



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on 28th March 2022, 7pm,
Liss Village Hall

MEMBERS

*N. Wilson (Chair) *R. Baker, *K Budden, *P. Deacon,
*R. Hargreaves, *H. Linsley, *A. Smith, *C. Williams

*Present

Clerk: Sarah Smith

01/22 Apologies

There were no apologies.

02/F22 Declarations of Interests

Cllr Budden declared an interest arising from his position as a Member of EHDC (specifically in relation to the item on the Mill Road Community Garden).

03/F22 Minutes of the Facilities Committee of 29th November 2021

Resolved: That the minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting of 29th November 2021 be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting (proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr Williams with one abstention due to Cllr Linsley being absent at the relevant meeting and all other Members in favour).

04/F22 Matters arising

22/F21 Duck house: The Clerk advised that new duck houses secured by Little Treasures had not yet been installed nor any approach made to LPC as had been requested.

39/F21 Old Railway Platform: The Clerk advised that some photos had been received from the Liss Area Historical Society and had now been forwarded to Cllr Budden in order to assist with an application to the Rail Heritage Trust to fund renovation works.

39/F21 Pollinator Project: The Clerk advised that she had now made contact with the Liss Environmental Guardians who had expressed an interest in being involved in the HCC led Parish Pollinator project. The Clerk would look to set up a meeting of interested parties.

39/F21 Himalayan Balsam: The Clerk confirmed that the Himalayan Balsam plan was a 3-year program which would run until the end of 2023 with a review in 2024. The Riverside Walk allotment site had now been incorporated into the management programme. The Clerk was in the process of setting up a meeting with the contractor and the Liss Environmental Guardians to ensure that any voluntary efforts would complement the works.

Cllr Deacon enquired about the white tipped posts placed alongside the Riverside Walk.

The Clerk replied that the contractor had put white tipped posts in place to help identify the location of the Himalayan Balsam.

Cllr Williams noted that an area of the Riverside Walk had signs identifying it as private land which had hampered efforts to manage the Himalayan Balsam in that area.

The Clerk undertook to look at the title deeds to establish ownership of the land in question (NB. It has since been established that the area concerned falls after the boundary between the LPC and EHDC sections – the Clerk will raise with EHDC). It was noted that should the land be privately owned the landowner would be obliged to undertake a treatment program to manage the Himalayan Balsam in that location.

49/F21 Land at Old School Road: The Clerk confirmed that she had confirmed a set of terms for the

resident of Old School Road to make use of the small area of LPC land outside the Newman Collard boundary fence.

47/F21 NCPFT/LPC Service Level Agreement: Cllr Hargreaves advised that due to illness there had not been the opportunity to meet with the NCPFT to discuss the revision of the Service level Agreement. A meeting would be arranged shortly.

48/F21 Mill Road Community Garden: The Chair advised that there had been no movement towards the agreement with EHDC on the use of the land. The Team leader at EHDC now responsible for the project had set out a list of requirements to take forward in advance of any agreement. It was hoped that the new Project Officer due to join LPC on 19th April would be able to focus on this as a priority area and advance negotiations with EHDC.

Cllr Smith suggested that one option would be to leave EHDC to manage the land as it is.

45/F21 Pump track hire: The Clerk advised that the pump track had been booked for the Platinum Jubilee weekend of 2nd to 5th June as an LPC contribution to the celebrations at West Liss Recreation Ground. LPC was fortunate to have secured the facility as demand had been high. The cost of £3,800 was to be covered by a £1,000 Direct Councillor grant from Cllr Budden, an £800 District Councillor grant from Cllr Oppenheimer and a successful application for £2,000 from the National Lottery Awards for All scheme.

Members welcomed the facility, both as fully funded by grants and as an excellent consultation opportunity for considering such a facility on a permanent basis.

Cllr Budden suggested contacting the Petersfield Post and Shine Radio in due course to secure good media coverage.

05/F22 Recreation ground design principles

Cllr Hargreaves had circulated some thoughts on design principles, including impacts on adjoining properties, adequate separation of different types of facility, access, parking and any potential demand for lighting.

Cllr Smith added that principles such as robustness should be included as well as recognising the rural village setting in a protected environment of the SDNP, governed by a Village Design Statement and Neighbourhood Plan, with the need for materials and design to reflect this.

Cllr Hargreaves undertook to draft a short paper on design principles for LPC recreation facilities.

06/F22 West Liss Play Equipment – Design Choice

The Clerk had circulated a summary of the feedback from the successful consultation event held on Saturday 19th March 2022 at the Liss Pavilion. The feedback was overwhelmingly in favour of the proposed design from Natural Playscapes. However, there were a few areas to explore in response to the feedback, including swapping the spinner bowl for a full flat roundabout and adding a picnic table.

