

LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 18th December 2017.

Members

* Mr R Hargreaves (Chairman), *Mr K Budden, *Mr D Dodds, *Mrs S Halstead, *Mr D Jerrard, *Mr H Linsley, *Mr F MacNamara, Mrs L McDonald, *Mr B Mayo, *Ms K O'Malley, *Mr A Smith & *Ms A Wright.
* Present

Clerk: S. Smith

In attendance: County Councillor Mr R Oppenheimer and District Councillor Mr M Kendall.
There were no members of the public in attendance.

169/17 Apologies

Members accepted apologies from Councillor McDonald and District Councillor Mrs L Pienaar

170/17 Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

171/17 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- The office would close for Christmas from 2pm on Thursday 21st December until 10am on Wednesday 3rd January. The Clerk would pick up any urgent issues via e-mail.
- A new caretaker, Miriam Baines, had been appointed on 22nd November and had made a good start in the role.
- The Chairman reminded Members that Joint Clerk Dick Bowery would be stepping down as Clerk at the end of the month but would continue in role as Responsible Finance Officer until the end of March 2018. The Council expressed its thanks to Mr Bowery for his services as Clerk during the past 17 years.
- The Chairman advised that the Liss Neighbourhood Plan had been "Made" at the SDNP planning committee meeting on 14th December. The Council expressed its thanks to Sir John Dunt for chairing the Steering Group and to all those who took part in the process. The Chairman would write to formally thank Sir John Dunt.

172/17 Adjournment for public participation

There were no members of the public present.

173/17 Report from County Councillor

A written report had been submitted by County Councillor Mr Oppenheimer (attached).

He highlighted that the important areas of school crossing patrols, community transport and household waste & recycling centres had been taken out of the scope when identifying the £140m of savings that the County Council needed to make within the two coming years. Consultation would take place on 11 specific areas in 2018 to identify potential savings.

Cllr Linsley asked about social care for the elderly and disabled and noted that this is an area growing in demand. Cllr Oppenheimer responded that all savings in this area would arise from new ways of working and changes in accounting and housekeeping and so would not affect delivery of services.

Cllr MacNamara enquired as to whether the County Council had considered whether a reduction in or collect of hard plastics would have a positive effect. Cllr Oppenheimer shared the concern that such plastics were currently not recycled.

Cllr Smith raised the issue of boroughs working together to look at ways of making savings.

174/17 Reports from District Councillors

District Councillor Mike Kendall advised that EHDC attached great importance to maintaining the level of services faced with cuts in the Revenue Support Grant. He noted that, although perceived by some as risky, EHDC's investment policy had contributed to the council being able to reduce the level of council tax. Cllr Kendall had expressed some concern regarding the decision to borrow £200m unless borrowing was tied to specific properties on which advice had been received; the council had agreed this change. District Cllr Budden noted that safeguards for borrowing had increased.

Cllr Kendall noted the CALA consultations with interest and requested that he be kept up-to-date on issues surrounding implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Halstead advised that the mechanisms had not yet been set up but that this would be considered early in 2018. The Chairman referred to the provision for open space between the two proposed sites and proposed that LPC consider its position on open space at a future meeting. Cllr Kendall advised that his position on the boundary review was that he would prefer Liss and Liss Forest combined, but that adding Greatham would be just about manageable.

District Councillor Mr Keith Budden advised that with effect from 1st December, EHDC no longer levy a surcharge for making parking payments with a credit card. Cllr Budden also noted that the planning decision on the traveller site at Hawkley Hill had been made allowing for temporary permission of six years rather than a permanent permission with a condition linking it to the existing family. He had argued that a permanent permission would pre-judge the outcome of the SDNPA Local Plan.

175/17 Minutes of the meeting of 20th November 2017

Subject to an amendment to show the presence of Cllr Mayo, the minutes of the Council meeting of 20th November, proposed by Cllr Jerrard and seconded by Cllr Linsley, were agreed unanimously.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting of 20th November be accepted as a correct record following the amendment required as above.

176/17 Matters Arising

- i) Minute 156/17: EHDC review of Forum meetings – It was noted that LPC would input once the review paper had issued; this was expected in the spring.
- ii) Minute 158/17: EHDC collection timetables – Members noted that delays had been experienced for a second year in a row.

Resolved: That LPC write to EHDC to express disappointment and request that lessons are learned in advance of next year's publication and distribution. Cllr Budden would also speak to the portfolio holder and leader of the council.

- iii) Minute 160/17: Lych Gate – Cllr Budden advised that there had been no progress but that he would continue to pursue the matter.
- iv) Minute 160/17: Local Government Boundary Commission consultation to East Hants district ward boundaries – The Chairman noted that the LPC response as agreed had been submitted.
- v) Minute 160/17: SWR consultation – The chairman noted that the LPC response had been submitted. The two major issues of concern were removing the 0902 service and timings for Bohunt students going to and from school. Cllr Budden reported that the comprehensive response had been well received by DfT and he that he would report any update in January. He noted that SWR had received a large number of responses which would take time to analyse. Cllr O'Malley encouraged Members who had not yet responded in a personal capacity to do so before the 21st December deadline.
- vi) Minute 160/17: SDNP consultation on Local Plan pre-submission – The Chairman noted that the LPC response had been submitted. Cllr Halstead advised that a letter expressing concern over a lack regarding parking standards had also been sent separately.

