



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7pm on 21st February 2022 in the Village Hall

Members

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

* Present

Clerk: S. Smith, in addition to County Cllr Oppenheimer and one member of the public

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the two new councillors, Phil Deacon and Karen Tordoff.

144/22 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Bennett and Smith.

145/22 Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests.

146/22 Chair's announcements

The Chair noted that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held at 8pm on Wednesday 23rd March 2022 in the Village Hall; this would be the first in-person Annual Parish Meeting since March 2019. The Chair encouraged both councillors and members of the public to attend. Aside from the presentation of the Good Villager of the Year Award 2022, members of the public would be able to hear about what the LPC had been working on over the past two years and priorities going forward.

The Chair advised that damage from Storm Eunice and Franklin had not been significant in terms of damage to LPC buildings and grounds.

147/22 Update from the County Councillor

Cllr Oppenheimer had submitted a written report (**Annex A**).

Cllr Oppenheimer noted that there had unfortunately been a fatality in Alton from the storms. In addition, over 500 trees had come down across Hampshire which would potentially delay other operations and would take some time to clear. He highlighted the importance of maintaining road conditions and access to all properties and thanked the team of contractors who had been working hard since the storms hit.

Members raised the following issues:

- a) Repair to Hill Brow Road following the car fire – Cllr Oppenheimer advised that HCC were working hard to get this repair booked in but that it might be delayed further by storm follow up.
- b) The national speed limit on certain roads in Liss, including on a sunken lane – Cllr Oppenheimer advised that unfortunately changing speed limits was very bureaucratic and costly which meant that changes could not be prioritised unless there was evidence of accidents.
- c) Enforcement of speeding – Cllr Oppenheimer advised that HCC was lobbying MPs about

the lack of county level enforcement powers regarding speed limits as part of a continued effort to tackle traffic speed.

- d) HCC budget cuts – Cllr Oppenheimer advised that £94m in savings were required this year due to rising costs and that he could not clarify at this point where those savings would come from, however non-statutory services were likely to come under pressure.
- e) Publicity on changes to the Highway Code – Cllr McDonald picked up that parish councils were being asked to help promote this and the Clerk undertook to make use of LPC social media for this purpose.
- f) The issue of green lanes which allow for the legal recreational use of motor vehicles - The Chair proposed that the Highways Committee consider the issue.

148/22 Update from the District Councillors

Cllr Budden advised the following:

- a) The draft district council budget would be presented at the next meeting of EHDC. This proposed a 2% rise in council tax (the maximum allowed without a referendum).
- b) That the destination of the move from Penns Place as suggested in recent press coverage had not been confirmed, although a move by September was possible but ambitious.
- c) That the split from Havant Borough Council had been approved by a unanimous vote.
- d) That following the request for feedback on priorities for training from Town and Parish Councils, planning and standards had been most popular and so EHDC would look to deliver this.

Cllr Oppenheimer added that although the split from Havant Borough Council would involve change, the waste collection service would remain the same which he felt parishioners would welcome. He also highlighted that the Climate Liaison Panel would be releasing £100,000 to fund school solar projects and it was anticipated that this would benefit four or five schools in Hampshire.

Cllr Jerrard expressed concern about the large cost arising from the split between Havant Borough Council and EHDC, particularly as savings had been highlighted as a key outcome of the merger at the outset.

Cllr Budden advised that £1.5m had been set aside for transition costs, largely from reserves. He added that this would be a one-off with opportunity costs and that the funds were needed to make the split happen, also that there would likely have been increased costs by staying in the partnership. It would not be appropriate to comment on possible redundancies at this stage.

Cllr Deacon asked about accessibility of new EHDC hubs.

Cllr Budden advised that accessibility would be taken into account in determining the siting of any public offices. He noted that one outcome would be the removal of the automated answer service.

Cllr Hargreaves proposed that the issue be tabled for the next meeting of Council to enable a more full discussion to take place. The Chair agreed.

149/22 Minutes of the meetings of Council of 13th December 2021, 17th December 2021 and 17th January 2022

Members noted the minutes of the informal meetings of 13th December 2021 and 17th January 2022 (with one minor amendment to the latter).

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of Council of 17th December 2021 be approved as an accurate record (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

150/22 Matters arising

No matters were raised.

151/22 RFO's reports on payments and receipts for the period 8th December 2021 to 12th January 2022 and 13th January 2022 to 16th February 2022

Resolved: That the receipts and payments reported in the Responsible Finance Officer's Report for

the periods 8th December 2021 to 12th January 2022 and 13th January 2022 to 16th February 2022 be approved (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Hargreaves with all in favour).

152/22 Report of the Planning Committee of 14th February 2022

Members agreed that as the minutes for this committee had not yet been drafted this item would be taken at the next meeting of Council.

153/22 Report of the Finance Committee of 31st January 2022

The Chair of the Finance Committee, Cllr Williams, noted that the finances were on track for the first 8 months of the financial year. The committee had considered some amendments to the ear-marked reserves, mainly for house keeping reasons; these would be considered under the next item.

154/22 Amendments to Ear Marked Reserves

Finance Committee had made a recommendation to Council to approve the following amendments to the ear-marked reserves:

- a) RBFL Bridge repair £300 and Liss Walks and Leaflets £33.50 be transferred back to General Reserves.
- b) Elections: the sum of £7,500 be allocated to cover up to date anticipated costs.
- c) Transfer the Grounds New Equipment balance of £18,571.45 to new code of Grounds and Building Projects and round this up to £20,000
- d) Transfer £2,045.13 from Traffic Calming to HCC Highways Project.
- e) Transfer the balance of £584.80 from Replacement Water Bowser back to General Reserves as surplus is due to obtaining a cheaper bowser.
- f) Transfer the balance of £6 from Grounds Furniture to Mill Road Community Gardens.
- g) Change Tennis Court Resurfacing to Newman Collard Rec Improvements and round up to £10,000 from General Reserves.
- h) Transfer the balance of £250 from Riverside Walk Footpath back to General Reserves.
- i) Increase Xmas Decorations to £1,000 from the current £771.61.

Resolved: That the amendments to ear-marked reserves as recommended by the Finance Committee be approved (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Wilson with all in favour).

155/22 CCTV repairs/enhancement

Members discussed the need to replace two faulty cameras - one providing footage of the village centre roundabout and the other covering the Newman Collard Pavilion.

The Clerk highlighted that the new cameras would provide superior footage to the previous versions and noted that the Newman Collard Playing Field Trust had agreed to cover the share of the cost relating to the replacement camera at Newman Collard.

Cllr Wilson highlighted the importance of the camera covering the area outside Tesco's to the police and proposed that this also be upgraded at the same time.

Members agreed.

Resolved: That expenditure be approved for CCTV camera replacement to be funded by the CCTV maintenance budget of £530 and up to £1200 from ear marked reserves for CCTV maintenance (proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Baker with all in favour).

156/22 Report of the Project Review Group of 7th February 2022

The Chair of the Project Review Group, Cllr Hargreaves, highlighted that the group had approved a general approach of spending reserves on maintaining existing assets and making use of CIL for new projects. He highlighted that approximately £17,000 remained in unallocated reserves, leaving aside the 6 months running costs which it is recommended that LPC hold.

The group had made a set of recommendations to be approved by Council which would be taken under the next item. The Chair highlighted that the recommendations should be read in conjunction with the minutes of the Project Review Group.

157/22 Recommendations from the Project Review Group

Resolved:

- a) To allocate CIL funds of up to £15,000 as match funding for the delivery of West Liss Play Equipment proposals, following a public consultation exercise and a recommendation by the Facilities Committee on the preferred contractor.
- b) To approve budget expenditure of £585.27 and the allocation of CIL funding of £5,584.98 to meet the £6,180.25 cost of installation of a sports wall to replace the basketball goal at Newman Collard.
- c) To approve the proposal for hire of a pump track for the Liss Jubilee Celebrations and the expenditure of up to £2,000 unexpected income for this purpose, subject to being able to secure any further external funding.
- d) To allocate CIL funds up to £2,500 to Liss Athletic Football Club to cover the fees associated with the installation of the replacement flood lights based on evidence of expenditure and project delivery.

The motions were proposed by Cllr Hargreaves and seconded by Cllr McDonald with all in favour.

158/22 Revised LPC policies

Members noted the revised LPC policies adopted by the Review Committee on 8th December 2021 on a) Filming, Auto-Recording, Photographing and Reporting of Council Meeting, b) Training, and c) Environmental Policy.

Cllr Wilson suggested the Environmental Policy be tabled for the next meeting of the Facilities Committee to ensure that the policy was being applied to facilities areas.

159/22 Revised Terms of Reference for the Review Committee

The Chair of the Review Committee, Cllr McDonald, noted that the changes were non-substantive and highlighted that all committees should review their Terms of Reference periodically for subsequent approval by Council.

Resolved: That the revised Terms of Reference for the Review Committee be approved (proposed by Cllr McDonald and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

Cllr Oppenheimer left the meeting at this point.

160/22 Draft LPC Action Plan for 2022/23

Members considered a draft Action Plan for 22/23 – **see Annex B**.

The draft would remain open to proposed amendments by Members prior to provisional agreement at the March meeting of Council. The Action Plan would then be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting and would be subject to a period of public consultation prior to approval.

A member of the public joined the meeting at this point.

161/22 Printer/photocopier proposal

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council purchase a RICOH IMC2000 from the Copier Price Configurator Services for the sum of £1,775 plus VAT (proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr McDonald with all in favour).

Members extended their thanks to the Assistant Clerk for her work on this which would give rise to significant savings over the current rental contract.

162/22 First Interim Internal Audit Report for the period April to December 2021

The Chair of the Finance Committee, Cllr Williams, highlighted that the contents of the First Interim Audit Report for the period April to December 2021 was all in order. Members noted the report.

163/22 Correspondence: 20's Plenty for Hampshire campaign

Members had discussed the request for support to the '20's Plenty For Us' campaign at the informal meeting of 17th January. Some Members had questioned whether a blanket 20mph speed limit would be appropriate.

Since that discussion the issue had been tabled for the East Hampshire Association of Parish and Town Councils (EHAPTC) meeting to be held on 17th March with a proposal by Dummer Parish Council at a) below and a counter motion by Clanfield Parish Council at b) below.

Once agreed at the EHAPTC meeting the issue would be pursued with the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC).

- a) HALC requests that HCC adopts 20mph as the default speed for residential streets in towns, villages and rural settlements in Hampshire. HALC also calls upon HCC to implement the new limit in such a way as to make it enforceable and to ask Hampshire Police to support all efforts (Dummer Parish Council motion)
- b) Clanfield Parish Council would like to propose an amendment that instead of a blanket 20mph speed limit which would be as difficult to enforce as the current 30mph, give councils the power to implement selective 20mph areas, such as schools and congestion areas. This tends to have more effect in focusing driver attention to areas of danger (Clanfield Parish Council counter motion).

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council supports the Clanfield amendment to the motion (proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Baker with the majority in favour and two votes against).

164/22 Matters to report

Cllr McDonald enquired about the provision of wifi in the Village Hall.

The Clerk replied that this was on the agenda to pursue as a package of improvements.

Cllr Baker offered to provide an extender system which would allow access to the office wifi signal.

Cllr Wilson highlighted that Cllr Williams was making good progress on the co-ordination of the Liss Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr Jerrard and the member of the public left the meeting at this point.

165/22 Exempt Item: Consideration of the Good Villager of the Year Award 2022

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.58 hrs.

Next meeting: Monday 21st March 2022, 7pm

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

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT
TO
ALL PARISH COUNCILS
IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS
1 FEBRUARY 2022**

1. Government response to Landscapes Review

I usually put National Park items at the end of my report; but this month something very important has happened so I am putting it at the front! The Government published its response to the Glover Review of Protected Landscapes on 15 January 2022. The response can be read at this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs-government-response/landscapes-review-national-parks-and-aonbs-government-response>

Of particular interest to Parish Councillors in Petersfield Hangers Division is a long section in the Government response relating to the protection of Green Lanes in National Parks. I was very pleased about it and hope you will also be pleased. I have included it in full below:

Some country public rights of way and unsealed unclassified roads known as ‘green lanes’ allow for the legal recreational use of motor vehicles. Whilst many users make use of these rights in a responsible way, we have become increasingly aware of damage and disturbance caused by excessive use of off-road motor vehicles on some unsealed routes. This can result in impacts on local wildlife, the special qualities of an area e.g., tranquillity, and make the route less accessible for other users such as those on foot, bicycles, horseback, or in vehicles used by disabled people. In protected landscapes, these impacts could undermine the statutory purposes of the area.

We are also aware that these unsealed routes often provide essential vehicular access for local residents and businesses, and recognise that many people enjoy using motor vehicles responsibly on green lanes without causing damage or disturbance. Vulnerable groups such as disabled or elderly people are also likely to be particularly reliant on vehicular access in rural areas including via community transport.

We therefore would like to explore the options available for protecting our green lanes while maintaining most public and private access rights, particularly for residents or businesses. This could be achieved by giving greater discretion for National Park Authorities and local highway authorities to use existing powers to restrict use on a case-by-case basis. Alternatively, the government could consider restricting the use of certain motor vehicles on unsealed roads through legislation, but only if this could carefully balance the needs of all users including motorised vehicle users, horse riders, cyclists and walkers, whilst also protecting private access rights.

The response goes on to say that the Government will consider giving National Park Authorities enhanced powers to make Traffic Regulation Orders and Public Space Protection Orders. This would be welcome.

I believe that the Government plans to strengthen the statutory purposes and create a National Landscapes Partnership are also to be welcomed.

There is now a public consultation on the response which runs until 9 April. I would encourage Parish Councillors to consider making collective PC responses as well as individual responses to the Government. We have an opportunity here to highlight the damage done to our byways by vehicles and to encourage the government to make good on its intention to give NPAs more powers to protect green lanes. You can respond to the consultation at this link:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/future-landscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/>

2. BOATs

Following on from the above, Members of the National Park Authority discussed BOATs at a workshop on 27 January. This was an important milestone. The specific problems in East Hampshire (chalky lanes, population density) have been understood and acknowledged. The relevance of this issue to the SDNPA's statutory purposes (to conserve the park and to safeguard access) have been explained. The relevance to the duty to communities has also been appreciated.

I spoke about BOATs in the morning because I had to depart for a Decision Day but I believe my contribution had an impact. The key points I made were the SDNPA can act: it has the power to make TROs and it has the right skills to ensure that the correct admin procedures are followed and that the signage and gate features installed are appropriate to the setting. I also explained why the County Council does not have the resources to fix this issue due to funding demand pressures in social care and children's services and inflation.

The outcome of the workshop was that a paper would come to a public meeting of the SDNPA either in March or May. I look forward to having a full, transparent discussion on this issue with other Members and will report back again after that.

3. Motorbike Noise and Nuisance Parish Forum – reporting back

On 13 January Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones hosted a Parish Forum to set out the plans to tackle motorbike noise on roads in East Hampshire. Thank you to all who attended. The two key measures to report on are;

- Two sets of Average Speed Cameras will be placed on the A272 and A32 at the approach to the Meon Hut.
- During the Summer season, prominent signs saying “Meon Valley – Keep Noise to a Minimum” will be displayed along the length of the A272 and A32.

In addition, the police will be undertaking enforcement across East Hants using new tactics such as unmarked police bikes with cameras to record offending. There will also be publicity campaigns on social media to improve compliance.

It is hoped that this package of measures will start to reduce the attractiveness of the area to inconsiderate bikers and will encourage more responsible driving by those bikers that do continue to come here. At the meeting it was agreed that District Councillors will explore the use of Public Space Protection Orders to tackle noisy bikers in our area. We will be taking this forward.

4. Non-crete bollards

I was surprised and pleased by the national coverage for my non-crete bollards initiative. Instead of ghastly concrete, the bollards are made from an eco-friendly sugarcane-based plastic. This reduces carbon emissions involved in concrete production. Carbon is also captured by the sugarcane as it grows. This is a UK first and it was picked up by the Times, the Telegraph, Daily Mail and BBC. We are trialling the bollards across Hampshire.

5. Mast in Hawkley

The new EE mobile phone mast in Hawkley has been commissioned. I believe that this has improved mobile phone coverage in the Hangers area for both the EE and O2 networks. It also means that mobile broadband over the 4G network may become a good option for those rural houses awaiting better fibre broadband.

6. Highway Code Changes

The changes to the Highway Code, which came into effect last Friday, are good news for our area. Many of our country lanes are regularly used by pedestrians and cyclists. It is welcome that these road users will now be at the top of the hierarchy and motorists will be obliged to give way to them. To avoid confusion and confrontation it is important that motorists understand the changes and adjust their driving habits.

Parish Councils may wish to consider publicising the changes to the Highway Code in their newsletters to raise awareness. The full changes can be read here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>

7. Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

Hampshire County Council is putting in place plans to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year. These will provide opportunities for residents across the county to participate, including through schools, libraries, care homes, and outdoor sites. The primary focus is during the extended bank holiday weekend of Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 June 2022. Two initiatives I would like to highlight are:

- The Queen's Green Canopy in Hampshire – a £0.5million initiative to support tree planting in line with the County Council's wider climate action plan. Advice, guidance, and practical support will be made available to assist schools, organisations, and communities to plant successfully – with the right tree in the right place across Hampshire, and during the planting season (October-March). Activity will include a new woodland at River Hamble Country Park. Commemorative trees will also be planted at Queen Elizabeth Country Park.
- Licoricia statue in Winchester – a life-size bronze statue of Licoricia, an influential medieval Jewish woman, will be unveiled outside The Winchester Arc (formally Winchester Discovery Centre) on 10 February marking the start of Hampshire's Platinum Jubilee programme. This will be a major interfaith event, a key theme of the Jubilee. The County Council is supporting the Licoricia of Winchester Appeal Trust to develop educational materials about Winchester's medieval Jewish community, its role in society and its royal connections, and to promote religious tolerance and understanding.

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers

DRAFT Liss Parish Council Action Plan for 2022/2023

During the Council year 2022/23 Liss Parish Council will undertake the following actions:

- Maintain, improve and promote the use of recreation grounds and facilities such as the Village Hall and Liss Pavilion.
- Comment on all planning applications which fall within or impact on the Parish.
- Represent the views and promote the interests of the parish of Liss, particularly in relation to East Hampshire District Council, the South Downs National Park Authority and Hampshire County Council.
- Engage with the community, including parishioners, local businesses, community groups and organisations in Liss, including by maintaining an up-to-date website and social media presence in the village, in line with the Community Engagement Policy.
- Listen, investigate and respond to issues identified by the parish of Liss and, if appropriate, to signpost to the correct person/ organisation for resolution/ further progression.
- Work with key local groups for the benefit of residents.
- Deliver speedy and transparent decisions through full meetings of the Council, supported by appropriate committees and working groups.
- Maintain good financial practices, ensuring transparency and value for money, building on the reporting capacity of the new finance software.
- Identify and secure sources of funding to advance LPC priorities.
- Promote training and induction and ongoing support for members of staff and councillors.
- Maintain good governance, including adhering to relevant benchmarks to achieve Quality Status of the Local Council Award Scheme.

Key projects for 2022/2023 include:

- Covid-19: helping the village recover and learn from the experience of Covid-19, in consultation with the community, using our services and funding and through support to and from other organisations, such as the district and county councils and local voluntary groups.
- Funding: Deciding priorities for the use of CIL funds allocated directly to Liss Parish Council, using extensive community engagement, and accessing other sources of investment.
- Highways priorities:
 - Delivering the village gateways project;
 - Delivering the school zone proposals.
- Facilities priorities:
 - Delivery of the refurbished children's play area at West Liss Recreation Ground;
 - Complete the Mill Road Community Garden;
 - Pursue options and funding for creating provision for teenagers and adults at West Liss Recreation Ground;
 - Work with partner organisations and local residents to develop and implement a village wide strategy for recreational facilities.
- Developing proposals for enhancement of the village centre with Hampshire County Council.
- Exploring opportunities with local groups and organisations for enhancing the social welfare of the village.
- Liss Neighbourhood Plan: working with the SDNPA to set up arrangements for the implementation and monitoring.