



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

The Council Meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7pm on 27th June 2022 in the Village Hall

Members:

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

* Present, in addition to County Cllr Oppenheimer

Clerk: L. Keeling (Assistant Parish Clerk)

215/22 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Jerrard, Cllr Olley, Cllr Smith, Cllr Tordoff and Cllr Wilson.

216/22 Declarations of interests

Councillors were reminded of their responsibility to declare any pecuniary interest which they may have in any item of business no later than when that item is reached. Cllr Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13 as she is a Liss Parish allotment tenant.

The chair requested and members agreed to defer agenda items 16; CIL allocation - Finding proposal from the Crossover Youth Centre, as councillors were not due to discuss this until meeting on Friday 1st July 2022; and 20, Approval of the Exempt Minutes of the Council meeting of 16th May 2022, as these had not been circulated to members before the meeting.

217/22 Chair's announcements

The Chair highlighted the following:

- i. Pleased to welcome Cllr Olley who was co-opted to fill the councillor vacancy for the Liss Ward on 27th June 2022.
- ii. Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations:
 - a. A message of thanks was extended to all council staff, councillors and groups in the wider community including for their hard work and dedication whilst organising the successful events for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Noting that events were well attended and they created a great sense of community. The chair in particular wanted to thanks
 - Liss Junior School
 - Karen Feeney
 - Liss Band
 - Royal British Legion
 - Liss Forest Ballet School
 - Crossover
 - Newman Collard Tennis Club
 - Dorothy & Tom Collard
 - Liss Juniors Football Club
 - Peter Coley

- Florio's Pizza
 - Gilco Ice-cream
 - 1st Liss Scouts
 - Sue Marriot
 - Fiona Wilson
 - Hilliers
 - Liss in Bloom
- b. The village has received a certificate from Buckingham Palace thanking us for our participation in Jubilee Beacon Lighting on 2nd June 2022.
- c. A message of congratulations was extended to Fleurtations Pembrooks Florists who won the Platinum Jubilee Liss Village Shop Display Award, who were presented the trophy by Cllr Budden.
- iii. A message of thanks was extended to the two work experience students from Bohunt secondary school who helped at the Council Office on 23rd June 2022.
- iv. Requested that councillors ask their contacts if anyone knows a drummer as Liss Band has an urgent vacancy.

Cllr Linsley asked the Chair to note Liss Parish Council's thanks to The Liss Community Association for organising the very successful Liss Open Gardens on Sunday 26th June 2022 which was enjoyed by many of the wider community.

218/22 Adjournment for public participation

There were no Members of the public present, so no adjournment of the meeting was required.

219/22 Update from the County Councillor

Cllr Oppenheimer submitted a written report (**Annex A**) and talked through those items.

Cllr Deacon thanked Cllr Oppenheimer for his involvement in the drainage investigations for Liss Forest Recreation Grounds.

Cllr Linsley requested that Cllr Oppenheimer find out why Hampshire County Council had decided to use a chargeable numbers for its main telephone line [*Clerk's notes: HCC phone number 0844 448 1631 costs 7p per minute plus phone company's access charges to call*], noting someone would be charged over £1 if they were waiting just 15 minutes to speak to someone. Cllr Oppenheimer agreed to look into this and report back.

220/22 Update from the District Councillors

Cllr Budden highlighted the following:

- i. East Hampshire District Council ("EHDC") Decoupling from Havant was proceeding as planned to split by end of 2022 or early 2023. Reporting that most of the top level Directors had been retained which was helping continuity and aiding transition. EHDC were planning on doing a publicity campaign showcasing the reasons behind the decoupling.
- ii. EHDC would likely need to review its Local Development Plan due to ongoing discussions with central government about current exemption of national parks from development quotas. The review would allow newly adopted eco friendly building standards to be included.
- iii. Norse South-East refuse collections continued to be under pressure and they were unable to fulfil their contract so were prioritising waste and recycling over garden waste and glass collections. Cllr Deacon asked if residents could expect a reduction in council tax if they were not receiving the services they were expecting. Cllr Linsley enquired if EHDC would be looking into penalties for non-compliance with Norse and if they were planning on renewing their contract at the end of its current term.

Cllr Oppenheimer highlighted the following:

- i. EHDC were looking into increasing number of Planning Enforcement Officers as current capacity has meant builds outside of planning were not being held to account as rigorously as EHDC would like.
- ii. Boundary Commission England are conducting a review of parliamentary constituencies and are

looking into splitting Whitehill and Bordon. It is proposed that Bordon be removed from East Hampshire and placed in a new cross-county 'Farnham and Bordon County Constituency' and Whitehill would remain in East Hampshire.

221/22 Minutes of the meetings of Council of 16th May 2022

Resolved: That the minutes of the meetings of Council of 16th May 2022 be approved as an accurate record (proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr McDonald with all in favour).

222/22 Matters arising

211/22: Members requested that the Clerk add some detail about what exempt item 211/22 if possible.

Annex B. Table showing LPC Committees and other appointments 2022/23.

Cllr McDonald asked if numbering system issues could be resolved

Cllr Linsley requested the Community Forum be included. Cllr Budden offered to look into bringing this back to East Hampshire Association of Parish & Town Council ("EHAP&TC")

Cllr Russell Oppenheimer left the meeting at this point.

223/22 RFO's reports on payments and receipts for the period 12th May 2022 to 22nd June 2022

Resolved: That the receipts and payments reported in the Responsible Finance Officer's Report for the period 12th May 2022 to 22nd June 2022 be approved (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Baldwin with all in favour).

224/22 Reports of Committees

Members noted the reports of the following committees:

- i. Highways Committee of 23rd May 2022;
- ii. Planning Committee of 6th June 2022;
- iii. Facilities Committee of 13th June 2022.

Highways Committee.

Cllr Linsley asked if owner of Ten Acre Field had been contacted. APC advised that their details had been obtained but they had yet to be contact. Cllr Deacon noted that if the right of way was moved it could inadvertently increase risk of road crossing rather than make it better. Cllr McDonald suggested that LPC look into alternative solutions with Hampshire Highways to alleviate risk.

Planning Committee.

Committee members voiced their disappointment that Planning Application SDNP/20/04861/FUL for a detached dwelling in the Whistle Stop Pub car park had been recommended for approval. Cllr Deacon notified members that he had contacted EHDC Planning Enforcement to request they contact the owner of the Old Post Sorting Office at 45 Station Road to demand improvements are made given its poor condition and prominent position within the Liss Conservations Area. He noted Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Section 215 gives planning authorities powers when the proper maintenance of land are not being met.

Facilities Committee.

25/F22 West Liss Play Area Improvements. Cllr Linsley raised a concern over wording of Temporary Pump Track and consultation exercise section on pumptrack and community consultations.

21/F22 Allotment Issues. Members noted even if other measures were put in it is likely allotment security would remain low as fences would remain climbable.

225/22 Himalayan Balsam Management Plan Proposal from Facilities Committee

Cllr Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest as she is a Liss Parish allotment tenant and left the room whilst discussions and voting were taking place.

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council approve the allocation of general reserves to the sum of £2,880 to fund the 3-year Himalayan Balsam management programme at Prince's Bridge allotment garden and appoint PBA Consulting Solutions to undertake the work (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

226/22 Report of Project Review Committee from 20th June 2022

Members noted the reports of the Project Review Committee from 20th June 2022.

227/22 CIL allocation for Village Centre Project:

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council approve to hold £120,000 from CIL funding in reserves that can be used to provide match funding for the Village Centre Project upon further approval (proposed by Cllr Hargreaves and seconded by Cllr Baker with all in favour).

228/22 End of financial year arrangements:

228.1 Liss Parish Council 2021/22 Audit Report from Lightatouch

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council note the audit report received from Lightatouch for the 2021/22 (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

228.2 Liss Parish Council 2021/22 audited accounts

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council approve the audited Liss Parish Council accounts for 2021/22 (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

228.3 Liss Parish Council 2021/22 Annual Governance Statement

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council approve the Annual Governance Statement for the 2021/22 financial year and authorise the Chair & Clerk to sign the document accordingly (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

228.4 Liss Parish Council 2021/22 Accounting Statement

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council approve the Accounting Statement for the 2021/22 financial year and authorise the Chair to sign the document accordingly (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

228.5 Exercise of Public Rights for 2021/22

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council approve the dates for the exercise of public rights (proposed by Cllr Williams and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

229/22 Participation in the Beacon Lighting Programme.

Discussions revolved around appetite to continue participating in the program, use of beacon as opposed to other methods, when would the beacon likely be used next, H&S aspects of ensuring equipment remains safe to use and location of the beacon.

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council continue in Beacon Lighting Community Programme and to investigate into mending our beacon or finding a suitable (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr McDonald with all in favour).

230/22 Matters to report.

Cllr Williams reported the following:

- Community Engagement Coffee meeting in the Triangle Community Centre was well attended. She noted concern that the majority of Liss residents are not clear on different roles and responsibilities of LPC, EHDC, HCC, The Liss Community Association, Newman Collard Playing Field Trust.

Cllr Deacon reported the following:

- Southern Water had visited Mill Road Community Garden and given approval for the footpath

to remain over the sewerage systems.

- Blocked ditch at north end of Liss Forest Recreation Ground had been cleared by Liss Forest Residents Association but that talks were ongoing with EHDC Estates Surveyor, Craig Stainton, over who's responsibility these fell under (Clerk's Note: It has been established that the ditch comes under the responsibility of Southern Water rather than EHDC).

Cllr Linsley reported the following:

- Encouraged councillors to attend the quarterly East Hampshire Association of Parish & Town Council ("EHAP&TC") meetings which are held in person twice a year and via zoom for other two. One of the speakers was a EHDC Planning Officer who informed them of the appointment of a new solicitor for planning enforcement to tackle rogue developers who are aware of how to game the planning system.
- Recommend councillors to read recent report by Professor Colin Copus of De Montfort University on Parish & Town Councils: Recent Issues.

Cllr McDonald reported the following:

- Formal request for LPC to add Wifi to the village hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.46 hrs.

Next meeting: Monday 18th July 2022, 7pm

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

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT TO ALL PARISH COUNCILS IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS

1 JUNE 2022

1. New Leader for Hampshire County Council

On 19 May 2022 the County Council elected Cllr Rob Humby as the new leader of HCC. Cllr Humby said:

“It is truly an honour to be the new leader of Hampshire County Council – I am Hampshire through and through, and am passionate about doing the best for the people and businesses that make Hampshire great.”

In the reshuffle I have moved to a new role as Executive Member for Recreation, Heritage and Rural Affairs. This means I am Cabinet Lead for Parish and Town Council relations, which I am very pleased about. I am also responsible for the Countryside Service, Country Parks, the Registration Service, the Scientific Service and the Library Service.

2. Grants available to help with cost of living

HCC is urging local groups to apply for grants that will help them support those in most need in their communities. A total of £300,000 is being made available for projects that will help families and individuals facing food and fuel poverty, particularly in rural areas, between now and September 2022. The deadline for applying for a community grant is 29 July 2022. Organisations wishing to find out more should go to the [connect4communities website](#) for the full guidance and application form.

The rising cost of living is a challenge for most people, but it is especially difficult for low-income families with children, as well as pensioners, who might be struggling with food and utility bills. The latest community grants are funded by the £7.12million Household Support Fund, provided to Local Authorities by the Department for Work and Pensions to support vulnerable households, especially with the cost of food and energy bills.

In addition to the grants, the County Council is using the funding to develop a suite of supportive measures that aim to help residents who are struggling financially. These include:

- Food vouchers for individuals receiving pension credit or council tax support distributed through district and borough councils.
- Funding for schools, colleges and early years settings to provide discretionary grants to vulnerable households with children.
- Additional funding and support for [Community Pantries](#).

- Support via the local [Citizens Advice](#) for households struggling to meet the cost of their utility bills.
- Emergency housing support from district and borough councils.

I am really glad that HCC is doing everything it can to help people through this challenging inflationary period. I know that Parish Councils will want to consider whether there is a scheme which they can develop to access these funds for the benefit of their Parishioners.

3. Ukraine: Refugee Update

The County Council has announced free bus pass travel for all Ukrainian refugees across Hampshire this Summer. The Local Authority is in the process of finalising arrangements with the county's three major bus operators - Stagecoach, First Bus and Bluestar – with the scheme due to launch shortly. Full details of the scheme will be shared with Homes for Ukraine sponsors and guests in due course.

Communities can now apply for grants of up to £5,000 from Hampshire County Council for projects that will help Ukrainian arrivals to access the support they need. Applications for grant funding can be made by Parish and Town Councils, or any constituted community organisation. There is a need for English language tuition programmes and this would be especially useful in this area.

More information is available on Hampshire County Council's website [Leaders Community Grants | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#) or by contacting ccbsgrants@hants.gov.uk.

4. Hampshire Record office awarded listed status

Hampshire's Record Office in Winchester is one of six landmark sites across the UK that have been awarded listed status by the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on the advice of Historic England to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's 70-year reign. The award-winning building, designed by the County Council, was opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1993.

Hampshire Record Office is the newest of the six extraordinary sites across the country that have been [listed in honour of their connection to Her Majesty The Queen](#), and in recognition of their architectural merits. The Record Office was designed by the County Council's in-house architect's team, led in those days by the eminent County Architect Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, to include pioneering techniques that supported the preservation of fragile documents, whilst offering a welcoming and practical space for visitors.

Hampshire Record Office is the home of 1,000 years of history and comprises Hampshire Archives and Local Studies and Wessex Film and Sound Archive. It is a service that is open to anyone - whether undertaking research into their family genealogy or pursuing academic work. The archives are a unique collection of stories from the past, including letters by Florence Nightingale and Jane Austen. You can find out more including opening hours, events, and collections by visiting: www.hants.gov.uk/archives

5. “Our South Downs” – a new business initiative from SDNPA

Our South Downs has been created to provide an innovative network where businesses and organisations can connect with each other, share services and products, and work together towards sustainability.

The initiative has been launched by the South Downs National Park Authority’s Enterprise Team and is open – and free to join – to all businesses in and around the National Park.

The initiative has a number of key elements to help businesses:

- Launching this autumn, businesses will be able to join an internationally-recognised “Green South Downs” certification scheme that champions sustainability. The National Park is partnering with Green Tourism, which helps businesses adopt greener ways to operate, such as reducing single-use plastics, reducing carbon footprint, making it easy for employees to recycle and creating a green outdoor space to boost biodiversity. This will be open to both tourism and non-tourism businesses.
- Free business mentoring session from the Association of Business Mentors.
- Members can access a free downloadable toolkit of business resources provided by Sussex Innovation Centre.
- A regularly-updated online portal with information for businesses to help with planning, tourism and land-based schemes, as well as search for and connect with other like-minded businesses.
- Advice and support around maximising energy efficiency and creating stronger supply chains.
- Information on new funding opportunities when they become available.
- Discounted venue hire at sites run by the National Park Authority.

I hope that local businesses in and around Petersfield (including farms, shops and restaurants) will consider joining this free scheme. To find out more about joining Our South Downs visit the brand-new website at oursouthdowns.co.uk

I have finished my five-year stint as a Member of the SDNPA. The new HCC nominee is Cllr Debbie Curnow-Ford who is the Councillor for Liphook, Headley and Grayshott. I will continue to report to you on SDNPA matters and I will maintain close links with the SDNPA Members and Officers in my new role.

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers