

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held On Wednesday 29th March 2017 at 7pm
in the Committee Room at the Village Hall, Braeside Road, St Leonards

Members Present:, Cllr R Adkins, Chairman

Cllr R Bryan

Cllr A Davies

Cllr M Dyer

Cllr B Goringe

Cllr N Hindmarch

Cllr Mrs S Marshall

Cllr Mrs B Waugh

Cllr Mrs A Warman

Cllr R Warman

Present: Mrs A Jacobs Clerk

A short report was given by Ban Wallbridge Ranger, Avon Heath. The Ranger is keen to develop strong links with the local Community and encourage volunteers who are vital to the long term success of the Park. A new Management Plan is currently being compiled together with a Health and Well Being Plan. Dementia Friendly Walks have been arranged. They are liaising with the Doctors Surgery and have a new play area and sensory trail. It is their aim to make the Park more welcoming. Volunteers are undertaken a lot of conservation work and the numbers of Nightjar and Woodlark have doubled on last year. They are also part of a Sand Lizard breeding programme and feed young onto other sites where fire has wipeout the population. Natural England have given a negative report in respect of the SSSI status, the outcome is graded as "unfavourable" due to the number of trees on site and they will be imposing tree felling on the Park. The Park want to fell in consultation with the local community. Unfortunately heather, reptiles and ground nesting birds do not like trees. The Park realise that there are some sensitive areas close to housing where the trees are needed to assist with road noise reduction.

Members asked questions of the Ranger and reminded him that the last time Natural England decided on felling 4,000 trees were removed as a result the A31 flooded and there was no consideration about the immediate residents. The Ranger explained that Natural England see the SSSI sites across Dorset as a priority and there are too many trees scattered in open areas, the seed then scatters. On the last occasion it was agreed trees around the edge of the Park and particularly close to Sunnyside Park were left as this was a sound buffer. The Ranger has allowed for screens near Sunnyside Park and properties to the West. The main issue is with trees in the mainly clear areas. The only boundary trees to go at present are those close to the A338.

Members asked the Ranger to improve communication with the Parish which has been poor in the past. Cllr Bryan asked if the Park has a plan to deal with antisocial overnight camping? The Ranger confirmed that with the Nursery School on site there is a Section 61 & 62 notice which allows the Police to move them on immediately.

The Ranger was thanked for coming and left at 7.30pm

283. Pecuniary Interests: None

284. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr J Crow and Cllr Mrs J Carter. Cllr Crow will be put forward for a leave of absence due to ill health at the next meeting.

285. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22nd February 2017 pages 55 to 57 – were agreed unanimously as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe seconded by Cllr Mrs A Warman. Agreed, Cllr R Warman abstained.

RESOLVED: To adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2017 pages 55-57.

286. Matters arising from the Minutes:

- Local Directory –copy submitted for the April edition.
- Fencing at Bowls Club is progressing well any razor wire which has come down will not be replaced.
- Road Safety Team have attended on the A31 on six occasions in February alone.

287. Correspondence noted:

1. EDDC Agendas
2. Notification by resident of leaflets being thrown from vehicle Gainsborough Road on 10.03.17. No registration number emailed company to inform them.

3. VHMC notification in increase in room hire rates
4. Wessex Water – Essential sewer renovation work June 2017 Wayside Road pumping station; Grange Road; Beech Lane and Boundary Lane. They hope to tie in closure of Boundary Lane with existing order. Residents affected will receive a letter.
5. Booklet “Future Dorset”
6. Email requesting the Parish consider the making of a byelaw to prevent bonfires – This was briefly discussed but it was pointed out that to make a byelaw you have to confirm to the Secretary of State that you have the means and ability to enforce the penalties. There is a procedure for persistent nuisance fires through EDDC.

Emails circulated:-

1. North Dorset LAG – directing grants to rural areas. Via DAPTC
2. Christchurch and East Dorset Newsletter 02.02.17
3. NALC letter – Parish Precepts

288. Committee Meeting Minutes: The approved minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 26th January 2017 were adopted. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Marshall. Agreed unanimously.

289. Village Hall Management Committee:- Members received and noted the Minutes of the last meeting, January and accounts.

290. Yellow Lines – A request from a resident to consider supporting yellow lines to entrance of Peveril Close a short stretch on West bound side as a result of increase in dwellings at entrance causing residents issues was received and discussed. The Clerk pointed out that part of the issue was due to the increase in housing density on either side of the entrance. Members noted that DCC have already offered lines one side but residents refused it was therefore pointless to request them again. DCC Highways had no issue with the two developments when consulted.

291. Parish Councillors’ Reports –Reports were received from Parish Councillors attending:-

1. DAPTC – next meeting 19th April 2017 – Cllr A Davies will attend.
2. Homewatch – Cllr A Davies reported: A co-ordinators meeting was held on 2nd March and was well attended. Most of the crime for this area seems to be computer, cybercrime. The meeting felt that electoral lists which show ages of residents were being used to target residents. There were issues with prosecuting drivers using phones, especially if the driver was a non UK resident. An AGM is to be held soon.
3. EDEP - No meeting but the Committee have been compiling comments on consultations and planning applications, the most recent being the housing appeal in The Hawthorns, Alderholt.

