



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 18th March 2019.

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, *Mr N Wilson and *Ms A Wright.

* Present, in addition to County Councillor (CC) Russell Oppenheimer and District Cllr (DC) Laetitia Pienaar

Clerk: Assistant Parish Clerk, F Cook

42/19 Apologies

Members accepted apologies from Cllrs Jerrard and MacNamara.

Members noted that District Councillor Mike Kendall had also sent apologies.

43/19 Declarations of interests

None declared at this point.

44/19 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman noted the passing of Ray Betsworth.

Members expressed their condolences to his family.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th March at 8pm.

45/19 Adjournment for public participation

There being no members of the public the meeting was not adjourned for public participation.

46/19 Report from County Councillor

CC Russell Oppenheimer had submitted a written report (**Annex A**) and confirmed his intention to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 20th March 2019.

Cllr Linsley raised the issue of using LPC for party politics to which CC Oppenheimer made an initial response

47/19 Reports from District Councillors

DC Kendall had sent his apologies.

DC Pienaar had submitted a written report (**Annex B**) but informed the meeting that two of the figures in her report were incorrect. She informed the meeting that she would send a corrected copy to the Parish Clerk for circulation.

DC Budden informed the meeting:-

1. he had given £700 from his devolved grant fund to LFRA towards the cost of works being carried out to LPC playing fields in Liss Forest
2. the opening date for applications to the new EHDC fund is 1st April 2019 and closes on 1st June 2019. He informed the meeting that he was hoping to advertise the availability of funding in the Village Voice but would check the purdah rules with EHDC. He informed the meeting that the Petersfield Post would be advertising it.

48/19 Minutes of the meeting of 18th February 2019

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting of 18th February 2019 be accepted as a correct

record (proposed by Cllr McDonald and seconded by Cllr Dodds, with all in favour).

49/19 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that would not be covered under one of the other agenda items.

50/19 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Cllr Wright declared an interest as one of the items in the Report was a reimbursement to her of some expenses incurred.

Resolved: That the payments and receipts recorded in Responsible Finance Officer's Report be approved (proposed by Cllr Halstead and seconded by Cllr McDonald, with all in favour and Cllr Wright refraining from voting).

51/19 Correspondence

Items for response:

1. Freedom of Information request for copies of correspondence on the Liss Neighbourhood Development Plan relating to sites 4a and 4b which are at The Grange. The Chairman confirmed he would go through the documents that he had and provide to the Parish Clerk all copies of correspondence that he has.
2. A notice from EHDC Planning Department giving notice that the plans for the accessible toilet at the Village Hall had lapsed. It was noted that this had been passed to John Starling as the project manager to resolve.

Members noted:

3. that further details on the EHAPTC meeting on 27th March were available from the Parish Clerk.
4. Cllr Halstead asked about the South Western Railway timetable changes. Cllr Budden informed the meeting that most would not affect Liss directly as there would be more trains at peak times but the additional services would not be stopping in Liss but passing through. He informed the meeting that the 17.15 from Waterloo was being re-routed so that it would now get to Liss earlier but that the next train at 17.30 would not get to Liss any earlier than the 18.00 train as the two meet up at Haslemere. He further informed the meeting that South Western would not be able to comply with their franchise requirements because the Department of Transport would not permit the additional services contained in the franchise to be put into service. He also confirmed that the previous suggested changes which would affect children and the 9.02 service and were of concern would not now be taking place.

All other items of correspondence were for information only and would remain in the office for viewing until the date of the next council meeting.

52/19 Building Committee Report

Resolved: That the draft minutes of the Buildings Committee of 4th March 2019 be noted.

Cllr McDonald asked about the gaps in the village hall flooring. The Assistant Parish Clerk informed the meeting that at present the proposed solution was to use a filler but this would be tested on a small section of the floor first.

53/19 Grounds Committee Report

Cllr Dodds informed the meeting that since the Grounds Committee meeting:-

1. one quote for the repair of the lych gate had been received and a second quote was still awaited.
2. the CCTV survey of Newman Collard drains had been carried out. It showed a blockage between the manhole on the juniors pitch and the access chamber in the Centenary Gardens which is a Southern Water drain. He informed the meeting that there was a second blockage in the Newman Collard drains themselves and that the proposed solution was to divert the Newman Collard drain into the SW drain once that blockage had been cleared which would necessitate an application to SW to connect to their drain.

Cllr O'Malley informed the meeting that her name was incorrectly spelled in minutes 47/G18.

Cllr Halstead informed the meeting that in 10/G18 she had raised an issue with greenhouses and not sheds.

Cllr Dodds informed the meeting that repairing the potholes as noted in the AOB had started.

Resolved: That subject to the minor amendments raised by Cllr O'Malley and Cllr Halstead that the draft minutes of the Grounds Committee of 4th March 2019 be noted.

54/19 Planning Committee Report

Cllr Halstead referred to the draft minutes which had been circulated and noted the following:-

1. attempts to protect the Spread Eagle Oak tree were now being channelled through "heritage" rather than EHDC's arboriculturalist.
2. the main reasons for objecting to the Cala Homes application were the proposed building beyond the Settlement Policy Boundary, the proposed building of more units that identified in the Liss Neighbourhood Development Plan, concern about flooding and drainage and whilst the landscaping design was largely acceptable the design of the houses was not. She informed the meeting that the application would be considered by SDNPA and not EHDC and that she assumes LPC will be invited to the planning meeting. The Chairman noted that Cala Homes and SDNPA have had design panel meetings which members of LPC have attended as observers but are not permitted to speak and so comments must be made in the submissions to planning applications. The Chairman noted that LPC's position was strengthened by the existence of the LNDP and the VDS.

Resolved: That the draft minutes of the Planning Committee of 11th March 2019 be noted.

55/19 Pavilion Committee Report and Pavilion Update

The Chairman informed the meeting that:-

1. the building works were going very well
2. the 12th April is the proposed completion date but this may slip a little due to decorating and fitting out.
3. the specification has been raised in places to deal with issues raised by proposed uses and users
4. the overall cost should remain within budget including the £15k contingency which covered general overspend/increased specification costs and costs of items which had been missed such as a sound system
5. an Open Day for all potential users etc was planned for 26/27 April but that the Opening Ceremony would take place later and that it may not be opened by Damian Hinds MP due to difficulty in confirming dates
6. bookings were already being taken and that it will be advertised in the Village Voice.

Cllr Halstead informed the meeting that concerns had been expressed to her by members of the public that they thought it was to be a sports pavilion and for use by the scouts and not for weddings and other events and had expressed further concern that their council tax had been increased to pay for a wedding venue and not a sports pavilion as they'd thought. The Chairman informed the meeting that throughout the whole process care had been taken to ensure that it was not referred to as a sports pavilion but as an additional community space. Cllr Wilson informed the meeting that he would be concerned if there is a real risk to the viability of the Triangle Centre and that LPC should not undermine another community asset such that it becomes financially threatened. The Chairman stated that potential impact on the Triangle Centre and other community facilities, including the way it is advertised, had already been considered by the Pavilion Committee but reiterated that the nature of the facilities are very different and so will attract different users. Cllr Smith informed the meeting that the response on Facebook and Twitter had been overwhelmingly positive.

Cllr Wright enquired about security for the site and the buildings and contents insurance. The Chairman responded that these were the responsibility of the contractor up to the date of formal handover. He informed the meeting that the charitable status of the Pavilion needed to be in place by then too.

Resolved: That the draft minutes of the Pavilion Committee of 13th March 2019 be noted.

56/19 Final Interim Audit Report and Financial Risk Assessment

Cllr Wright informed the meeting that LPC had come through a difficult year successfully but noted there was a comment that the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations both need reviewing. Following discussion it was agreed that Cllr McDonald would check the procedure for the amendment and adoption of Standing Orders and advise all members in due course.

Resolved: That the final interim internal audit report and financial risk assessment be noted.

57/19 2018/2019 Action Plan and 2019/2020 Action Plan

2018/2019 Action Plan

The Chairman noted that some matters had not progressed as quickly or as far as had been hoped but noted that the staffing situation in the office had not helped.

Cllr O'Malley asked for clarification on whether the SAGE system was now up and running. The Chairman responded that it was not but that the new RFO would be responsible for looking at the available packages to see which is best for LPC with a view to putting in place an accounts package by the end of 2019.

The Chairman informed the meeting that it would be shown at the APM.

2019/2020 Action Plan

The Chairman informed the meeting that DC Kendall had expressed concern that LPC was not more active on flooding and was not inputting into the Flood Action Group as had been hoped and discussed. The Chairman noted that this was largely due to capacity issues.

The Chairman noted that Elizabeth Ford had been appointed as the new RFO.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Action Plan would go to the APM for comments and would be formally adopted at the next full Council meeting.

58/19 Matters of concern

1. Cllr Wilson expressed shock to hear about Ray Betsworth and informed the meeting that he would speak to Yvette Christian at Age Concern to pass on LPC's condolences. The Chairman suggested also asking how Age Concern were thinking of going forward – i.e. would they be appointing a new village agent?
2. Cllr Budden requested support from Councillors in objecting to Stage Coach's intentions to change the 38/37 bus route and also to support a request to HCC to require the bus company to accept bus passes on earlier buses. Cllr Budden informed the meeting that a timetable change would mean that the earliest bus from Petersfield on which a bus pass could be used if the 10.45am which is too late and that the route to Alton was even worse with the earliest bus being the 11.59. As the latest bus back from Alton is the 3.20pm this would leave at most 1.5 hours in Alton. Cllr Budden informed the meeting that he was asking HCC to require Stagecoach to accept bus passes from the 9.05am service on.
3. Cllr Budden informed the meeting that there was an additional problem with the splitting of the 37/38 bus. The bus is physically the same one but at Petersfield it waits for 30mins and in those minutes it changes from a no. 37 to 38 or vice versa depending on direction. This means that for one constituent at least what was one journey with their child costing £8.80 return is now classed as two journeys and will cost £17.60 return. Cllr Budden again sought LPC support for his contention that this was not acceptable. Following discussion during which it was noted that bus travel is of particular use for the elderly as it combats isolation and so improves mental health it was **Resolved** unanimously to support Cllr Budden.

59/19 Reports on Outside Bodies

Cllr Halstead reminded Councillors of the Triangle quiz on 13th April 2019.

Cllr Halstead reminded the meeting of the EHAPTC meeting on 27th March 2019 and confirmed that she would be attending.

Cllr McDonald informed the meeting that she attended the HALC conference and that Dawn Hamblett the acting Chief Executive is to be appointed Chief Executive from 1st April 2019.

Cllr Linsley informed the meeting that he also attended the HALC conference and there was some information which may be of use to LPC which he would pass on to the Parish Clerk. He informed

the meeting that he would circulate a document produced by HALC on preparing for Brexit which may also be of use.

Cllr Linsley also attended two Newman Collard meetings and a meeting of Rake Village Hall when the play equipment was raised. The Chairman informed the meeting that Rake Village Hall play equipment would be discussed under the Exempt Items.

Cllr Budden informed the meeting that he had attended the Liss, Greatham and Hawkley Friendship Fund.

60/19 Exempt Items: To approve exempt minutes of 18th February 2019 and receive exempt Grounds Committee report of 4th March 2019.

The Chairman suggested moving to the Exempt Items. This was proposed by Cllr McDonald and seconded by Cllr Budden with all in favour.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.10 hrs.

Next meeting: Monday 15th April 2019 at 19.30hrs

Signed:.....Dated:.....

APPENDIX A

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT TO LISS PARISH COUNCIL

18 MARCH 2019

1. HCC Highways Meeting

Two members of the HCC Transport Planning Team, Tom Fisher and Chris Hirst, came to Liss on Friday 1 March for a meeting with four Parish Councillors about the Andlers Ash Road development. The Transport Planners have understood the concerns and they have also developed a better understanding of the traffic and parking issues across Liss.

HCC are still formulating their response to the Transport Statement developed by Cotswold Transport Planning as part of the Cala Homes application. I will forward it once I receive it.

I am pleased to have developed these contacts - we will be able to get in touch with Tom and Chris to highlight any transport concerns about future planning applications.

2. Waste Prevention Community Fund opens for second year

Parish Councils are eligible to apply for grants of up to £5,000 from this fund, which opened for its second year of applications on 1 March. The purpose of the fund is to reduce the amount of waste being placed in refuse collection and household waste centres. I thought it might be helpful to list some of the successful schemes from the first year of the fund:

- Expanding the reach of family events to share, hire or rent baby products and toys.
- Composting courses with a focus on the health benefits of gardening.
- Launching beeswax wrap ‘satchels’ as an alternative to plastic sandwich bags.
- Running community upcycling classes.
- Setting up a monthly “repair café”.
- A local campaign to raise awareness of reusable alternatives to single use plastics.
- Providing a community fridge to redistribute surplus food from local homes.

3. Report on Hampshire Pupils attainment shows strength of our schools

On 11 March 2019 the Hampshire Cabinet received a report from the Director of Childrens Services about the attainment of children and young people in Hampshire

Schools in 2018.

The report makes interesting reading. Pupils' attainment continues to compare favourably with that nationally and with our group of "statistical neighbour" local authorities across all key stages.

Given that standards are well above those nationally, it is helpful to compare our performance with a group of demographically similar local authorities, our so-called "statistical neighbours". The group comprises the 10 authorities statistically most like Hampshire, with 5 being more advantageous and 5 less so. The group currently consists of Leicestershire, Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset, West Berkshire, West Sussex, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Cambridgeshire and Central Bedfordshire.

The group is set up so that Hampshire's performance should be in line with the group average, with the county being ranked in the middle of the group (i.e. 6th place). Performance above this represents a strength and performance below an area for development. The report shows that Hampshire is actually second in the rankings in this group, as the table below demonstrates:

Good Level of Development (GLD)	2018	2017	2016
National Average	71.5%	70.7%	69.3%
Statistical Neighbour Group average	71.9%	71.2%	69.6%
Hampshire	76.7%	75.7%	75.2%
Rank in Statistical Neighbour Group	2nd	2nd	2nd

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers

APPENDIX B

Report to LPC for Council Meeting on 18th March 2019

1. Councillor Devolved Grant Fund

I am pleased to report that in the year which ended 8th March 2019, I have spent (slightly more than*) the allocated fund in the following way:-

Liss Infant School – Interactive panels	£ 600.00
Crossover – furniture	£ 200.00
Triangle – various –	£1000.00
Triangle – new soundsystem	£ 990.66
Liss Lunch Club – coach hire for a members'outing	£ 365.00
Liss Parish Council – plaque for WW1 memorial	£ 244.34
Liss Parish Council – internal fitting out of Pavilion	£ 690.00
Rosemary Trust – computers for new premises	£ 500.00
Rother House – Television	<u>£ 200.00</u>
TOTAL	£4,789.00

- Whilst not all councillors spend the total of their individual allowances, this overspend will be funded from the unspent funds which accrue in this way.

2. Charity Walk for Peace on 4th May 2019

I have served on the Joint Committee of this initiative right from the start – it is a partnership between the Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Association and EHDC, for the benefit of the East Hants Community. Two walks have taken place in past years and this year the walk will take place on the 4th May, starting and ending at Penns Place. Two charities from Liss have applied and have been accepted as beneficiaries of the Walk, namely RVS Liss Luncheon Club for the Elderly and the Crossover. I hope that the people of Liss – including the members of the Parish Council – will come along on the day and support the walk. The Walk itself will take a gentle route around the Heath pond and through the town centre.

- #### 3. Liz Panton is no longer the Community Development Officer for Liss, but has been replaced by DEAN MAHOMMED, formerly a PCSO, so knows our community well. Also, abandoned vehicles should be reported at Parking.office@easthants.gov.uk