

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting of the Full Council
Minutes of the Meeting Held On Wednesday 29th October 2014 at 7pm
in the Committee Room at the Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards

Members Present: Cllr M Dyer, Chairman

Cllr R Adkins

Cllr B Goringe

Cllr N Hindmarch

Cllr C House

Cllr Mrs J House

Cllr G Willetts

Present: Mrs A Jacobs Clerk and fourteen Members of the Public.

233. Members resolved to suspend standing order 3L following the amendment to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, dated 6th August 2014. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J House, seconded by Cllr B Goringe agreed unanimously.

234. Apologies were received and accepted from: Cllr R Bryan; Cllr J Crow; Cllr R Dudman;; Cllr M Hockley; Cllr Mrs A Warman and Cllr R Warman

235. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest: None.

County Councillor: Cllr Richardson gave a short update on his report a copy of which appears as Appendix A with these Minutes in the Minute Book. Cllr Richardson confirmed his support for the Ashley Halt refurbishment Project. Further reviews are being undertaken at the County Council as a further 68m has to be saved this year, it is hoped that most redundancies will be voluntary.

A Member of the Public asked about the scheduled refurbishment of the A338. Cllr Richardson confirmed that the work is scheduled for September 2015 to March 2016, some disruption is going to be inevitable as it will be reduced to single carriageway in both directions during the period.

Cllr Hindmarch apologised for his previous remarks about the roundabout sponsorship schemes which had now been proved to be most successful and the money used to maintain them.

7.10pm Cllr G Willetts – arrived and apologised he had been delayed at a prior commitment.

236. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on - The Minutes of 24th September 2014 – pages 34-36 were agreed unanimously as an accurate record. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House.

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th September 2014 – pages 34-36 were adopted as a true and accurate record.

237. Matters arising from the Minutes:-

1. Community Governance Review – response despatched 15.10.14
2. Maintenance of the bridleway to Oaktree – Contact has been made with the Premises Management Team of Homes and Communities who have taken action and a helpline number has also been provided for further issues.
3. Request for directional signs – Post office declined, The Village Hall signs declined unless the Highways Authority give permission for the sign from Woolsbridge Road/A31 junction.
4. Stours and Moors River invitation 28th Nov at the Hub, Verwood
5. JHQ Chairmans AGM report
6. Email complaining about bonfires during the hot weather. Newsletter item in March to ask residents to be more thoughtful will be compiled.
7. Navitus Bay Notice of Hearings
8. Invitation to Remembrance day Service Sunday 9th November starts at 10.45am sharp.

238. Adoption of Minutes - Approved Minutes of the following Committee Meetings were adopted:-

1. Planning Committee held on 28th August 2014 pages 30 & 31 and 18th September 2014 pages 32 & 33. Proposed by Cllr R Adkins, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House. Agreed unanimously.
2. Amenities Committee meeting 4th June 2014 pages 5 & 6. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House. Agreed unanimously.
3. Finance Committee meeting 4th June 2014 pages 7 & 8. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr Mrs J House. Agreed unanimously.

The Chairman closed the meeting to hear from representatives of the Tennis Club. Members of the Club presented a petition with 63 signatures requesting the council's consideration of their request for additional land to use for minicourts and MUGA. Ann Warne the Club Secretary spoke and explained their proposal. A copy of her statement is attached with these Minutes in the Minute Book as Appendix B. Three different options were put forward and discussed and questions asked of the public.

7.32pm The meeting was then reopened for the debate.

239. Tennis Proposal for Minicourts – Members discussed the request from the Tennis Club for additional land to use for Minicourts and MUGA.

- Option 1 – Both the Club and Members felt was unrealistic, it would be too close to the Bowls entrance and Members had concern over fire evacuation routes of both the Bowling Club and Village Hall. Drainage routes were also an issue.
- Option 3 for the courts to the North of the existing courts would be ideal as far as the Club was concerned but would take up even more of the open green area of the recreation ground. This was rejected.
- Option 2 was favoured by the Club but would mean relocating the basketball hoop. Members were concerned about the level of public access available. The current access could be one of several routes either between the new area and existing courts or around the back of the MUGA if sited at the Lions Wood end. There was concern about the impact of noise and lighting on nearby residents. The Club explained that new designs in MUGAs meant that noise was not an issue. The courts would have to be fenced due to dog fouling and potential damage to the special surfacing but the other side of the MUGA would have a tarmac area and be open to the public. The Council would have to cover public liability through the Council policy as the Club insurance only covers Members playing. The Clerk will make enquiries. Floodlights could be restricted on hours of use and a nominal charge made to the public for this if used. Option 2 had two possible locations for the MUGA

Option A - was facing the play area

Option B was parallel to the Lions wood boundary.

Option B was felt to be too close to the property in Lions Wood, there was concern about noise and lighting issues. Care would be needed to ensure provision for disabled access through the site.

Members discussed the various possibilities of Option 2. There was concern about issues in relation to the Village Green status as further land would be restricted to the public if the proposal went ahead. The advice sought from the Open Spaces Society was careful not to give a definitive view. Members were concerned about the potential for a legal challenge. The only option put forward which does not encroach on the registered green area is option 1. The Club already has a considerable footprint and is restricted to Members only. The mini-courts would not be a free facility available to all. It was noted that the Tennis Club whilst successful has 240 Members and the Council needs to consider the rest of the Parish of around 7,000. The Clerk reminded Members that it had been agreed to consult with neighbouring properties on any major changes affecting the Parish Lands.

A motion to refuse the proposal was put and failed on the casting vote of the Chairman.

Cllr Hindmarch proposed that the Council carries out further investigation to gauge neighbours opinion to give the Tennis Club an opportunity to take on board the comments with another scheme. This was seconded by Cllr Goringe and the motion carried 4:3. The Tennis Club confirmed that they would wish to consult on Option 2.

Representatives of the Club left the meeting leaving 2 Members of the public remaining.

RESOLVED: the Council will carry out further investigation to gauge neighbours opinion.

240. Correspondence to note:

1. EDDC Agendas
2. Stour and Moors River Event invitation
3. Scouts JHQ Chairmans report for AGM
4. EDDC Anti-social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 – Public Spaces Protection Order – Letter asking for information on Parish owned areas and an invitation to a future meeting with EDDC date to be arranged.
5. Email from resident thanking EDDC for the care on verge cutting to protect the orchids
6. Request from resident to remove the cycle barriers on the footway between Shelley Close and Bracken Close. – Request sent to DCC

241. Village Hall –

- i) Members received and noted the August and September Minutes
- ii) Village Hall Grant request for 2015/2016 – Members received a request for a grant for Core Funding for the Village Hall for £10,000 for 2015/2016. This was discussed. A proposal to award a grant of £5,000 was made based on the fact that the work to extend the hall for storage had not been given permission of the Parish Council and planning permission had not been granted. The proposal failed as the Chairman used his casting vote. Further discussion took place on the work planned. After further discussion Cllr Adkins proposed that a grant of £10,000 was awarded this was seconded by Cllr Goringe the motion failed 2 in favour and 4 against. A sum of £2,000 had been identified for car park surfacing work which some Members felt was unnecessary and Cllr Mrs Warman had declared her intention of awarding her £2,000 District Councillors grant to the hall. Cllr Mrs J House proposed that a grant of £8,000 was provided for in the precept for 2015/2016, this was seconded by Cllr C House and the motion carried by 4:2 with Cllr Goringe abstaining.

RESOLVED: To award a grant of £8,000 to the Village Hall Management Committee for 2015/2016.

8.25pm Mrs Frecknall, Treasurer of the VHMC left the meeting.

242. District Councillors' Update:

Cllr M Dyer reported: There is an issue with the DWP a consultation is about to be launched which has a proposal to charge residents to use Recycling centres. Members expressed concern about the proposal which they felt would exacerbate the existing fly tipping issue in this area and lead to more bonfires.

243. Parish Councillors' Reports -

1. DAPTC – Roundabout sponsorship has proved very successful. Most of the County seems pleased with the work on rectifying potholes. There is concern about the additional responsibilities passed on to Councillors and a number are considering not standing again. AGM 8th November, Cllr Hindmarch will attend and put the motion as requested. Cllr Hindmarch was asked to pass on the Council's concern about the amount charge for training events increasing to £50 which is on top of the annual fee.
2. Homewatch – Cllr Goringe and Cllr Mrs House had recently took part in a community speed watch event. A number of residents will be getting a letter for exceeding 36mph in the 30mph zone in Sandy Lane. If caught again the Police visit and if a third the offender will be charged.
3. ETAG – The Chairman of ETAG, Hilary Chittenden has done a considerable amount of work on the proposal for the Hospital site and the large development planned for Wimborne. The meeting in December will be looking at the Core Strategy. A consultation is due on the Stour and Moors rivers.
4. Allotments update – A report had been circulated to Members.

244. External Works at the Scout Hut –

- i) The Clerk met with the Tree Officer and has checked the lease. The lease only says that the Scouts must not fell or lop trees and must maintain hedges. There is a duty on a landowner (the Council) to maintain trees on their land. The Tree Officer has advised that the tree subject of the recent complaint should be dead wooded and crown lifted. All Oak trees on this site (even the small ones) should be retained. They are happy for the Silver Birches to be felled. We must also ensure root protection if any work is to be carried out which includes not suffocating the Oaks by piling on additional soil in the tree root zone. A cost to carry out the tree work has been obtained. Members discussed the work required. It was agreed that the essential work to the two large Oaks should be carried out but the rest of the work should be deferred until the Car Park Working Party have met with the Scouts and established what work was put forward for their recent grant. The Clerk will try to recoup the cost of the work to the tree overhanging from 30 Lions Wood from the owner of the property but proceed with the work as soon as possible for safety reasons. Proposed by Cllr C House, seconded by Cllr B Goringe, agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To sanction the work to the two large Oaks one in the compound and the other overhanging the hut.

- ii) Members of the car park working party will arrange a meeting with the Scouts as quickly as possible

245. Waste Proposals – Minute 192.2 refers – Members to discuss reports of suggested changes to Waste disposal in the County. Members to await launch of official consultation.

246. Navitus Bay – Nothing to report at present. The Clerk will put this on the next agenda.

247. Planning Committee referred the following items for discussion and decision:-

- i) Min. 169: Community Planning: It was determined that as the Parish Council now has the Power of competence, rather than updating the Parish Plan a Community Plan should be developed to run in parallel with the Parish Plan. There will be a cost involved that cannot be fully quantified at this stage. This was discussed it was agreed that this should wait until Cllr Bryan was present and further information was available. Cllr Mrs House and Cllr Adkins are looking at putting a proposal together to update the Parish Plan.
- ii) Min 170. Improved Liaison with EDDC Planning: Having considered the letter from Mr Giles Moir it was felt that his proposals set out a workable scheme for re-consultation on amended plans. Members felt that this was a worthwhile objective, the Clerk will put it on the next agenda for further discussion.

248. Ashley Heath Halt Enhancement Works – Members received a report on the meeting a copy of which appears as Appendix D with these Minutes in the Minute Book. This was discussed. It is hoped that this will also be a memorial to the work of Brian Kliger. Cllr Dyer is allocating his District Councillors grant of £2,000 and Peter Richardson is allocating the majority of his £5,000 grant. The Finance Committee will consider making provision for use of the Lengthsman to ensure the maintenance of the project and include it in the rolling programme. The Clerk will review what commitment was previously made. An opening ceremony will be considered once all agreed. Members are requested to consider whether they would be minded to provide Lengthsman provision to maintain the proposed works to the sum of 1 full working day per year to assist with the sustainability of the project.

249. Parish Office Door – The Clerk reported that whilst removing and altering the door to the cupboard would only cost £70 on further investigation the door to the Committee room is connected to the alarm system which means to remove and replace will involve calling out the alarm company who will charge £120 for the first half hour and £60ph thereafter, unless timed into the work it would potentially mean two visits at this cost. The VHMC had not

indicated any issue with the door being removed. Members agreed to remove the door but it would be stored by the VHMC.

250. DCC Electoral Review Consultation – emailed to all – This was discussed Members had no comment.

251. Footway access issues: Request forwarded from DCC to put in pedestrian drop crossings Sandy Lane and St Ives End Lane. Cllr House had passed on a report to support the requests which the Members agreed with.

252. It was resolved to exclude the press and public to discuss a complaint. See confidential Minute 252 dated 29th October 2014. Proposed by Cllr Mrs J House, seconded by Cllr C House, agreed unanimously.

253. Exchange of information:

1. Next meeting 26th November 2014:

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman