

## FAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Fawley Parish Council held on Wednesday 17 August 2011 at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley.

**Present:** Cllr R Wappet (In the Chair), Cllr A Glass (Vice-Chairman), Cllr A Alvey, Cllr B Coyston, Cllr M Fidler, Cllr O Foster, Cllr B Hall, Cllr E Holtham, Cllr T Joof, Cllr C McDowall (from item 4), Cllr P Pearce-Smith MBE, Cllr S Read, Cllr K Smith, Cllr B Thorne.

**Also present:** PC A Woodhead, Giv Thornton, Community Development Officer Radion Housing, (until item 5), 1 member of the public (until item 5) and 1 member of the press (until item 17).

### **In attendance:**

Mr S Nash, Parish Clerk until item 16.  
Mrs S Markides, HR & Admin Officer.

- 1. Apologies:** Cllr L McDermott.
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Wappet declared a non-prejudicial interest in minute 5, 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. Minutes:**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2011 be signed as a correct record.

### **4. Chairman's Announcements:** The Chairman made the following announcements:

HCC have advised that as part of the programme of works being carried out by Operation Resilience road resurfacing will be undertaken along Rollestone Road, Holbury from Park Lane to Long Copse.

The works are programmed to start on 22 August 2011 and are expected to last for 5 days. In order to undertake the works safely it will be necessary to close the road between the hours of 08:00 and 17:00hrs.

Information signs advising road users of the impending works will be erected this week. A letter is currently being delivered to local residents.

Seadown Vets had contacted NFDC Environmental Services to advise of a dog, which may have been in the pond at Gang Warily and appeared to be possibly suffering from Blue Algae poisoning. However an initial inspection had not shown any indication of the algae in the pond and test results were awaited. Members should be aware of a possible impact on the Hovercraft rally.

**PUBLIC SESSION:** PC Woodhead had been invited by the Clerk to attend the meeting and introduce himself to the new councillors of the Council. He is the local beat officer for the Fawley/Blackfield/Calshot area and works closely with PC Yates who is the beat officer for Holbury and Hardley.

He advised that currently major crime levels were low though there had been some low level incidences such as neighbour disputes, anti social behaviour and minor public disorder offences taking place.

On the parish boundary with Netley View, arrests had been made connected to arson offences. Beach huts at Calshot had been fitted with alarms and the beat surgeries held there recently had been well attended. The problem of inconsiderate parking had been tackled in Southbourne Avenue and a speed enforcement exercise was due to take place on key local roads soon.

PC Woodhead confirmed to Cllr Smith that he patrolled the village of Fawley on a regular basis including by the church. Cllr Pearce-Smith asked whether the Police still responded to alarms going off as he had been advised this did not happen. PC Woodhead asked that the public were advised to call in to report alarms going off especially in suspicious circumstances. Any information such as vehicle details and descriptions were always useful.

Cllr Glass was advised that beat surgeries were advertised on the police website and these were held in various places such as Costa Coffee in Hythe. A monthly surgery took place at the Heather Road Community Centre whilst the Newsletter was now published bi-monthly.

Members thanked PC Woodhead for his report and he left the meeting.

A member of the public presented the following:

#### Petition

I am a grandmother who has lived in the area for over 40 years. I have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. When they were small they liked nothing better than going down to the beach to play in the water. When Totton & Eling Council erected a water park in Eling Recreation Ground I started taking my grandchildren there. However it is quite a journey from here by car and even longer by bus and obviously costs money. Then I thought if Totton & Eling can have 2 water parks, one in Totton the other in Eling, why haven't we got one here? There are play parks, skate boarding, golf and football facilities but the one area not covered, is for toddlers, youngsters and disabled children.

I know the Council are thinking of another play area but I know from experience that if young children enter a play park and there are teenagers sitting on the swings etc they will not make use of the facilities. Likewise if several mothers with young children turn up they have to take turns to use the swings.

