

LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 20th November 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: D. Bowery.

In attendance: District Councillor Mrs L Pienaar.

One member of the press. There were no members of the public in attendance.

153/17 Apologies

Members accepted apologies from Councillor Smith, District Councillor Mr M Kendall & County Councillor Mr R Oppenheimer.

154/17 Declarations of interests

Cllr Budden declared an interest in the Boundary Commission consultation on ward boundaries in East Hampshire arising from his position as a District Councillor & said he would take no part in the discussion or decision but would remain in the room.

There were no other declarations of interests.

155/17 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- The Liss Xmas fair would take place on 6th December from 6.30pm till 8.30pm... There was a discussion on the running of a stall advertising what LPC did. It was felt that such things as the new playpark, the village of the year award & the success of the Neighbourhood Plan should be showcased. It was understood that Cllr Smith would be organising the stall.
- The village Xmas trees would go up on 30th November & Cllr Halstead would organise the decorating teams.
- The Chairman said that, following the successful Neighbourhood Plan referendum, the Plan would now be "Made" at the SDNP planning committee meeting on 1st December.

156/17 EHDC Community Link Officer

Lucy Whittle gave a presentation on her role as the link officer for Towns & Parishes in the EHDC central area. The team of fifteen covered such activities as Health & Wellness, Sports & Youth & Community Infrastructure. There was a new post for an officer dealing with large new housing developments. Other responsibilities included progressing grant applications, the Community Forum, community right to bid, supporting neighbourhood plans & special events (festivals, sports awards etc).

The Chairman asked if EHDC would be supporting parishes in progressing their action plans. It was agreed to forward a copy of the LPC action plan to the link officer.

The Chairman felt that a meeting with the link officer to discuss Liss projects would be of benefit.

The Chairman asked what position EHDC were in on parishes Neighbourhood Plans where the parish was in the National Park.

Cllr Budden informed the meeting that EHDC had no role in this position & that parishes could choose to monitor developments themselves or request SDNP to do it.

Cllrs Jerrard & Linsley expressed disappointment that the Community Forums were not working as well as they should be.

The Clerk reminded Members that District Councillor Kendall had mentioned that EHDC were carrying out a review of the Forums at the October meeting & suggested that LPC may wish to submit their thoughts. It was agreed that this matter be put on the December agenda for decision. The Clerk said this would require a discussion paper to be prepared & a motion to be put. The Chairman thanked Mrs Whittle for taking the time to come & address Liss councillors.

157/17 Report from County Councillor

County Councillor Mr Russell Oppenheimer had submitted a written report that was tabled at the meeting. Items in the report included updates on the Serving Hampshire consultation aimed at cutting £140m of costs, the Future Skills Centre at Whitehill & the SDNP Trust obtaining charitable status.

Cllr Mayo felt that Members needed to be aware of Cllr Oppenheimer's role as the HCC representative on the SDNP board.

Cllr Budden said that he had been at a meeting that discussed HCC's proposals to cut funding for community transport & subsidised public transport; however, officers had been requested to review their proposals.

Cllr O'Malley objected to the introduction of a one off £10 charge for OAP bus passes as she felt that this targeted the most vulnerable in society.

Cllr Linsley agreed as he said this move was contrary to the aims of the scheme which were to improve wellbeing by getting the isolated out to meet others.

The Chairman said the correct time to comment would be when HCC launches its promised consultation,

158/17 Reports from District Councillors

District Councillor Mrs Pienaar congratulated Liss on winning the Hampshire Village of the Year competition & also commended the members of the Neighbourhood Plan steering committee on the referendum success. She reported on flooding issues for residents in Andlers Ash Road and the EHDC failure to respond to residents' complaints over a development in Station Road.

Her grant fund for 2017/18 was now almost entirely spent. The NCPF Trust had mistimed a grant application for their pavilion extension & Cllr Pienaar was recommending a meeting with the Community Link Officer to explore possibilities for them.

The Triangle were still waiting for HCC to fulfil its scheduled works before legal transfer would be made.

Cllr Pienaar asked for an update on the intended implementation of extended 30mph limits in Liss. Cllr Linsley replied that there had been objections to the proposal in Hill Brow Road & that this meant the whole package of measures were now subject to legal process.

Cllr Pienaar felt that there needed to be a meeting of all parties to look at near misses in the village centre.

The Chairman suggested that Cllr Pienaar liaise with the chairman of LPC's Highways Committee.

District Councillor Mr Keith Budden updated Members on the progress of legal negotiations on the takeover of the Temple Inn.

He informed the meeting that the Police would be deploying mobile traffic speed monitoring on Stairs Hill & in Greatham.

Winter contingency plans were being assessed at Queen Alexandra hospital & there was a moderate risk of a flu epidemic for the coming winter.

Cllr Linsley complained that EHDC had again failed to issue bin collection timetables in adequate time. Cllr Budden agreed to raise the issue with EHDC.

159/17 Minutes of the meeting of 16th October 2017

The minutes of the Council meeting of 16th October, proposed by Cllr Halstead & seconded by Cllr MacNamara, were agreed unanimously.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting of 16th October be accepted as a correct record.

160/17 Matters Arising

- Min146/17,123/17,108/16 & 170/16 – Lych Gate. Cllr Budden reported that he had met with EHDC legal & properties department & their conclusion was that it was a matter for HCC as there was no evidence that EHDC had accepted liability at any time.
It was agreed that EHDC be asked to write to HCC legal services to draw this to their attention. They would be requested to copy LPC & the County Councillor with their correspondence,
- Min 148/17 – Local Government Boundary Commission consultation on changes to EHDC ward boundaries.
The Chairman had prepared & circulated a paper setting out the proposed changes & the options for consultees.
Cllr Jerrard made a statement explaining his support for single member ward.
Cllr Linsley made a statement explaining his objection to the proposals.
Cllr Halstead supported a “one Liss” situation.
Cllr Linsley objected to the Boundary Commission changes as he felt that they would not provide effective local government.
The Chairman summarised the options & then proposed the following Motion as a two-part vote:

Does Liss Parish Council support:
A – A ward boundary encompassing the whole of Liss Paris, or
B – Maintaining the existing ward boundaries.
Members voted nine in favour of option A & one in favour of option B.

Does Liss Parish Council support:
A – Maintaining the status quo of two members for the ward, or
B - Request that that Liss be a two single member ward.
Members voted six in favour of option B & three in favour of option A.
- Min 148/17 S W Railways consultation on timetable changes.
Cllr Budden had circulated his proposed consultation response. After discussion, it was agreed that any further comments be submitted to Cllr Budden by email in order that the 9th December consultation could be met.
- Min 148/17 DNP consultation on Local Plan pre-submission version
The LPC Planning Committee had discussed the matter & agreed a consultation response that had been circulated to Members. Cllr Halstead explained certain issues in the draft & asked Council to consider if the document complied with legal requirements.
Cllr Halstead felt the policy on traveller sites was not sound & required more comment.
Cllr Budden felt that the policy covering ecological impact on the Park was weak on enforcement & should therefore be a guidance rather than policy. He added that the dark skies policy was unenforceable.
The Chairman felt that there were questions on the implementation & enforcement of some policies. The SDNP had introduced new policies where none had existed before & this could make the Plan vulnerable at Examination.

Cllr Chairman proposed that the Chairman of LPC Planning Committee be delegated to submit the response including additional comments addressing Members concerns.

The Motion, proposed by Cllr Halstead & seconded by Cllr Wright was agreed unanimously.

161/17 Clerk's Report (attached)

The Clerk's report was discussed & the Clerk responded to questions raised.

Resolved:

- That the payments & receipts recorded in Clerk's Report, proposed by Cllr Mayo & seconded by Cllr Budden, be approved.

162/17 Clerk's report - Correspondence

There was no action required from any of the correspondence.

163/17 reports of Committees

Planning Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Planning Committees of 21st October & 13th November be noted.

Cllr Halstead gave a review of the minutes.

She reported that a site visit on application 17/05335, 2 Longwood East was carried out by three Members & they were recommending a no objection consultation response. Members accepted this proposal unanimously.

There was a further site visit planned on application 17/05262, Bottom House, Pruetts Lane.

Cllr Halstead said she would welcome Members comments on the development at The Bluebell as it appeared that there had been modifications to the approved plans & LPC had not been consulted on these.

Finance Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Finance Committee of 6th November be noted.

Cllr Wright reviewed the minutes & drew attention to the first draft of the 2018/19 budget. She said that there would be no Council Support Grant in the coming year; additionally it was likely that a PWLB loan would be arranged & this would mean interest payments. Work on the running costs of the proposed new pavilion was continuing.

It was agreed that any documents issued on the budget should highlight the loss of the Council Support Grant that would cost LPC £11725.

Liss Pavilion Development Committee

Resolved: The draft minutes of the Liss Pavilion Development Committee of 7th November be noted.

The Chairman gave a review of the minutes. The result of the planning application was awaited & discussions with the scout group were ongoing. He said that the consultation on the PWLB loan application could not take place until the tender process was complete and the costs of the project were known, which would be too late to be taken into account in the 2018/19 budget.

164/17 Adoption of Social Media Policy

The proposed Social Media Policy had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Cllr McDonald, Chairman of the Review Committee, proposed that the policy be adopted by Liss Parish Council. The Motion, seconded by Cllr Budden, was agreed unanimously.

Cllr McDonald drew attention to other papers that had been circulated to Members; these were:

Outline paper on the Data Protection Act.

Outline paper on the Freedom of Information Act.

Briefing note on use of email addresses.

165/17 – Extension of meeting

Cllr Linsley, seconded by Cllr McDonald, proposed an extension to the meeting of no more than thirty minutes & Members agreed.

166/17 Matters of Concern

The Chairman reviewed the progress on the 2017/18 LPC action plan & commented that good progress had been made on many items.

Work was underway to produce a plan for 2018/19.

167/17 Matters of Concern

There were no matters raised.

168/17 Reports on Outside Bodies

Cllr Halstead had attended the AGM of HALC. The next quarterly meeting of EHAPTC was on 29th November at Penns Place.

Cllr Halstead had attended the AGM of Hants Playing Fields Association where a grant of £1000 towards the NCPF extension was agreed.

Cllr Halstead had attended the meeting of the Liss Community Centre. The official opening of the coffee bar extension was to be on 24th November. The Community Centre was now an Incorporated Charity.

Cllr Mayo had attended a meeting of the Flood Action Group on 7th October.

Cllr Wright and Cllr Hargreaves had attended the AGM of Liss Forest Residents Association.

Cllr Linsley had attended the AGM of HALC as well as meetings of NCPF & the CTCG meeting.

Cllrs Budden & MacNamara had attended a meeting of Coryton Alms Trust.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.50 hrs

Next meeting: Monday 18th December 2017 19.30hrs