177/17 Responsible Finance Officer's Report (attached) The Responsible Finance Officer's report was discussed and the Clerk responded to questions raised.

Resolved: That the payments and receipts recorded in Responsible Finance Officer's Report, proposed by Cllr Linsley and seconded by Halstead, be approved.

178/17 Responsible Finance Officer's Report - Correspondence

There was no action required from any of the correspondence.

179/17 Reports of Committees

Highways Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Highways Committees of 27th November be noted.

Cllr Linsley gave a review of the minutes. He reported that there was no news on the proposed changes to the speed limits on Hill Brow Road, that the 20p charge for using a credit card in the parking metres at Petersfield Car Park would no longer apply and that it had been agreed that the cost for additional street lighting on Farnham Road was not justified.

Buildings Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Buildings Committee of 4th December be noted.

Cllr Budden reviewed the minutes and highlighted that the accessible toilet project was proceeding well and would be completed soon, the new caretaker had started in post and a Health & Safety audit had been undertaken on the village hall; this highlighted a few issues which would be followed up.

Grounds Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Grounds Committee of 4th December be noted.

Cllr Dodds reviewed the minutes and drew attention to the request for the additional footpath from the Inwood Road gate at Newman Collard to the new play park and advised that he was exploring this with the lengthsman. He also noted that a motion was due to be discussed which proposed an amendment to the CIL priority list for funds for West Liss play park as well as Liss Forest play park.

Liss Pavilion Development Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Liss Pavilion Development Committee of 5th December be noted.

The Chairman gave a review of the minutes. He noted that planning permission had been delayed somewhat by drainage issues and the absence of a notice which needed to be served on EHDC as regards the car park; a decision was now expected imminently. The Chairman noted that the agreement with the Scouts would be discussed under an exempt session later in the meeting.

Planning Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Planning Committee of 11th December be noted.

Cllr Halstead advised that the draft minutes had been revised further and would be circulated. She highlighted that a TPO had been put on an area of land for sale at Farther Commons which was positive and that a further meeting would take place regarding the Bluebell. Cllr Halstead noted that a request for extension to consider 11 Riverside Close had been declined and so Council agreed the position proposed by planning.

Resolved: That the admin officer submit comments to SDNPA stating that LPC has no objection to the proposed works provided that adequate parking was retained at the property.

180/17 Update on the Liss Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman referred to his earlier statement under Chairman's announcements that the Liss Neighbourhood Plan had now be made. Implementation would be a key issue for 2018 and would fall to LPC now that the Steering Group had completed its function. A meeting would take place with SDNPA early in the New Year.

181/17 Motion from the Chairman of Grounds:

"That following discussions and recommendations at Grounds and Planning committee meetings, Liss Parish Council agreed to remove the £25000 proposed in the CIL reserve list for replacement play equipment at Liss Forest Recreation Ground and further to introduce an item of £125000 to the CIL priority list for replacement play equipment at Liss Recreation Grounds."

Cllr Dodds noted that the sums included in the CIL reserve list were inadequate for Liss Forest play park and that West Liss play park was in greater need. He felt that one sum for play equipment in general would provide greater flexibility. He advised that Grounds Committee had set up a sub group to research and cost proposals for West Liss play park.

Resolved: That the motion, seconded by Cllr MacNamara, be approved unanimously.

182/17 Matters of Concern

Cllr O'Malley expressed concern about the large pools of water which gathered regularly on Hill Brow Road. Cllr Halstead advised that drainage around Newman Collard was a wider issue. Cllr Oppenheimer undertook to raise the drainage issue with Ian Janes.

Cllr Jerrard advised that a change of tenancy at the Coryton Arms Houses might be required shortly. Cllr Halstead advised that there was a process in place which would be followed if required following notification by the managing agent.

Cllr Oppenheimer left the meeting at this point.

183/17 Reports on Outside Bodies

Cllr Wright had attended the CAB AGM and advised that CAB were now providing the advice service commissioned by EHDC following a cut in funding. CAB were optimistic that a good level of service would continue to be delivered. The Petersfield service would now be delivered from the top floor of the library. Cllr Wright, Cllr Halstead and Cllr Budden had attended an EHAPTC meeting at which County Cllr Rob Humby spoke about the new road contractors and encouraged online reporting of transport and road issues via Hantsweb.

Cllr Linsley had attended a meeting of the NCPFT and noted that meetings had taken place to iron out various issues with the new extension.

Cllr Kendall left the meeting at this point.

184/17 Exclusion of the press and public proposed agreement with the Scouts

Resolved: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the remaining business.

185/17 Exempt item: Proposed agreement with the Scouts

186/17 AOB

Cllr Budden advised members that the waste contract was out to tender.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.30 hrs

Next meeting: Monday 15th January 2017 19.30hrs