292. Burial Ground – Cllr Adkins reported: After 2 years of waiting and chasing Natural England have responded to our enquiry. They require a Biodiversity Mitigation Plan (BMP) and EDDC Planning will not process an application without it. In addition Natural England contacted the Forestry Commission directly to discuss the proposal as they were concerned that the Parish would be interfering with their work. The land is currently plantation and as such the Forestry can come in at any time and fell the trees and replant them without any issues or sanctions. For the Council to take on the land though we are required to produce a BMP for the same area. Natural England are also concerned about the potential for loss of public open space, yet the area is privately owned and there are no plans to prevent public access. Cllr Adkins has informed Natural England that one reason for the burial ground is that we have a population of over 70% over the age of 65 another 210 houses on the hospital site there is a dire need for such an amenity. A BMP is currently being researched.

293. Finance Matters:

- i) The schedule of payments for March was reviewed and approved. A copy of which appears as Appendix A with these Minutes in the Minute Book. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr M Dyer. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To approve the schedule of payments for March.

The Clerk was reminded to investigate other options for copying and printing.

- ii) The bank reconciliation for end February was approved. A copy of which appears as Appendix B with these Minutes in the Minute Book. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: The bank reconciliation for end February was approved.

iii) Reserve Accounts – Members noted monies are currently in holding accounts.

294. Amenities – The Clerks report was noted. A copy of which appears as Appendix C with these Minutes in the Minute Book.

295. Highway Issues Horton Road – The Clerk and Cllr A Davies met with Officers from DCC and discussed the issues relating to the junction of Horton Road, Lions Lane and Woolsbridge Road. A short report was circulated. A copy of which appears as Appendix C with these Minutes in the Minute Book.

296. District Councillors' Update:

Cllr B Goringe reported: He had attended a meeting of the Bournemouth Airport Consultative Committee. Flybe have now left and gone to Southampton. Passenger numbers are increasing and there is now a new company called Airex which has three Boeing VIP 747's for private hire. Parkwood School is due to be completed at the end of September and the airport is anticipating some transport issues as a result of additional traffic. The application for the go karts at Matchams has been approved. Cllr Goringe had also attended a number of meetings for EDDC.

Cllr M Dyer reported: At the last EDDC Planning meeting he had to use his casting vote twice. Cllr Dyer explained that it is a convention that if a chair is called to give a casting vote unless there is an issue flagged the Chair will support the Officers recommendation. On the application for Sandy Lane the technical planning points were not coming out and Cllr Dyer had to be neutral.

Cllr R Bryan reported: Woolsbridge Industrial Estate new junction was approved. An undertaking was given not to go with the permission won on appeal. So trees will be saved. The junction will be on the straight part. Cllr Bryan had attended recent DWP meetings. They are currently running about £1m under budget. Refunds will be given to the partners. Recent Audit meeting have raised issues about the way the LGR is being managed. Currently working with Cllr Skeats on how the Leisure Clubs and Youth Clubs are running. Cllr Goringe asked where the savings had been made by DWP? Cllr Bryan responded that savings had been made on operations, some vehicles had not been replaced, fuel savings had been made by buying in stock at a lower prices and a reduction in Agency workers. All the Councils are running on Agency workers. When you employ Agency staff the cost is 3 days work for the cost of 5 days of employed staff. DWP are looking at further cost cutting measures. £321,000 has been spent on collection fly tipping across the County in the last year.

297. Council Vacancy – Members noted the declaration of a vacancy has been made. Electors have until 11th April 2017 to claim a bye-election with the Returning Officer.

298. Emergency Planning – The Chairman highlighted that he felt some form of review should be undertaken to ensure that the Parish was prepared in the event of an emergency. The Clerk will review the EDDC plan and contact Lindsay Cass/Jonathon Ross and ask if there was any change to the previous guidance and bring the response back to the next meeting.

299. Consultation - Review of Members' Code of Conduct for East Dorset District Council, Protocol for Member-Officer Relations. Incorporated within this is a guide for dealing with Town and Parish Council Complaints as it is not specifically covered in the either Councils Constitutions. EDDC ask for any comments/suggestions as to its contents. Members reviewed the extract. After a discussion it was agreed that there appeared to be very little difference to the existing protocol and there were very few if any sanctions available in the event of an infringement of the Code.

300. Exchange of information:

1. Next meetings Annual Parish Meeting Wednesday 19th April 2017 and Full Council 26th April 2017
2. Cllr Adkins reported he had attend Cllr Hockley's funeral along with Cllr Bryan.
3. Cllr Bryan reported that the time was now expired on the clean-up notice from DCC on Land adj 53 The Glade, DCC are now legally responsible to clear the site and charge the owner

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Chairman