

## LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 17<sup>th</sup> July 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, \*Mr T Wiles & \*Ms A Wright.

\* Present

Clerk: S. Smith.

In attendance: District Councillor Mr M Kendall & one member of the press.

### **101/17 Apologies**

Members accepted apologies from Councillors MacNamara and Smith, District Councillor Mrs L. Pienaar & County Councillor R. Oppenheimer.

### **102/17 Declarations of interests**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **103/17 Chairman's announcements**

The Chairman welcomed Terry Wiles and Katy O'Malley to their first Council meeting.

The Chairman noted that the Neighbourhood Plan hearing took place on 30<sup>th</sup> June. He felt that all questions had been well prepared and so the hearing went smoothly. The report was now awaited from the examiner.

A public consultation exercise on the Liss Pavilion had also taken place on 24<sup>th</sup> June and the latest proposals had been well received by those who attended.

The Chairman advised that the caretaker had given notice of his intention to leave the employment of LPC at the end of August and so the position would be advertised shortly.

### **104/17 Adjournment for public participation**

There were no matters from the public.

### **105/17 Report from County Councillor**

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

### **106/17 Reports from District Councillors**

District Councillor Mr Kendall reported that a meeting was due to be held between Liss Junior School and the East Hants Traffic Team on parking issues at the school. Details would be circulated so that those interested could attend.

Cllr Kendall advised that the Flood Action Group bid for funding from the Environment Agency for analysis on soft options had unfortunately been unsuccessful. Other sources of funding would be pursued.

The Chairman requested that Cllr Kendall provide up-to-date details to inform the LPC review of priorities for CIL funding.

District Councillor Mr Budden noted that, following representations on the charging proposals for the Hill Brow Road Car Park, EHDC Cabinet had agreed to defer the introduction of the new regime until further public consultation had taken place.

Cllr Budden raised the issue of the need for a general emergency response plan for LPC. It was agreed that this would be raised with Cllr Smith as it was thought that the Review Committee had undertaken to work on this.

Cllr Budden reported that HCC had secured a supply of camp beds for emergency use following the Grenfell Tower disaster.

Cllr Budden advised that the proposed reduction in the number of squash courts at the Taro Leisure Centre from three to two had been controversial with users. The SDNP has now called in the planning application for consideration.

Cllr Budden advised that he had been appointed as EHDC representative to the Health Service Commissioning Group and so any issues regarding health service provision should be reported to him.

### **107/17 Minutes of the meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

The minutes of the Council meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> June, proposed by Cllr Mayo & seconded by Cllr Budden, were agreed by a majority as a correct record (with three abstentions from those who were not present at the last meeting).

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Council meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017 be accepted as a correct record.

### **108/17 Matters Arising**

- Min 80/16 – Lych Gate – Cllr Budden advised that a response had been received from Cllr Oppenheimer advising that HCC had found no conclusive evidence to suggest they should take responsibility for the structure and suggested that EHDC should be pressed on the matter. It was agreed that Cllr Budden would speak to Nick Leach, EHDC Legal as well as Buildings Regs and the Footpaths Team. It was also agreed that the Clerk would organise a site visit to inform the view of the Council (to include a suitably qualified professional if possible).
- Min 87/17(i) – Boundary Commission consultation – Cllr Linsley advised that his understanding of the consultation was that the proposals would not affect Liss, rather they focused on District Council wards, but that he would welcome a second opinion as it was not clear. The Chairman agreed to have a look at the proposals and circulate a draft response in due course. Cllr Budden highlighted that the Boundary Commission were seeking feedback either way and so if members had no comments to make, it would be important to write and express support for the existing arrangements.
- Min 87/17(ii) – EHDC consultation on Environmental Services Contract – Members had been consulted and a response sent stating that LPC “prefers best quality at a competitive price with flexibility to allow for re-cycling improvements/evolution over contract period. May be best achieved by involving existing contractor in procuring new contract.”
- Min 87/17(iii) - Hants & IOW Resilience Forum Survey on pandemic flu - Cllr McDonald stated that this was a survey requiring individual response rather than a document requiring a group review.

### **109/17 Responsible Finance Officer’s Report (attached)**

The Clerk’s report was discussed & the following matters clarified:

Copier costs: Siemens costs relate to lease of the machine (i.e. fixed rental) and Apogee costs are for the level of usage based on the machine counter, i.e. number of copies and prints.

Pavilion Development Account - Matured six-month deposit: The RFO experienced difficulties in placing this on a further deposit due to a change in the bank’s procedures. The RFO will take this forward following clarification of the payment schedule in the revised Pavilion project timeline.

### **Resolved:**

- That the payments & receipts recorded in the RFO’s Report, proposed by Cllr Wright & seconded by Cllr Dodds, be approved.

### **110/17 Schedule of correspondence**

**110/17(i)** Rogate & Rake Pre-submission consultation on Neighbourhood Plan – This had been circulated and the Planning Committee would prepare a response.

**110/17(ii)** Community TCG Agenda for 12<sup>th</sup> July – Cllr Linsley had attended and would report back under reports on outside bodies.

**110/17(iii)** Rural Services Network Survey on growing a rural community – For individual response.

**110/17(iv)** Survey on creating a poetry trail for SDNP – Clerk to recirculate with clarification on whether an LPC or individual response was required.

**110/17(v)** Traffic Order Proposals – Reducing speed limits – Cllr Linsley would report back under reports of committees (Highway).

**110/17(vi)** Late Correspondence: SDNP notification on the CIL charging schedule and invitation to submit bids for CIL funds – The Planning Committee would prepare a response.

### **111/17 Motion proposed by the Chairman**

“That , subject to discussion, the priorities for the 2017/18 Council year, set out in the Action Plan, are adopted in order to give guidance to the work of the Council.”

Cllr Dodds seconded the motion.

The motion was welcomed by Members and the following amendments agreed:

- Inclusion of “and other social media” to the fourth bullet point on communication; and
- Addition of “Introduce the Sage Accounting System” as a key project.

Cllr McDonald proposed that upgrade of the village hall toilets should be included. The Chairman replied that this had not been budgeted for in 2017/18 and that the proposal should be raised in the autumn when the 2018/19 budget would be under consideration.

**Resolved:** That the Motion as amended be unanimously agreed.

### **112/17 Reports of Committees**

#### **Planning Committee**

**Resolved:** The draft minutes of the Planning Committee of 27th June be noted.

Cllr Halstead gave a review of the minutes noting that a letter had been sent to EHDC to highlight the need for improved parking provision on the Inwood Road estate.

#### **Highways Committee**

**Resolved:** The draft minutes of the Highways Committee of 10<sup>th</sup> July be noted.

Cllr Linsley gave a review of the minutes highlighting work to securing additional courtesy crossings and HCC proposals for speed reductions in Liss.

#### **Staff Matters Committee**

The Chairman gave a review of the outcomes of the Staff Matters Committee of 13<sup>th</sup> July. The Chairman advised that appraisals had been completed; that a part-time Assistant Groundsman had been appointed; that a number of changes in staffing in general were taking place with appropriate succession planning underway to ensure smooth transition; that a revised contract was under consideration as well as expenses and sickness absence policies.

#### **Update from the Pavilion Development Committee**

The Chairman advised that proposals displayed at the consultation event on 24<sup>th</sup> June had been well received, both in terms of the plans themselves and the funding proposals. Cllr Mayo added that the timetable published at the Annual Parish Meeting in March was on track. Following the consultation event, revised proposals would be produced with the aim of submitting a planning application at the end of August. This would allow for a tender process at the end of the year with submission of tenders early in 2018.

### **113/17 Matters of Concern**

Cllr Halstead highlighted the need to include notification of the referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan in the autumn publication of the Village Voice.

Cllr Halstead raised the issue of drugs related incidents in Liss and it was agreed that LPC should maintain close contact with the PCSO. The Clerk would arrange a meeting.

### **114/17 Reports on Outside Bodies**

Cllr McDonald had attended a Knowledge and Core Skills training course and a Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing (HARAH) event on rural housing to meet community needs. Powerpoint presentations from two HARAH events had been circulated for information.

Cllr Halstead had attended the Triangle AGM and noted that the coffee bar would be refurbished in the summer.

Cllr Linsley had attended the CTCG, two meetings with Rake Village Hall, Community Forum, a meeting of the NCPFT and the Passenger Forum.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.29 hrs

Next meeting: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 19.30hrs

# COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

## to LISS PARISH COUNCIL

**JULY 2017**

As mentioned last month, Hampshire faces a shortfall in its budget and needs to find savings of £140m by 2019. This shortfall is as a result of cuts to central Government grants, increased demand for care services due to the ageing population and inflationary pressures. A public consultation on options for achieving cost savings, called Serving Hampshire, commenced on 3 July and will run for 6 weeks until 21 August. It is about broad options rather than detailed policy, but it is certainly worth reading and responding as the responses will feed into the strategic process. The consultation can be accessed at this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/balancingthebudget>

There are three other items which I thought would be of interest to Liss Parish Council:

- Hampshire County Council's new Road Transport contract with Skanska commences on 1 August 2017. Preparations for the handover are at an advanced stage. Councillors have been briefed to expect one or two teething issues as the new systems bed in, but there is a widespread expectation that the new contract will lead to service improvements. Skanska have invested heavily in a digitally-enabled reporting system. All their crews will have sat nav tablet devices linked to their operations centre. New equipment such as a pot-hole fixing device called a "Dragon" are being introduced to the fleet. We anticipate that overall quality (and speed) of repairs and resurfacing works will be delivered in the coming months.

Parish Councils are encouraged to report any road or paving problems online via this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems>

You can find out about all Hampshire roadworks underway, also who is responsible and how long the works will be happening at this link:

<https://roadworks.org/>

- Sue asked about the Rural Communities Fund last month. The Rural Communities Fund was launched on 19 June, bringing together four funds which have now been combined to make it easier for Parish and Town Councils to apply for funding. The focus is on countryside access, flood prevention and rural retail projects. The Rural Communities Fund has combined the

Community Challenge Fund, the Flood Alleviation Scheme, the Rural Retailers and Community Enterprises Grant Scheme, and the Small Grants Scheme Countryside Access. You can apply online at [www.hants.gov.uk/grants](http://www.hants.gov.uk/grants)

- The South Downs Local Plan has been approved for consultation by the National Park Authority and will go out to public consultation in September. This Local Plan will become the overarching planning document for the entire Park. In advance of the formal consultation, the Local Plan is already available on the Internet at this link:

[https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/PC\\_2017June15\\_Agenda-Item-7-Appendix-1.pdf](https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/PC_2017June15_Agenda-Item-7-Appendix-1.pdf)

The Local Plan is over 500 pages long, so you may want to start reading before the formal consultation commences!

Please feel free to email me with any queries. I look forward to seeing you all at the next Liss Parish Council meeting on 18 September.

**RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER**  
**County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers**