

FAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Public Services Committee held on Wednesday 20 July 2011 at 7.00pm in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley.

Present: Cllr E Holtham (In the Chair), Cllr B Coyston (Vice-Chair), Cllr T Joof, Cllr R Wappet, Cllr M Fidler, Cllr B Hall.

Also Present: Cllr A McDowall, Cllr K Smith, Cllr P Pearce-Smith MBE.

In attendance: Stephen Nash, Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies: Cllr A Glass.

2. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Wappet declared a non-prejudicial interest in Item 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. Minutes:

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings held on 25 May 2011 be signed as a correct record.

PUBLIC SESSION – There were no members of the public present.

4. Chairman's Remarks: Cllr Holtham handed out magazines, which have been printed about the Lepe to Calshot project and invited people to read it. He also advised Councillors of the work being done to remove the bookshelves from inside the Council Chamber and all agreed it would be nice to have more room and have some additional plug sockets installed.

5. An update Police Report: Officers were operationally committed and unable to attend the meeting but PC Woodhead had forwarded the following update.

- 1) There had been some minor incidents on Heather Road and Mill Pond of Anti Social behaviour between neighbours and these were being dealt with.
- 2) There are plans for some patrols in the Parish in the near future to deal with some speeding issues.

Cllr Holtham had attended the Arson Forum earlier that day and advised the committee that a number of incidents were occurring on the edge of the Parish including cars being burned out at Forest Front, Netley View and a number of gorse fires.

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

a) Parish List

11/97180

9 Falcon Fields, Fawley, SO45 1DE

Detached Garage

No (4) We recommend refusal as the development does not mirror local distinctiveness and would be further out of character.

11/97186
Fisticuffs, 17 Wychwood Drive, Langley, SO45 1ZT
Single storey rear extension
(No 3) We recommend permission

11/97279
2 Parkhill Close, Holbury, Fawley, SO45 2JE
Attached house (extension to time limit of Planning Permission 08/92169
(No 1) We recommend permission but would accept the decision reached by the District Council's Officers under their delegated powers.

11/97241
25 Springfield Avenue, Holbury, Fawley, SO45 2LN
Single storey rear extension, rear roof light
(No 3) We recommend permission

b) New Forest National Park Authority

11/96556
Calshot Activities Centre, Jack Maynard Road, Calshot, Southampton, SO45 1BR
Retention of team swing, leap of faith seesaw
(No 3) We recommend permission

c) New Forest District Council Tree Works:

11/0207
19 & 20 Hartsgrove Avenue, Blackfield, Southampton SO45 1WG
T1 Oak reduce limbs over 19 Hartsgrove Avenue by up to 2m
T2/3 Oak, reduce and re-shape by 2-3m and crown clean
(No 3) We recommend permission subject to the advice of the District Council's arboriculturist.

7. To receive reports for the following:

- a) Ashlett: Cllr Holtham reported that following a complaint, he had arranged for the signs around the green and the Creek to be cleaned and tidied up as they were dirty and an eye sore.
- b) Play Areas: Cllr Coyston provided the committee with a comprehensive report on the all the play areas with detailed comments on each site. Councillors congratulated him on his thorough report, which they felt, was well done. Cllr Coyston also felt that Renda Road Play Area was in such a poor state following acts of vandalism that it should be closed down until repairs could be carried out.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that the Renda Road play area be closed immediately until it could be made safe for families.

- c) Footpaths: Cllr Holtham advised Councillors that some work needed to be undertaken on Footpath 44 where it enters the churchyard to level the path after the church organist had fallen there.
- d) Holbury Manor & Warren Copse – Cllr Holtham advised Councillors that last weeks walk around the Manor had gone well and another was being planned for staff. He also advised that the Clerk had applied for grants toward the pathway at the Manor and we will hear about that later in the year.
- e) QEII – Cllr Fidler advised Councillors that the site was in good repair and had been very well used the previous weekend by Fawley Falcons Football Club who had played a tournament at the site with a large number of teams playing all day.
- f) Gang Warily – Cllr Holtham had nothing to add to the report on Gang Warily but Councillor Hall said he was concerned that the climbing wall had no safety surface under it. The Clerk

advised Councillors it was not a requirement but that we are currently looking at the safety surface replacement at a number of sites and if it was possible we could look at the provision under the wall also.

g) Allotments – Cllr Holtham advised Councillors that one allotment holder had been evicted for failing to maintain his site and that allotment had been let to a new resident and 2 other allotment holders had apologised for letting their allotments fall into a poor state and were addressing this.

h) Newlands Sub-Committee - Cllr Holtham and the Clerk advised Councillors of meetings which had taken place with the Rugby club and of the works planned to infill the heights on Newlands for some additional income.

- 8. A report on Staff Training and Grants & Sponsorship:** The Clerk advised Councillors that funding had been obtained from a number of sources in support of the Parent Link activities to the tune of £14,600. Some staff training had been arranged for a member of the Grounds teams who will undertake his Turf Management NVQ this year as an on line programme which is free.

9. Report from Head Groundsman:

The Head Groundsman report has highlighted a need for some additional training for staff to use the tractor mounted hedge cutter and that until someone has attended that course he has recommended the use of a local contractor to cut back the hedges requiring urgent attention. Cllr McDowall voiced his concern that we ensure contractors are properly qualified and insured to carry out the work and Cllr Holtham confirmed that these are contractors already known to us who we have used before.

RESOLVED: The Head Groundsman to employ a local contractor to cut the hedges at Polymereuropa and Gang Warily for a maximum of 3 days.

10. Confirm the purchase of a Verti Drain:

Cllr Holtham advised the committee that the Clerk had applied for a grant from RDP to purchase a Verti Drain at a cost of £20,000. If successful we would need to purchase the Verti Drain first and then reclaim the funds from RDP.

RESOLVED: The Head Groundsman be given permission to purchase a Verti Drain and that the cost initially comes from Plant Purchases budget code 7403.

11. Consideration of a substantial increase to allotment fees, in addition to annual Parish increase.

Cllr Holtham advised Councillors that he had not yet received a response from the National Association and asked that this be deferred to a later meeting.

12. To consider upgrade of CCTV at the Groundsman Compound:

Cllr Holtham outlined the previous attempted break in at the site and the risk to the tanks and machinery. He presented quotes for the CCTV and asked Councillors to consider the options. Cllr Pearce-Smith asked that he be provided with the date of the last attempted break in so he could check his CCTV for the police.

RESOLVED: 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 Equipment Renewals budget code 8404.

13. To consider the creation of byelaws for the Parish and costs involved:

The Clerk advised Councillors that the costs for this are dependant on the number of byelaws created and length of time spent on this. The Clerk suggested that he obtain a number of byelaws used by other Parish Councils and that Councillors select from this list. Cllr Fidler

suggested one byelaw should be no golf allowed at QE2 Recreation Ground.

14. Harrier Way Open Space and Play Area:

Cllr Holtham advised Councillors that this had still not been handed over to us as there is still some outstanding work to be done, including a new gate, removal of rubbish and trees as previously agreed by Council and recommended refusal until this was resolved. He also reported gaps appearing around the edge of the safety surfaces that could be a hazard. The Clerk suggested that given the length of time this play area had already taken in being handed over that nothing should delay the hand over anymore and that subject to the gate being installed we should proceed with the takeover.

RESOLVED: That the Harrier Way play area be taken over once the gate is installed with no more delay, but that NFDC be asked for some additional funding to allow us to take care of the remedial work.

15. Repair of benches within the Parish:

The Clerk informed Councillors that a number of benches in the Parish were missing some Wooden slats and that we should take care of their repair as they are an eye sore and peoples perceptions are that they belong to us and we are doing nothing about it. Cllr Holtham suggested that we only carryout work on the bench belonging to Fawley Parish Council and that NFDC be told to repair those belonging to them. Cllr Hall reminded Councillors that no work had yet been done on the installation of a bench in the bus stop at Fawley Square following requests from Mr Doug Eaglan.

RESOLVED: That we proceed with the repair of the three benches discussed including the installation of a bench inside the bus stop at Fawley Square.

16. Correspondence:

a) For response

i. NFDC Licensing Services: Minor Variation Premises License (S41A)
Holbury Inn, 63 Long Lane, Holbury, Southampton, SO45 2LG

AGREED

b) For information:

i. The Parish of Fawley: Letter of thanks for donation to summer fete draw

NOTED

c) Available from the office upon request: Community Action Hampshire, Action News Update July 2011.

NOTED

17. 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.

Staffing Matters: RESOLVED: There being no issues to discuss Councillors moved to next item.

12. Date of next meeting: 14th September 2011

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.12 hrs.

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Chairman