owners: See attached Appendix C. The Clerk to forward the report to Cllr B Rickman asking that he reconsider the decision that Fawley Parish Council cannot be represented in this group and if this request is refused, NFDC to be asked to form a Calshot Beach Consultation Committee to consist of representatives from all users of the beach.
- k) Police Working Party: Cllr A Glass reported. See attached appendix D.
- l) New Forest Association Local Councils: Next meeting 18 December 2008.
- m) Age Concern: Cllr R Lewis had recently attended a meeting where there had been a tour of the new Horrill Centre. The Dibden Purlieu shop was doing well. Minutes of the November meeting attached as Appendix E.
- n) Prime Liaison: No meeting had been held.

**99. Minutes of Committees:** To adopt the Minutes and to accept the recommendations of the Committees:

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Amenities Committee 5 November 2008 be signed as a correct record.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Public Services Committee 12 November 2008 be signed as a correct record.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Policy, Resources and Personnel Committee 26 November 2008 be signed as a correct record.

**100. A report from the Finance Officer relating to the budget proposal:** The report from the Finance Officer was noted.

**101. Provision of insurance cover for playground equipment within the Parish:**

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk to obtain clarification of the length of time of the quote for playground equipment insurance from the insurance company and if financially viable to proceed.

**102. Review of mooring fees at Ashlett Creek:**

**RESOLVED:** To keep charges for mooring fees at Ashlett Creek under review.

At this point of the meeting the Centre Manager reported that he had received a request from the Waterside After School Club to use Gang Warily as their new venue. Members were pleased to hear that the centre was able to provide this service.

**103. RESOLVED:** To give the Centre Manager delegated authority to proceed as long as it was financially viable.

**104. It was RESOLVED:** that the meeting be extended beyond 9.30 pm for one half hour.

**105. Council budget for 2009/10:** Members discussed the budget and the reduction seen in council reserves. It was proposed that an additional £10,000 be placed into reserves but this proposal was rejected, as it would mean an increase in precept of 7.5%.

**RESOLVED:** To receive and approve the Council budget for the financial year 2009/10 (see attached Appendix F) and to precept the sum of £459,457.00 from New Forest District Council.

A recorded vote was requested.

For: Cllrs Fidler, Dunsdon, Alderman, Wappet, Hall, McDowall, Lewis, Smith, Maynard, Lord and Read.

Abstaining: Cllrs Glass and Holtham.

**106. a) For Response:**

i) NFDC Draft working document Carbon Footprint Report: Invitation to suggest any additions by 12 December. Noted.

ii) Holbury Manor Pond: To decline offer of invitation from Greenspace Mapping to include this site on their dataset.

iii) Community First New Forest: Invitation to Equality & Diversity workshop. Lyndhurst Community Centre, Tuesday 24 February 2009, 10 am–3 pm. Cost £45.00. Noted.

iv) New Hope Community Church: Request for meeting. The Centre Manager to contact the Church and arrange a meeting.

**b) For notification:**

i) Legal & Democratic Services: Advice that members of the NFDC Standards Committee may attend a council meeting in the coming months. Noted.

ii) HCC Consultation-Hampshire's Draft Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12. Draft document and relevant consultation documents available on line at [www.hants.gov.uk/cypp](http://www.hants.gov.uk/cypp) or for paper copy telephone 01962 845304. Noted.

iii) Renda Road/Hobson Way: Advice of result of traffic speed checks which indicate generally, a high level of compliance. Noted.

iv) HCC: Definitive Map Modification Order 2008. Notice of Confirmation. Previously reported.

v) Post Office: Advice of last posting dates for Christmas, 2<sup>nd</sup> class 18 December, 1<sup>st</sup> Class 20 December, and Special Delivery 23 December 2008. Noted.

**c) Available from the office:** Community Action Hampshire, Action News Update Dec 08, Local Councils Update Nov 2008, Public Sector & Local Government Building, Nov & Dec 2008, Local Council News Autumn 2008, Campaign to Protect Rural England, Fieldwork December 2008, SEERA, Update on the South East Plan, October 2008, Hampshire Action Team, New Forest Directory of Highway Works December 2008. Community Action Hampshire, Communique December 2008, Leaflets from Planning Aid South, Engaging Communities in Planning, British Red Cross advertising specialised and adapted garden tools, Age Concern, Older People's Area Link.

**Exclusion of public and press.**

**107. RESOLVED:** That, considering the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public, including the press, be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

**108. Request from member of staff relating to employment following reaching retirement age.**

**RESOLVED:** To accept the proposal from the staff member that a reduction in working hours take place after reaching retirement age.

In view of the limited amount of time available before the meeting must be closed it was proposed that the following items be discussed at an extraordinary Parish Council meeting to be held on 17 December 2008, 7 pm at Jubilee Hall.

**Review of staffing structure and the recommendations of the Gang Warily Working Party.**

**Notes and recommendations of a meeting of the Grievance Panel held on 28 November 2008.**

The meeting closed at 9.52 pm.

.....  
Chairman