



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7pm on 19th July 2021 in the Village Hall.

Members

*Mr K. Budden (Chair), *Mr R Baker *Mrs S. Baldwin, *Mrs J. Bennett, *Mr R. Finn,
* Mr R. Hargreaves *Mr D. Jerrard, *Mr H. Linsley, *Mrs G. Lowe *Mrs L McDonald,
*Mr A. Smith, *Mrs C. Williams and Mr N. Wilson

* Present, in addition to County Councillor Russell Oppenheimer.
Clerk: S. Smith

72/21 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Wilson.

73/21 Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of pecuniary interests. However, Cllrs Lowe and Williams noted their positions as allotment tenants and as such would refrain from voting on the item relating to allotment policy.

74/21 Chair's announcements

The Chair highlighted the following:

- That the Clerk would complete the signing in book as part of the Covid precautionary measures undertaken for the meeting;
- That works would commence in the Mill Road Community Garden in August and that he was pursuing the draft legal agreement with EHDC with the aim of this being finalised and signed in advance;
- It was envisaged that the Office would re-open to the public in September.

The Chair also extended a welcome to Sandra Humphrey who had joined the team as the new Responsible Finance Officer, and to those councillors for whom this was their first in-person meeting.

75/21 Adjournment for public participation

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

76/21 Update from the County Councillor

Cllr Oppenheimer presented his written report (**Annex A**).

In response to questions from councillors, Cllr Oppenheimer advised that the need to find £80m of savings from its annual budget arose from extra demand in social care provision as well as other issues including general inflation. He undertook to feed back to HCC on the Serving Hampshire consultation on Cllr McDonald's view that it focused more on what people didn't want to give up rather than what they wanted to keep and advised that more detailed consultation would follow in the Autumn. He advised that there had been lots of e-mails from Liss residents regarding the school crossing patrol.

Cllr Oppenheimer also clarified that although glass recycling facilities were being removed from recycling centres given kerbside services, there were no plans to remove glass recycling facilities from supermarket car parks.

77/21 Update from the District Councillors

Cllr Budden reported the following:

- That his new role at EHDC was Parish and Town Council Liaison with a key aim of enhancing the EDHC relationship with Parish and Town Councils. The role would include an update of the Parish Charter;
- That a phased return to the office at Penns Place would commence with a mix of full-time office working, full-time home working and a mix of the two. There would be a three-month trial period before any decisions were taken on future working arrangements;
- It had become common knowledge that EHDC was actively considering disposal of Penns Place in favour of a number of smaller contact centres in places such as Alton, Bordon, Petersfield and Horndean for which suitable premises were being sought. Increasing Council sustainability by reducing travel to the office was part of the consideration as a response to the Climate Emergency previously declared;
- That EHDC had administered 90% of Government Covid grants to business within 7 days of receipt of application. A small pot of funds remained for which clarification was being sought as to whether this had to be returned or could be spent locally.

Cllr Oppenheimer added that a mini climate conference event was being organised with Damian Hinds over the summer with four different workstreams. Following the successful Alton eco fair a similar event was also under consideration for Petersfield. He noted the good working relationship between PECAN and Liss, which was largely due to Cllr Bennett having linked the Liss Environmental Guardians with PECAN.

78/21 Minutes of the meetings of the Council meetings of 5th May 2021 and 14th June 2021

Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meetings of 5th May 2021 and 14th June 2021 be approved as an accurate record (proposed by Cllr Jerrard and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

79/21 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

80/21 Responsible Finance Officers Report

Resolved: That the receipts and payments reported in the Responsible Finance Officer's Report for the period 15th June 2021 to 15th July 2021 be approved (proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

81/21 Decisions made under Resolutions 60/21 and 71/21

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council notes the decisions made under Resolutions 60/21 and 71/21 on delegated arrangements in response to Covid-19 (proposed by Cllr Finn and seconded by Cllr Hargreaves with three abstentions (Cllrs Jerrard, Linsley and McDonald) and all other Members in favour).

Cllrs Jerrard, Linsley and McDonald expressed dissatisfaction with the process of agreeing planning comments from LPC as a statutory consultee via an e-mail exchange between the Planning Committee Members. The three Members felt that this was unlawful as the process was not open to the public and removed the opportunity for the public to influence the process.

The Clerk clarified that the delegated arrangements for decision-making in response to Covid-19 under Resolution 71/21 had been recommended by HALC and NALC. In addition, areas which could not be delegated by Council were limited and set out in LPC Financial Regulations (s1.13) The opportunity to hold virtual meetings via Zoom was no longer provided for in legislation and guidance had been issued to limit meetings during this period as much as possible.

Cllr Budden responded that members of the public were able to submit written representations which were circulated for consideration by the Planning Committee. Public comments could also be uploaded to the SDNPA site for all those considering the application to note. He re-iterated that advice had been sought on this and would be re-circulated to Members.

82/21 Public noticeboard replacement proposal

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council purchases a new public noticeboard for community use for the sum of £660 +VAT (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Smith with one vote against (Cllr Linsley) and all other Members in favour).

Resolved: That CIL funds be allocated to fund the new public noticeboard for the sum of £660 +VAT (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Hargreaves with one vote against (Cllr Linsley) and all other Members in favour).

83/21 Water bowser replacement proposal

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council purchases a new electric powered hanging basket watering unit for the sum of £1,687 +VAT (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Baker with all in favour).

Resolved: That reserves be allocated to fund the new watering unit for the sum of £1,687 +VAT (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Smith with all in favour).

84/21 Revised policy on allotment plots

Resolved: That the splitting of larger allotment plots will be encouraged where they are under-cultivated in order to create further plots and to ensure allotment plots meet the LPC 75% cultivation standard (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Hargreaves with two abstentions (Cllrs Lowe and Williams) and all other Members in favour).

Members noted that it was thought the number of plots concerned should be sufficient to balance supply and demand.

85/21 Draft recreational strategy for Liss

Resolved: That discussions be pursued with EHDC, the SDNPA and owners of other recreational facilities in the village to develop the draft recreation strategy for Liss further (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Williams with all in favour).

Members extended thanks to Cllr Wilson on developing the draft strategy.

Cllr McDonald highlighted the need for public consultation to inform the strategy, in particular as the previous consultations referred to in the document were carried out some time ago.

Cllr Budden noted that further consultation would also be important given the new houses at Andlers Wood.

Cllr Baker advised that he had offered to assist Cllr Wilson by starting with an audit of current facilities within the village.

Cllr Budden added that following investigations there would be plenty of opportunities for input and the strategy would come back to Council for discussion and ultimately approval.

Cllr Oppenheimer left the meeting at this point.

86/21 Appointments to committees

Resolved: That Cllr Baker be appointed to the Facilities Committee and Cllr Linsley be appointed to the Staff Committee (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Williams with all in favour).

87/21 Matters of concern to councillors

Cllr Linsley requested that reports from outside bodies return as a Council agenda item. The Clerk undertook to circulate the latest communication on the issue so that it could be considered further. Cllr Jerrard added that reinstating the agenda item on reports from external bodies would have allowed him to advise that there a vacancy was due to arise in the Coryton Alms Houses with much reduced rent.

Cllr McDonald noted concerns that the introduction in roadside parking charges by HCC might extend further to Petersfield. Cllr Budden confirmed that the proposals did not extend to Petersfield and Liss at the current time.

Cllr Hargreaves advised that an initial meeting between the NCPFT and LPC had been held on the

Service level Agreement and the working relationship between the two parties.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.25 hrs.

Next meeting: Monday 20th September 2021 in the Village Hall.

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

DRAFT

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT
TO
ALL PARISH COUNCILS
IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS**

1 JULY 2021

1. Serving Hampshire consultation

Hampshire County Council is currently consulting on ways to find £80m of savings from its annual budget. It is a broad consultation. If you have strong views on things like the importance of Household Waste and Recycling Centres, then I would encourage you to take 10 minutes to complete the online consultation. It is quite likely that there will only be around 4,000 responses so your opinion will carry genuine weight. You can complete the consultation at this link:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations/balancing-the-budget>

The consultation closes on Sunday 18 July 2021.

2. Active Travel schemes

At my first “Decision Day” on 17 June 2021 I decided to remove all the emergency active travel schemes in Hampshire once Covid lockdown restrictions end on 19 July. The only exception is Winchester due to their ongoing Movement Strategy. The plastic barriers in Petersfield will be removed in late July or early August.

Lessons have been learned from the “pop-up” schemes implemented during the pandemic. Those lessons will inform the next phase of Active Travel measures. Decisions on Phase 2 Active Travel measures will be taken in late July and implemented later in the year. These schemes will be tasteful, permanent and will make no use of plastic barriers. Hampshire County Council is committed to improving walking and cycling networks and this will form a core plank of our Local Transport Plan later this year.

3. Parish Forum on Motorbike Noise and Nuisance

On 25 June 2021 I chaired a Parish Forum to consider actions to tackle the scourge of motorbike noise and damage to BOATs in our area. The meeting was well attended and I am grateful to all those Parish Councillors who attended from Petersfield Hangers Division.

Damian Hinds MP explained that he is working closely with Flick Drummond MP to pursue action at the national level. He is pushing for the outcome of the Department for Transport trial into acoustic cameras to be published. Damian is also following closely the acoustic camera trial at Kensington & Chelsea which uses Public Space Protection Orders to penalise noise as anti-social behaviour with £100 fines. Damian and Flick will continue to seek to build a

coalition of other MPs towards the possible establishment of an All Party Parliamentary Group. Damian cautioned that legislative change may be difficult to achieve in a reasonable timescale so we should find interventions within the current regulations.

Donna Jones, Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, set out her priority actions with the Roads Police Team. They are undertaking a feasibility study into average speed cameras and she is committed to more patrols, including outside Loomies. Donna also explained that technological progress may provide solutions in the coming years. Donna Jones listened carefully to all the points raised and undertook to redouble efforts with the Hampshire Constabulary to find ways to tackle the excessive noise and speed of motorbikes. Donna and I will meet to co-ordinate our efforts.

As Executive Member for Highways I explained that I am awaiting an “options report” on possible measures which HCC could take as the Highways Authority. This may include such measures as:

- Signs, lines and coloured surfacing
- Rumble strips and over-run areas.
- Speed limit reminder signs (vehicle activated)
- Speed limit reductions.
- Low noise surfacing
- Traffic calming (e.g. chicanes and build-outs)
- Sound barriers
- Road realignment
- Education, Training and Publicity

On BOATs, it was agreed that it was incredibly unwise to spend public money repairing BOATs so that they could be degraded all over again by vehicles, as seemed to be the current situation. Cllr Robert Mocatta summarised the campaign which he is leading at the SDNPA which seeks to persuade the Authority to use its powers to make Traffic Regulation Orders on the byways open to all traffic (BOATs). This would require the gathering of evidence and working with communities. It was also widely agreed that the National Park Authority had a statutory duty to conserve and enhance the countryside, and to safeguard access to the countryside, and to promote the health and wellbeing of communities, all of which would be well served by meaningful action in this area.

The Campaign Against Noise and Speed set out their progress in progressing their campaign. Parish Councils who are not currently affiliated with them may wish to consider whether they should become members to add to the weight of that campaigning organisation.

Tangible progress in tackling this problem may take some time but your elected representatives will continue to work together to identify effective and affordable solutions, and we will organise another Parish Forum to update you in due course.

4. Recycling of glass at HWRCs

I wanted to explain why glass bottle banks at the HWRC are being removed.

The use of glass banks at the HWRCs has declined significantly across the county over the past few years, as districts have introduced kerbside services, with between 60-80% less glass being

deposited at the sites. In addition, EHDC does provide glass recycling facilities in places such as car parks and supermarkets.

The glass bank provision at the HWRCs incurs significant costs. The haulage costs of the material far outweigh any income that is derived from the material. Due to the ongoing financial pressures we are unable to fund services where more effective provision is made for a material elsewhere in the system. Our focus has to be on waste prevention as the number one remedy so that we seek to avoid creating the waste in the first place, reducing the carbon impact of waste and helping to manage our resources in the most effective way. The move also maximises space at HWRCs for bulkier items for which kerbside collection is less suitable.

5. Boundary Commission review

The Boundary Commission for England has proposed to chop several Parishes out of East Hampshire.

If approved by Parliament following consultation, two Bordon wards (Pinewood and Chase), Lindford, Headley, Grayshott and Bramshott and Liphook wards would join a new Parliamentary constituency with SW Surrey named “Farnham and Bordon”. This move will damage the interests of residents by making it harder to co-ordinate local government services with national priorities. Further boundary fragmentation will inevitably make it harder to deliver joined-up approaches across welfare, economic development, climate change and transport.

Although this does not affect any Parishes within Petersfield Hangers, I would invite you all to consider how you would feel if the Boundary Commission proposed to move your Parish to a constituency with a Surrey MP. Our community will be divided and the impact on Whitehill and Bordon is especially concerning. I feel we need to show solidarity with our neighbouring Parishes and contribute to the outcry. I have made a strong objection and I would be very grateful if Parishes could debate this issue and consider making objections too (or make individual responses if you prefer).

You can respond online at this web link (enter postcode and then click on the map).

<https://www.bcereviews.org.uk/>

6. Queen Elizabeth Country Park secures grant to boost family-friendly cycle facilities

Good news for mountain bike enthusiasts in East Hants! Please see this link for the full Press Release.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/25062021cyclefacilitiesQEpark>

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers