

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting Held On Wednesday 30th October 2013 at 7pm
In the Committee Room at the Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards

Members Present: Cllr M Dyer, Chairman
 Cllr R Adkins Cllr R Dudman Cllr M Hockley Cllr Mrs A Warman
 Cllr J R Bryan Cllr B Goringe Cllr C House Cllr R Warman
 Cllr J Crow Cllr N Hindmarch Cllr Mrs J House Cllr G Willetts

In attendance: Mrs A Jacobs, Clerk, County Councillor Peter Richardson and four Members of the Public.

232. Apologies: None all present.

233. Pecuniary Interests: None

234. Public speaking - None

235. County Councillor Peter Richardson: Cllr Richardson had circulated his report prior to the meeting a copy of which appears as appendix A with these Minutes in the Minute Book.

Dropped Kerbs A31 Cllr Richardson confirmed that this had now been signed off from Highways Agency and the Officers were seeking a gap in their work schedules to get the work done as soon as possible. A great deal of work had been put in by the Officers to achieve this.

Questions to Cllr Richardson:-

1. Cllr N Hindmarch asked if Cllr Richardson was happy with the final report from the Boundary Commission. Cllr Richardson responded that he was in attendance as a County Councillor.

The Chairman brought the election of a Complaints Committee forward.

236. Appointing a Complaints Committee to handle a complaint against a Member of the Council :-

The Chairman reminded Members of the guidance received from the Monitoring Officer and the DAPTC. Anyone who could be considered to have issues or a close association with either the complainant or Councillor is advised not to be a member of the Complaints Committee or be present when the matter is considered. Delegated powers for the specially formed Complaints Committee were agreed.

Nominations were then sought, individually proposed, seconded and approved by Council.

RESOLVED: The Complaints Committee will be Chaired by Cllr R Adkins and consist of Cllr J Crow; Cllr R Dudman; Cllr B Goringe; Cllr C House; Cllr R Warman and Cllr G Willetts.

RESOLVED: The Complaints Committee will put their findings direct to the Monitoring Officer as a formal complaint, if found. In addition the Committee may instruct interim measures to prevent further damage to the reputation of the Council. The Committee will inform the Complainant and Councillor of their decision at the conclusion of their deliberations.

The Committee will meet at the end of this Full Council meeting.

237. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 2013 pages 34-37 were agreed as an accurate record and signed. Proposed by Cllr J House, seconded by Cllr C House. Cllr R Warman abstained the rest were in favour.

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 2013 pages 34-37 were agreed as an accurate record

238. Matters arising from the Minutes noted:-

1. FOI requests sent to EDDC and DCC re unused Reserves of section 106 Money 20.09.13
2. Letter from the Monitoring Officer confirming that an investigation is now to be undertaken in respect of the official complaint made by the Council

3. Police bikes – both Homewatches have agreed to match fund. West Moors are considering but will request logo of support on the bikes.
4. Folly Farm meeting 18.09.13 was not held a new date is to be arranged.

239. Minutes of the following Committee Meetings were adopted:-

Meeting of Amenities held on 28th August 2013 proposed by Cllr R Bryan seconded by Cllr Mrs A Warman. Agreed unanimously.

240. Recommendations to Full Council from Committees:-

From the Finance Committee held on 2nd October 2013:

- (i) Min. 215. Reserve Holdings: It is important that it is clear to all Members what money is earmarked and for what purpose. The Committee noted that the unallocated reserve currently stands at £20996.07, as at 31.08.13. The Committee Recommend that the Council note only the unallocated reserve fund sum on a quarterly basis. Proposed by Cllr Ms J House, seconded by Cllr R Bryan. Carried by 11 in favour and two abstaining (Cllr C House and Cllr R Warman).
RESOLVED: That the Council note only the unallocated reserve fund sum on a quarterly basis.
- (ii) Min 221 (vii) New request from Victim Support for a grant of £100. The Committee noted that there was no budgetary provision, 26 residents in the Parish had been helped by the Charity last year. The Committee recommend to full Council that a grant of £100 is awarded to Victim Support. Proposed by Cllr M Hockley, seconded by Cllr R Bryan, agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: that a grant of £100 is awarded to Victim Support.
- (iii) Min. 221 (viii) The Committee recommend to full Council that a sum of £250 be put as a Contingency figure in next year's precept. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr J Crow. Agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: that a sum of £250 be put as a Contingency figure in next year's precept on grants.

From the Amenities Committee held on 2nd October 2013:-

- (iv) Lengthsman Contract – After monitoring and review the Committee recommend all work has been carried out satisfactorily and recommend that the Council confirms the contract and reviews it annually. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House, agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: To confirm the contract with Terrafirma Maintenance for the Lengthsman Service for one year reviewing annually.

241. Correspondence to note:

1. EDDC Agendas
2. Email sent to Cllr J Wilson following media reports of a consultation on revised flight paths
3. DCC notification of temporary closure of footpaths & bridleways for Sunseeker Rallye 18th to 19th October.
4. New Forest Local Plan Consultation deadline 15.11.13 emailed to all
5. DAPTC training opportunities emailed to all
6. DAPTC email advising that District Councils may not pass on the Council Tax support grant. Advice is to delay setting the precept for 14/15 until confirmation received.
7. Email from a resident complaining about the increase in telegraph poles. It has been explained that this is a safety issue and to avoid power cuts. The increase in number is temporary as BT need to adjust their connections separately so there is a delay in co-ordination between the two companies.

242. District Councillors' Update:

Cllr Mrs A Warman reported: A transportation meeting was held last night followed by a Seminar with the Police. Ashley Heath Roundabout improvements are at the top of their list for work. The Police are looking at savings and there is a consultation on a proposed reduction in office opening hours. They are trying to keep people informed. The seminar included the Chief Fire Officer who explained that they are working at improving information and preventing fires by involving youngsters. There have been some issues with Verwood Warding following the final report from the Boundary Commission, they have also stuck with the name "St Leonards".

Cllr R Dudman: Nothing further to report.

243. Parish Councillors' Reports -

1. DAPTC – Cllr N Hindmarch reported: Eastern Area AGM 16.10.13 Some 680 additional Superfast broadband cabinets are to be installed in the County. Some enterprising farmers have been putting in their own microwave but if done they could be cut out of the superfast project. Buses – ..

The service to Tower Park was of priority and will be kept going as youngsters will not be able to travel there without the service. Parishes will be invited to make a contribution to these services. Volunteers to clean ditches, road signs etc, will be given special training and £500 can be put into the precept for this purpose. Ferndown may rejoin DAPTC Cllr Hindmarch hopes to attend the DAPTC full AGM on 02.11.13 in Dorchester where the guest speakers are the CE of the Air Ambulance, Chief Fire Officer and Police Commissioner, Members were asked to let Cllr Hindmarch know if they have any questions for them.

2. Homewatch – no meeting
3. ETAG Meeting – Cllr G Willetts reported: Notes on the Navitus Bay presentation had been circulated by email. Dorset Wildlife Trust and ETAG are not convinced of the research work done by Navitus on the protection of specific species. Up to now they have not been including these bodies on information. We believe that they left knowing that they will need to do more work to avoid a catastrophic impact on birds and the environment. ETAG asked why so many turbines and why so high but no evidence was presented to support the number. Cllr Mrs Warman asked if it was true that there was no requirement to reinstate the land after the trenching? Cllr Willetts advised that this was not true. Natural England has lost some of its independency and are no longer the voice of conservation they once were but they still protect these special habitats and will be pushing for reinstatement. Cllr Hockley advised that he had raised the issue about the height of the wind turbines and whether there had been any Marine consultation as this is a busy shipping channel and flight path. Cllr Willetts responded that this was not brought up and the damage to the Marine bed does not appear to have been explored, it appears that there will be significant damage. Cllr Bryan reported that at the meeting he attended Navitus led them to believe that Natural England were not against the project and did not require them to reinstate the heathland. Cllr Willetts responded that this could not be correct. Natural England would insist on restoration but it will take 20 years to recover. Cllr Bryan reported that there has been some testing of windflow but this was done off the Isle of Wight which is some distance from the site, There had also been no work done on tornados which go into that area.
4. Youth Club – A Letter received from Rebecca Knox of DCC was noted. The Club is now open and some volunteers have been found to assist the new Leader they have already cleaned up the Club. Last week five youngsters attended which is positive. They still need a Chairman, Committee and to redo the rules.

244. Village Hall Grant for 2014/2015 – A request for a grant for Core Funding for the Village Hall of £10,000 for 2014/2015 had been received supported by the Annual Accounts. Cllr House moved that the request should be put to the Finance Committee meeting on the 6th November and put as part of the main precept discussion due to the size of the grant and the restraints on the budget. He stressed the need to ensure value for money and his concern was that this was being rushed. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs J House. The motion failed 2:7 with three abstaining (Cllr G Willetts, Cllr M Hockley and Cllr R Bryan).

Cllr R Warman explained that the Treasurer Mrs Frecknall was present and it was unfair to ask her to attend yet another meeting, the appropriate papers had been circulated with the agenda and this was the opportunity to discuss it. The Council had no further questions.

Cllr G Willetts proposed that a grant for Core Funding for the Village Hall of £10,000 for 2014/2015 should be given, seconded by Cllr R Adkins. The motion was carried by 11:2 (Cllr Mrs J House and Cllr C House against).

RESOLVED: That a grant for Core Funding for the Village Hall of £10,000 for 2014/2015 be put in the precept.

245. Allotments – The Clerk reported that the clearance work had been cancelled on the day scheduled, at her request, following receipt of a letter of objection explaining that all the neighbours were against the proposal. The letter was from the owner of the top part of the lane and as access was crucial to the project, the decision to cancel the work to prevent inflaming an already volatile situation was taken. There will be some cost as the equipment was already in the Parish. It was noted that the Clerk had confirmed the project in writing to the five residents affected following the visits from Cllr Mrs Warman at which time the response from all of them was positive. To date, of the five letters written there is only one objection with three not responding even though SAE envelopes were included. A complaint has also been received however the author has made it private and confidential to the Chairman so no action can be taken until this is lifted. In the circumstances the project was best to be held in abeyance until further information can be obtained. Cllr R Bryan asked that no action was taken until his return but pointed out that

access is not an issue as the Landowner donating the land has full access rights within his deeds. Cllr Mrs Warman informed the Council that she was no longer prepared to be on the Committee and asked Cllr Bryan to thank the Landowner for not withdrawing his offer.

8pm Cllr R Bryan excused himself from the rest of the meeting due to another commitment.

246. Navitus Bay – A Brief response to the consultation has been submitted. Further consultations still to come.

247. Flood consultation Response - has been submitted, consultation closes on 31.10.13. The response method requires each individual point of flood to be logged and precise details given. The Clerk has processed a number of flood points. Cllr Hockley asked whether Purple Haze had been included as he had raised concerns about the impact on the West Moors ditch. The Clerk pointed out that the consultation was for actual flooding points not those anticipated in a project which has not yet happened so it had not been included.

248. A31 Safety – Members received information on a serious accident 3.10.13 at the Garage access to the A31. Members were asked to consider submitting representations to Highways Agency and Hampshire CC for action. This was discussed. It was noted that the Council had already written in support of a safety review and in support of Ringwood Town Councils proposals.

249. Boundary Review – Final Recommendations are to rename the Ward as St Leonards with three District Councillors jointly covering the Ward. Noted.

250. Exchange of information:

1. Next meetings: Full Council on 27th November 2013 at 7.00pm
2. Cllr Mrs A Warman reported that there will be an EDDC Planning meeting in respect of a major solar farm application including a site visit on Monday.
3. Cllr Mrs Warman reported on antisocial behaviour at the Village Hall, the Police were called and a lot of broken glass was found.
4. Cllr Crow and Cllr N Hindmarch gave their apologies for Planning 31.10.13

251. Complaint about correspondence from a Councillor:

RESOLVED: The Council resolved to exclude the Press and Public with the exception of the Complainant to consider a written complaint about correspondence from an individual Member of the Council.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr C House. All agreed with the exception of Cllr M Hockley who abstained.

252. Complaint – See confidential Minute final Minute 252/2013

Members not on the Complaints Committee left the room.

The meeting closed at 8.06pm

Chairman