

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held On Wednesday 28th June 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 B Goringe

Cllr N Hindmarch

Cllr Mrs S Marshall

Cllr Mrs K Neale

Cllr Mrs B Waugh

Cllr Mrs A Warman

Cllr R Warman

Present: Mrs A Jacobs Clerk and County Councillor David Shortell.

Public Open Forum: None present

County Councillors Report – Cllr Shortell and Cllr R Bryan gave a brief update on County matters: Rebecca Knox is approaching the new Council very differently to her predecessors. Inclusive, extensive training is underway for all of her Cabinet.

Cllr Shortell had been visiting farms owned by the County Council. The Council owns 246 farms in Dorset which are rented out and regularly inspected. Cllr Shortell had been co-opted onto the Country Parks Committee because he lives close to Avon Heath.

Cllr Bryan has been appointed onto various Committees including the Regulatory and Scrutiny Committees. There are a number of advisory roles on boards such as Hospitals and Trusts also to be filled. A recent pay claim is soon to be discussed but savings will still have to be made however the building at County is not fit for purpose. Whilst the County is now going paperless and has issued tablets to Members a number of rooms including parts of the Council Chamber are unable to get wifi. The Council is looking at a £15m blackhole this year. There were issues with finding the funding for rising costs in Social Care. Cllr Mrs Warman stated that there were not enough children's care homes in Dorset for Dorset children.

Cllr Shortell was thanked for attending and left the meeting.

The Council meeting opened.

43. Pecuniary Interests: Cllr Adkins declared a pecuniary interest on item 7 (i) as he was listed as a cheque recipient for the Chairman's allowance. Cllr R Bryan declared a pecuniary interest on item 7 (i) as he was listed as a cheque recipient for travelling expenses. Both took no part in the debate and vote on this item.

Cllr Mrs A Warman and Cllr B Goringe abstained from the vote on item 7 (i) as they are Trustees of the Village Hall listed as a cheque recipient.

44. Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr J Crow; Cllr Mrs J Carter and Cllr M Dyer who was attending the EDEP meeting on behalf of the Parish.

45. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 31st May 2017 pages 1-4 The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman seconded by Cllr R Bryan. Agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To adopt the Minutes of the meeting held on 31st May pages 1-4 as an accurate record.

46. Matters arising from the Minutes, noted:

- Min. 15 (iv) Lloyds letter to increase sweep despatched.
- Min. 4 (iii) The Declaration of acceptance of Office and Register of Interest form for Cllr Mrs K Neale was signed in front of the Clerk on 22.06.17.

47. Correspondence noted:

1. EDDC Agendas
2. Complaint concerning condition of surface of Heath Road despatched. Officer reports surface dressing needed but will be on a prioritised waiting list. Complainant advised.
3. Complaint concerning pavement Craigside Road despatched to D4U
4. Highways contacted re grass cutting of roundabouts A31 – done as at 28th June 2017
5. Street naming and numbering – Lodge 2 Avon Forest Spa and Lodges
6. Receipt received for VHMC grant £10,000

7. DCC Footpath Improvement Grants invitation for applications.

- 48. Committees 2017/2018** - Members considered whether the trial of working without active Committees was to continue. This was discussed it was agreed to continue without Committees and to appoint Councillors to liaise directly with the Clerk. Cllr B Goringe and Cllr Mrs A Warman were appointed as liaison Members on Amenity matters. Proposed by Cllr Mrs S Marshall, seconded by Cllr N Hindmarch, agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: Cllr B Goringe and Cllr Mrs A Warman were appointed as liaison Members on Amenity matters.
 Cllr Mrs B Waugh and Cllr Mrs S Marshall were appointed as liaison Members on Finance Matters. Proposed by Cllr B Goringe, seconded by Cllr Mrs A Warman. Agreed unanimously.
RESOLVED: Cllr Mrs B Waugh and Cllr Mrs S Marshall were appointed as liaison Members on Finance Matters.
- 49. Finance:**
- i) Members reviewed and approved the schedule of payments for June. Proposed by Cllr Mrs K Neale seconded by Cllr A Davies. Motion carried with four abstentions: Cllr R Bryan; Cllr R Adkins; Cllr Mrs A Warman and Cllr B Goringe) rest in favour. A copy of the schedule appears as Appendix A with these Minutes in the Minute Book.
RESOLVED: The schedule of payments for June were approved.
 - ii) Members reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation for end May. Proposed by Cllr Mrs B Waugh, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed unanimously. A copy of the reconciliation appears as Appendix B with these Minutes in the Minute Book.
RESOLVED: To accept the bank reconciliation for the end of May.
- 50. External Audit** – The Clerk reported that questions had arisen requiring a further explanation into the variance on “other receipts” and the closure of the Barclays Bank Account. The Auditor appears to be satisfied but the final signing off by his line Manager was still awaited.
- 51. Directory Articles** - A Directory article had been submitted based on the Hospital and new Victory Oak homes, emailed to all. Members suggested a short history on the St Leonards Hotel. Cllr Hindmarch reminded Members that there had been a complaint about the removal of the historical photos and memorabilia since the refurbishment Cllr Hindmarch has spoken to the Management and the items were stored safely.
- 52. Welcome Pack** – Members to discuss the possibility of producing a small welcome pack for the Victory Oak site. This would include a small sketch map with details of local Clubs and facilities. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Homewatch. In principle it was thought to be a good idea.
- 53. High Street Pavement** - Members received the report and quotation from DCC to resurface the pavement area. This was discussed. It was agreed to defer the matter to the next meeting for a decision. Members were asked to view the area prior to the meeting and Cllr Bryan will make some further enquiries at County.
- 54. Drainage issue in The Glade** – Cllr Mrs Warman to reported on an issue with the drainage in The Glade outside 1A. The drains were in her opinion poorly constructed and frequently proved to be inadequate to deal with heavy rain. The Clerk was asked to raise the matter with the Community Officer for the area. Cllr R Warman also reported an issue with flooding on the A31/Woolsbridge roundabout outside the Little Chef in heavy rain the water was a good 4 feet across the road.
- 55. A31 Ringwood Improvements Consultation Launch 23rd June to 4th August 2017** – information www.highways.gov.uk/a31ringwood - Noted. Public events are to be held at Ringwood Town Council on 30th June between 3-8pm and 1st July 10am-4pm. Cllr Davies and Cllr Adkins will attend a prelaunch event on 30th June 2-3pm.
- 56. Annual three yearly Rent Review Tennis Club** - current rent £1991.51 + VAT – Members discussed the additional information provided and reviewed the rent. The reserves were held for future extensive refurbishment. It was agreed that the rent would remain unchanged for a further year. Review 2018. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr Mrs B Waugh, agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: To withhold an increase to the Tennis Club rent or a further year, review in 2018.

57. Amenities: Members received and discuss the report following an inspection of all Parish owned sites. The Clerk was instructed to obtain quotes for checking and dead wooding the three sites. The safety concerns concerning the FP19 entrance where it joins Horton Road were discussed. The Clerk will contact DCC concerning the grants available for footpath improvements for the FP19.

58. Minutes of Committees - the approved minutes of the following Committee Meeting were adopted Planning 11th May 2017. Proposed by Cllr Mrs A Warman, seconded by Cllr Mrs S Marshall. Agreed. Cllr R Bryan and Cllr R Warman abstained rest in favour.

RESOLVED: The approved Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 11th May 2017 were adopted.

59. Parish Councillors' Reports -To receive reports from Parish Councillors including:-

1. DAPTC – next meeting 3rd July.
2. Home Watch – meeting 7th June Cllr Davies gave a short report. There has been an increase in crime in the Parish. Struan Gardens had a very break in, the offenders did considerable damage to the property. 1750 copies of the Home Watch magazine are now produced the next issue will be in colour. There has been no progress on the Speed watch programme, four people are now trained but two more are needed. Police have been extremely busy. Following the recent murder the Police met with the local Home Watch which was well attended. Increase in shed break in's. The Police are encouraging the use of shed alarms. There have been a number of vehicle break in's, and a shoplifting incident. Fraud seems to be increasing. Cllr Goringe reminded Cllr Davies that he had volunteered for speed watch but had heard nothing.
3. EDEP Meetings – meeting 28.06.17- Cllr Dyer attending
4. Burial Ground – Cllr Adkins is working on the Biodiversity Management Plan but this needs to reflect the existing Forestry BDP. A copy has been requested. Historically the Forestry have been working with various bodies to convert plantations back to heathland but only where the Forestry own the land, where they rent it they do not appear so keen. The issue will be raised with George Eustace. Cllr Mrs Warman highlighted that if lots of trees are removed flooding will increase. Cllr Adkins responded that part of the Biodiversity was that if not converting to Heath then broadleaf trees might be planted.
5. Emergency Plan Working Party – Cllr Davies circulated a written report. A copy of which appears as Appendix C with these Minutes in the Minute Book. The draft plan will be circulated to all Members prior to the next meeting and then finalised at the next meeting.

60. District Councillors' Update:

Cllr Goringe reported: The Leader of EDDC Cllr Spencer Flower has been invited from various County groups to sit on a debate to discuss the LGR with other heads of Councils and discuss working together. The Company developing the Victory Oak site have been given an award on spatial planning. The Housing Team have been nominated for a Bronze award for working with the homeless and will be working towards a Gold in the future.

Cllr Bryan: Cllr Flower has negotiated to ensure a fairer representation. EDDC face a black hole of £989,000 in 2019/20 whilst Christchurch will break even. The shortfall is as a result of the Government increasing their claim. Following the recent evens with the serious fire in London, all high buildings across Dorset have been inspected. The Fire Brigade is inspecting any building above 8 storeys high.

A recent A338 meeting reported that there will be lots of road works commencing shortly South of the Blackwater Junction. The District is looking at a pilot scheme to fuel switch. £25,000 grant aid has been given to The Priest House to enable them to get further Lottery funding.

The Chairman asked if the sale of Furzehill would help towards the deficit? Cllr Goringe responded that the money from the sale has been allocated to Housing.

61. Village Hall Management Committee-

- i) Members noted the minutes for May emailed to Members.
- ii) Request for improved directional signage for the hall. Previously declined by DCC. It was noted that the request did not progress previously as it hinged on whether Highways would allow the signs directly off the A31, without which the signs would be pointless.

62. Security of Sites – Cllr Bryan reported that there were a number of transient people around at present. Members need to be vigilant about sites and potential sites. EDDC were very proactive last week and managed to re-secure the area opposite Braeside Road where the dragon's teeth have now been replaced with a bund.

63. Exchange of information:

1. Next meeting to be held on 26th July 2017
2. Cllr Mrs Warman asked Cllr Bryan about the land at the end of the Glade. Cllr Bryan was meeting with Officers tomorrow, but reported that the County Council has to follow the due legal process. The final deadline was thought to be 1st July.

This meeting was immediately followed by the quarterly meeting of the Council as Corporate Trustees of the Freedom Youth Club.