

FAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Services Committee held on Wednesday 22 July 2009 at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley.

Present: Cllr E Holtham (In the Chair), Cllr R Wappet (Vice-Chairman), Cllr L Dunsdon, Cllr M Fidler, Cllr B Hall, Cllr Mrs B Maynard.

Also Present: Cllr Mrs M Alderman, Cllr A Glass, 3 members of the public and a member of the press.

In attendance:

K Lobley, Centre Manager.

Mrs S Markides, Clerical Assistant.

1. Apologies: Cllr A McDowall.

2. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Wappet declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 5 Planning, as he is a member of the New Forest Planning Committee. He stated that he would consider the applications on the evidence in front of him at this point in time. Cllr Dunsdon declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 16, as he believed this was connected to his employer. He stated he would leave the meeting at this point.

3. Minutes:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings held on 27 May 2009 be signed as a correct record.

PUBLIC SESSION: A member of the public reported that a rumour was circulating regarding the possibility that the opening hours of Jubilee Hall may be curtailed in the near future. He asked members present if they were able to confirm if this was the case. The Chairman replied that the subject was not on the agenda but it would be coming to committee soon. A report was being prepared and whilst he understood that the matter might have been discussed at New Forest District Council, at present it had not as yet been presented to Council therefore it was premature to respond. A request was made for public consultation to take place before any decisions were taken, members replied that the concerns raised were understood and comments would be taken on board.

Further concern was raised regarding the advertising of the facilities available at Jubilee Hall when previously it had been suggested that this was considered to be of high importance. It was pointed out that Gang Warily Fitness Suite Members were able to use the squash courts free of charge as part of their membership benefits and that this was not reflected in Jubilee Hall figures.

4. Chairman's Remarks: The Chairman reported that a sign had been erected on Calshot Beach, which stated that the beach had sudden drops, strong under currents and submerged objects. He requested a letter be sent to New Forest District Council saying that the sign was considered to be misleading.

RESOLVED: To write a letter to NFDC regarding the newly erected safety sign at Calshot Beach and raise concerns that it may be misleading.

Fawley Falcons Football Club had requested permission to place a storage container at the QEII Recreation Ground. Members concluded that careful consideration was needed before a suitable position was chosen.

RESOLVED: To agree in principle to Fawley Falcons Football Club placing a storage unit at the QEII Recreation Ground subject to suitable planning permission being obtained by the club. Cllr Fidler to liaise with the Centre Manager on the positioning of the unit.

5. Planning:

a) Tree Works

09/0155

1 Forest Edge, Fawley, Southampton. SO45 1FN

7 x birch trees – Crown reduce by 20%, crown thin by up to 10% and reshape.

1 Maple tree – Crown reduce by 20%, crown thin by up to 10% and reshape.

Members support the application and would even support the removal of one or two of the birch trees if so required subject to the advice of the District Council's arboriculturist.

6. To receive reports for the following:

a) Ashlett – Cllr Hall reported that a large hole outside the Jolly Sailor had been repaired. Members were advised that the boat recently impounded from the hard had been claimed by the owner and costs of £322.00 had been paid. A request had been received to upgrade a mooring to enable a 24 ft boat to be moored

RESOLVED: To refuse request for upgrading of mooring as the size limit for boats was agreed with the Harbour Board and could not be altered.

A member had been approached to see whether it was possible to dig out silt and mud at Ashlett and so improve conditions at the Creek. Cllr Hall was requested to see if this was possible and report back to the next Public Services Committee on 16 September 2009.

b) Play Areas– Cllr Fidler & Cllr Walker: see attached appendix A

c) Footpaths – Cllr Holtham reported that long awaited work on Footpath 501 was to take place on Monday. An article had appeared in the Herald to encourage people to walk lesser used footpaths more often.

d) Holbury Manor & Warren Copse – Cllr Holtham: see attached Appendix B.

Cllrs Holtham and Glass to accept an invitation to visit Studland Common, Milford on Sea on behalf of the council to see if any useful information could be obtained to assist in the maintenance of the copse. It was requested that a letter of thanks be sent to the previous owner and also to advise him that he has the permission of the Council in future to collect dead wood from the copse. Cllr Holtham was thanked for his tireless efforts in seeing the project completed.

e) QEII – Cllr Fidler: see attached Appendix C.

It was also reported that an incident at the QEII involving 200 plus people (many in their mid 20's as well as teenagers) had resulted in the local Police Community Support Officers being left for some time without reinforcements. Concern was raised regarding policing levels in the area.

RESOLVED: A letter to be sent raising concerns over the levels of policing and the safety of officers to the Chief Constable of Hampshire Police, Inspector K Leckey, Hythe Police, Goff Beck, Crime and Disorder Portfolio Holder NFDC and Dr Julian Lewis MP.

f) Gang Warily – Cllr Holtham No report.

g) Allotments – Cllr Holtham reported there might be a possibility of obtaining more land for allotment use. A suggestion had been made that part of Fawley School field could be used for allotments now that football was no longer played there. The condition of the site had not been investigated, this to be reported to the next meeting of the Public Services Committee.

7. **Wessex Close Play Area:** Cllr Holtham advised the meeting that severe delays had been experienced regarding the fencing of the area. Cllr Wappet in his capacity as District Councillor offered to contact the NFDC officer dealing with this to see if he could expedite matters.
8. **Update regarding traffic issues recently raised:** Members were advised of the progress made following the recent Traffic Management meeting, which included zig zag lines outside Blackfield Primary School. A Speed Indicator Device was to be deployed at Hampton Lane (Thornbury Avenue) week beginning 27 July 2009. A Highways Maintenance Survey had been received and Cllr Wappet was to complete this on behalf of the Council. Members were also advised that a request by a young bus passenger for the bus to stop at Langley had been refused even though the timetable stated this service was available.

RESOLVED: The Chairman to write a letter to Solent Blue Line raising concerns that this service had been denied and if no response received to forward the matter to Colin Wright, Hampshire County Council Transport Section.

9. **Jet Ski activity at Calshot Beach:** Members were advised that letters of complaint regarding the use of jet skis at Calshot had been received and evidence was provided dating back to 2004 that NFDC had discussed the matter but were awaiting a report from ROSPA, yet nothing had been resolved.

RESOLVED: To forward correspondence received and raise concerns regarding Jet Ski activity at Calshot Beach to New Forest District Council. To seek further advice from the Royal Yacht Association and the National Dock Board.

10. **Report regarding energy supply to the QEII Pavilion:** The Centre Manager reported that larger than expected electricity costs had been received for the pavilion.

RESOLVED: To contact the architect and raise concerns over the cost of energy supply to the QEII Pavilion before the warranty period expired. This to be reported to the Policy, Resources and Personnel Committee meeting on 5 August 2009. Cllr Hall offered to assist with the analysing of figures obtained.

11. **Training of Groundsman to operate a Chainsaw from Rope and Harness:**

RESOLVED: To train Groundsman to operate a Chainsaw from Rope and Harness with the proviso that if he should leave the employment of the Council costs to be repaid on a sliding scale. Training costs to be met from budget code 7714.

12. **Correspondence:**

a) For response:

- i. Hampshire Association Local Councils: To consider Paper Map Copying Licence. Unsupported.
- ii. NFDC: To consider funding future SID sleeves. Unwilling to consider funding.
- iii. HCC: Hampshire Minerals & Waste Development Framework: Consultation on Integrated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report 13 July-17 August 2009. Noted.
- iv. NFDC: Request for support for The Hedgerow Harvest Project. Noted.

b) For information:

- i. NFDC & New Forest Community Safety Partnership: Keeping unwanted visitors out. Noted.
- ii. Fawley Parish Church: Letter of thanks for support in allowing annual Parish Summer Fete and for recently donated raffle prize. Noted.
- iii. New Forest District Council Address Management: Result of consultation for proposal to name the access road leading from Exbury Road The Driveway, majority not obtained and the

address remains as Exbury Road, Blackfield. Cllr Dunsdon had been requested by a parishioner to enquire how the decision had been reached and the Council repeated its support for the change of name.

iv. HCC Countryside Service: Acknowledgment of letter sent to retiring Rights of Way Officer. Noted.

c) **Available from the office on request:** Community Action Hampshire, Action News Update July 09 and Communique June 2009, Exxon Mobil Newsletter July 09, Tree Warden Update Summer 2009, NFDC Hometalk Summer 09, National Grid Gridline Summer 09, Hampshire Now Summer 09, Local Councils Update July 09, Community First New Forest Summer 09, New Forest Today Summer 09, NFDC Forward Plan of Key Decisions 1 Aug-30 Nov 2009.

Exclusion of public and press.

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.

13. **Work Placement:** Members were advised that work experience was required by a young man with good practical skills.

RESOLVED: To offer a work placement on a trial basis. The Centre Manager and Cllr Hall to liase and ensure insurance cover was in place.

14. **Update on Newlands Park Land Lease:**

RESOLVED: The Centre Manager to confirm a meeting with the interested party and advise councillors accordingly. To inform and further update the Parish Council meeting to be held on 19 August 2009.

15. **Renda Road Play Area:**

RESOLVED: To contact the architect to consider amending the proposed plans with the suggestion that he also consider design class 3 but to continue obtaining planning permission as per decision reached at Policy, Resources and Personnel Committee meeting on 1 April 2009.

Cllr Dunsdon left the meeting.

16. **Lease of Land at Gang Warily:** The Centre Manager reported that the expected lease of the land at Gang warily had fallen through, however another interested party had been found but they required only a third of the land available. No other enquiries had been received although currently the land was been used as a road stone storage area.

RESOLVED: The Centre Manager to complete negotiations to lease one third of the land at Gang Warily to a local firm at a cost of £3000 + vat per annum. Progress to be reported to Parish Council meeting 19 August 2009.

The meeting was also asked to consider three quotes received for purchase of a John Deere Compact Tractor. It was agreed to accept the quote from New Forest Farm Machinery for an ex demonstration John Deere Compact Tractor at £10,495 which was within budget restrictions.

17. **Date of next meeting:** 16 September 2009.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.23 pm.

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Chairman