I was advised to get up a petition, which I have done and targeted local schools and a local nursery, I also petitioned in Hythe and Calshot. I asked people as they were signing the petition if they would prefer another play park and the answer was a resounding "NO". Comments made included – "We have enough play parks in the area".

"It's about time the Council did something for younger children."

"What, another play park for the teenagers to monopolise?"

The water park was supported 100%; support for another play park was 0%.

I contacted Totton & Eling Council who gave me details of the company who erected their water parks and the information has been passed on to Steve Nash. The original quote for the Eling water park was £136,00, obviously with inflation it will be higher but their price is fully inclusive and includes all groundwork, pipe work, installation and all necessary training of staff.

I have contacted Esso who have shown an interest (again Steve Nash has a copy of the email) and I believe extra funding can be obtained from other sources. A water park can be enjoyed by crawling babies; toddlers, older children and most importantly disabled children can wheel themselves through the jets of water. All children, what ever age, can have fun without fear of falling or banging into equipment.

Cllr Coyston asked how many signatures were on the petition and was advised 500 adults had signed representing 1000 children.

#### Community Plan/Quality Council

Giv Thornton advised of her community development work with Radion Housing and her experience consulting with residents and working on Parish Plans, which might link into agenda item 14, Quality Parish Council Status. She offered assistance with consulting local groups and collating the information received.

**5. Planning:**

**a) Parish List: RESOLVED:** To submit the following observations:

11/97494

Eastcot Close, Holbury, Fawley, SO45 2FG

Removal of Condition 6 of Planning Permission 10/95778 (Level 3 code for sustainable homes)

**(No 4)** We recommend refusal as we originally objected to this application and consider that the plot is not big enough for the proposal.

11/97338

Waterside Sports and Social Club, 179-181 Long Lane, Holbury, Fawley SO45 2PA

Siting of portable cabin

**(No 3)** We recommend permission with the suggestion that a 5-year time limit be imposed.

11/97466

Penlaurel, Thornbury Avenue, Blackfield, Fawley, SO45 1YQ

Conservatory

**(No 1)** We recommend permission though we are concerned about the size of the conservatory, however we would accept the decision of the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers.

11/97481

Trees, Chapel Lane, Blackfield, Fawley, SO45 1YX

Two-storey dwelling (Extension to time limit of planning permission 08/91836)

Cllr Wappet advised that he had had some involvement with neighbours and officers connected to this application, however he would remain in the meeting during the discussion but would not comment.

**(No 5)** We are happy to accept the decision of the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers.

11/97489

185 Long Lane Holbury, Fawley, SO45 2PA

Retention of 2 non-illuminated panel signs; 1 non-illuminated fascia sign; 1 telephone window vinyl (Application for Advertisement Consent)

**(No 1)** We recommend permission as we supported this application previously but we would accept the decision of the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers.

**b) New Forest National Park Authority:**

11/96597

Eaglehurst Lodge, Stanswood Road, Fawley, Southampton SO45 1BT

Single-storey extension

**(No 3)** We recommend permission, as the plot appears large enough.

**c) New Forest District Council Tree Works:**

11/0240

2 Nelson Close, Holbury, Southampton SO45 2JG

T1 – Oak – Crown reduce maximum 2 metres

T2 – Birch – Crown reduce maximum 2 metres

The Parish Council supports this application subject to the advice of the District Council's Arboriculturist.

**6. County Councillor's report:** Not present.

**7. Reports from District Councillors:**

Cllr Glass advised that he was settling in as a District Councillor and had been involved with car parking and forthcoming charges for this.

Cllr Alvey had been appointed to the Appeals Committee and had recently heard a case. He had attended a briefing by the Chief Constable on policing proposals for the area, which had advised that the same number of police officers would be on the streets despite the budget cuts. Cllr Wappet had also been involved in the recent case heard by the Appeals Committee.

Cllr Holtham had been unable obtain information on the numbers of affordable housing within the parish and Cllr Wappet offered to ask for this on his behalf.

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

- a) New Forest Consultative Panel: Cllr E Holtham attended the meeting on 7 July where there was an update on the Forestry Commission restructure due to the budget reductions and a update on the Independent Panel on Forestry where they have agreed to visit the New Forest before they make a decision for the future. Julie Stubbs gave an update on the work of the Land Management Advice Service.  
Under AOB the cutting of verges was raised and Cllr Holtham had said that the A326 had been cut too early in May as the ragwort has since grown up, a better solution would be a later cut in July. He had also pointed out that the ragwort had not been pulled on the A326 for 3 years.
- b) New Forest Sports Council: Facilities Manager Gang Warily. No report.
- c) Waterside Citizens Advice Bureau: Cllr A McDowall reported the bureau was continuing as usual despite cuts.
- d) New Forest Environmental Liaison Committee: Cllrs Glass and Thorne. Cllr Glass had attended a meeting but was going to query if this was quorate.
- e) Transport Committee: Cllr R Wappet advised there had not been a meeting. Following reports in the press relating to the rescheduling of the No 9 service he had contacted HCC who had confirmed that the service would be maintained at its current levels. However it would not be entering Heather Road due to a decline in passenger numbers (making it uneconomic to do so) and due to concerns regarding anti social behaviour. A request for buses to include Lepe in their route and whether the New Forest sight seeing bus could also visit Lepe to be sent to HCC Transport Department.  
Cllr Holtham advised that he had reported the lack of timetables once again for the 5a service at Calshot and was hopeful these would be in place soon.
- f) Waterside Youth Steering Committee: Cllr P Pearce-Smith MBE had attended a meeting and was concerned that the committee appeared to concentrate on the Hythe area only.
- g) Calshot Project: Cllr K Smith advised that the meeting was next week. A container for storage had been requested but he would update further after the meeting. The Clerk advised that there was a possibility of 8 allotments becoming available to the Parish Council.
- h) Waterside Heritage: Cllr B Coyston advised the meeting was 24 August 2011.
- i) Police Working Party: Cllrs A Glass, P Pearce-Smith MBE and A McDowall. No meeting had been held. The Clerk to contact Inspector Reading and arrange a date perhaps with other parishes present.
- j) Age Concern: Cllr K Smith: Meeting had been postponed.
- k) Calshot Association: Cllr O Foster was still trying to find children for a taster day at the Calshot Activity Centre, cost £10. Hardley School had volunteered to pay for some children to attend if they qualified for free school meals.
- l) Parent Link: Cllr T Joof had been unable to attend the meeting.
- m) Neighbourhood Focus Group: Cllr A Glass had not received any information from the group.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Amenities Committee meeting held on 6 July 2011 be signed as a correct record.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on 20 July 2011 be signed as a correct record with the exception of item 10 and item 12.

**Item 10 Confirmation of the purchase of a Verti Drain.**

Resolution to now read: To not proceed with the purchase of a Verti Drain machine until the grant monies are confirmed and until a response is received from NFDC providing a value for the half share of a Verti Drain part owned with Dibden Golf Course. Cllr Wappet to contact NFDC to request this valuation.

**Item 12 Upgrade of CCTV at the Groundsman Compound.**

Resolution to now read: That the quote from Complete Security be accepted and installation to go ahead as quickly as possible. The funds for this to be taken from the Renewals Contingency Fund budget code 9989.

The Clerk advised that the Scouts had requested permission to connect their building to the alarm system at the compound and that they were in the process of obtaining quotes.

Members then discussed item **14 of the Public Services minutes Harrier Way Open Space and Play Area**. The Clerk advised a gate is installed but not a self-closing gate. Members suggested that District Councillor Michael Harris be asked to contact NFDC with regard to this matter.

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Policy, Resources and Personnel Committee meeting held on 3 August 2011 be signed as a correct record.

10. **Petition received for Water Park:**

**RESOLVED:** To accept the petition for a Water Park and refer this item to the Amenities Committee meeting to be held on 31 August 2011. Cllr Thorne to contact Totton & Eling Town Council to obtain further information.

11. **Confirmation on the disposal of Renda Road Play Area:** Members considered that there had never been a decision made to dispose of the play area; only to obtain outline planning permission to improve the marketable value if, in the future a decision was reached to sell. Maintenance and use of the site was discussed and it was noted that incidents of anti social behaviour had occurred there.

**RESOLVED:** To take no further action, to not dispose of the Renda Road Play Area at this time.

12. **Adoption of Complaints Procedure:** Ofsted had recently inspected the activities on offer at Gang Warily and had noted there was no complaints procedure in place for any children's activities that the Parish Council ran.

**RESOLVED:** To adopt the Complaints Procedure but with a new title to reflect it is a complaints procedure for the children activities within the parish and not for the Council.

- 13. Formal adoption of Play Strategy and Priority of Work:** Members queried whether Developers' Contributions could be used for the refurbishment of play areas and requested that Renda Road be added to the schedule.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Wappet, as District Councillor to request clarification from NFDC on the use of Developers' Contributions and when this is received to reconsider the Play Strategy and Priority of Work.

To add the Renda Road Play Area to the Fawley Parish Council proposed work schedule for play provision 2011/12.

- 14. Quality Council Status and to note the Open Public Services White Paper:**  
Recommendation: That we proceed with an application for Quality Council Status for which the Clerk will seek external funding but that Fawley Parish Council contribute up to £3500 from reserves to cover any shortfall in the funding obtained. Matter referred from Policy, Resources and Personnel Meeting 3 August 2011.

The benefits of becoming a Quality Parish Council were queried and a member considered that at times, the Council did not provide the services requested by residents so did not meet the requirements to become a Quality Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that consultation with residents would raise the standard of services provided and ensure that those services were what residents wanted. Access to additional funding would be available and the offer of help with the process, made earlier in the meeting, meant that the reserves of the Council may not have to be used.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk to arrange for members to meet with a larger Council that had achieved quality status to discuss the advantages and disadvantages with them and to place this item on the agenda for reconsideration at the next Parish Council meeting to be held on 12 October 2011.

- 15. Use of Parish Council reserves for Staff Training and Criminal Records Bureau Checks:** Members were advised of the amount of training undertaken by staff and the need for further training. CRB checks also needed to be renewed.

**RESOLVED:** To use up to £3500 from reserves to allow further staff training and CRB checks to take place.

- 16. To consider a way forward regarding the site of the Former Public Conveniences, School Road, Fawley:** It was noted that residents were concerned whether the building, which had been sold by NFDC, would be allowed to deteriorate (planning applications had been turned down) and therefore become an eyesore and a safety concern in the village.

**RESOLVED:** To seek advice from NFDC Environmental Health Dept regarding the maintenance of the former public conveniences in School Road, Fawley and to enquire if they were able to advise of any future outline plans.

- 17. The Business Rate Consultation:** Members noted that a consultation paper proposing to return (eventually) full business rates to principal councils had just been published.

- 18. Free use of gym facilities for volunteer staff:**

**RESOLVED:** To allow volunteer staff free use of the gym facilities at off peak times only, equivalent to the number of hours volunteered.

**19. Correspondence:**

**a) For response:**

i) Age Concern New Forest East: Invitation to AGM Tuesday 27 September 2011 12.30pm, Marchwood Village Hall. Noted.

**b) For information:**

i) The Planning Inspectorate: Notice of appeal dismissed. Planning Application 10/96442 66 Hampton Lane, Blackfield, Southampton SO45 1WN, 2 detached houses with access from Woodland Gardens. Noted.

**c) Available from the office:** Here and Now, The Magazine of the Parish of Fawley, Community Action Hampshire, Action News Update August 2011, Local Councils Update July & August 2011. Noted.

**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.

**20. Staffing matters:** This item did not need to be discussed.

**21. Date of next meeting:** 12 October 2011.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.26pm.

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Chairman