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council appoint natural Playscapes as the preferred contractor for replacement of the West Liss Recreation Ground (proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

Members agreed that the Clerk should explore the options for amending the design in line with the feedback received and the timeframe for installation and would report back to Council as regards the impact on the cost should that increase. The Chair said that ideally there should be some progress to show on the Jubilee weekend – at the very least a display of the final design.

07/F22 Update on funding applications

The Chair gave an update on the funding applications in process:

- a) £50,000 had been awarded from SDNPA held CIL from 20/21 to the West Liss Recreation Ground, Liss – to expand and renew recreational provision including play area, MUGA and fitness area. It had been subsequently agreed that the funds should be used to replace the dilapidated children's play area (with an additional £15,000 match funding from LPC CIL).
- b) An application from LPC had been submitted for the SDNPA 21/22 CIL for the sum of £100,000 for two further projects at West Liss Recreation Ground – outdoor fitness equipment for older teenagers and adults and informal recreation facilities for teenagers at West Liss, There had been

discussions with the Crossover about them leading a bid for a Wheeled Sports facility but the Crossover trustees had decided not to do so and so LPC had included funding for informal recreation facilities for teenagers in its bid. This would be informed by the reaction to the pump track hire for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations on 2nd to 5th June at West Liss.

- c) The NCPFT had also submitted a bid for SDNPA 21/22 CIL for an outdoor fitness area for older teenagers and adults and a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) primarily for children and teens.

The outcome of the SDNPA CIL funding applications would not be known until October 2022 and so no progress on these projects could be made before then.

08/F22 Drainage at Liss Forest and Newman Collard recreation grounds

Cllr Deacon presented a paper setting out the drainage issues with Newman Collard Playing Fields and Liss Forest Recreation Ground with some thoughts and options to explore further in an attempt to improve the drainage on those sites.

Cllr Deacon was due to meet with the NCPFT shortly. The Clerk suggested that the Groundsman also attend due to his knowledge in this area.

Cllr Budden noted the extent of the cracks in the path from the compound to the NC Pavilion.

Cllr Wilson replied that this was due to be considered by the NCPFT and that he would raise at the next meeting.

Cllr Deacon said that he was also in the process of arranging a meeting with Liss Forest Residents Association representatives. Members thanked Cllr Deacon for taking on this area of work.

09/F22 Recreation strategy

The Chair said that a two-side summary of recreation improvements planned for Liss had been circulated and he had already used this at the Annual Parish Meeting the previous week.

The Chair thanked Cllr Baker for the background research paper which had informed this.

Cllr Baker invited any further comments on the research paper which had been circulated via e-mail as wider contributions would be welcome.

The Chair said that, so as to avoid raising expectations unduly, he proposed that in depth consultations on individual projects would await LPC having the necessary financial packages in place. In the meantime, he and Cllr Baker would take the summary back to the consultees who had informed this work and it would also be uploaded to the LPC website.

Cllr Hargreaves said that it would be important to emphasise that the projects could not all happen at once and that the strategy includes what is already in the pipeline and has been delivered.

Cllr Smith proposed that a vision be developed for each individual site.

Cllr Williams suggested we do more to advertise existing provision, whether LPC owned or not.

Cllr Baker responded that he had undertaken to do some work on this, including adding links to the website to all recreational facilities as well as Facebook posts (as had been done earlier in the week on the Pétanque Terrain).

10/F22 Millennium Mosaic

The Clerk advised that the renovation works, from cleaning, repair and protecting the mosaic, were scheduled to commence on 28th April 2022.

She advised that the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts had all played a role in preparing bags of tiles to match each design, under the supervision of a willing volunteer from the village.

Members extended their thanks to all those involved to date.

Cllr Smith proposed that a record be kept of the methods and materials used in the renovation for future reference and Members agreed this would be sensible.

11/F22 Buildings maintenance issues

The Clerk noted the following issues with regards to the Pavilion:

- a) The main hall fire sensor was to be replaced for a second time on 1st April following water damage. The water ingress was thought to have taken place prior to the external flashing works around the clock tower which should protect from further water damage.
- b) The fire doors to the main hall which had been damaged by a bouncy castle company were in the process of being replaced under an insurance claim.

- c) The loose flap on the roof caused by the recent storms was part of the flashing to the solar panels. Following identification of the issue the Clerk was seeking to identify a suitable contractor to carry out the repair work.

As regards the Village Hall, the following issues were noted:

- a) The internal repainting would commence once Members had agreed on a colour scheme. Members considered dark/light grey and green/cream options, noting that Greatham PC had recently opted for the former. With opinion evenly divided 4:4, the Chair proposed that the green/cream option be adopted as being closest to the status quo. (Note: with photographs of the Greatham Village Hall since having been received and circulated to Members by email, the balance of opinion shifted to the dark/light grey option.)
- b) A wifi booster had been installed in the Village Hall by Cllr Baker so that users could make use of the Office wifi system. This had yet to be fully tested.
- c) An upgrade to the existing lighting (possibly to LEDs to reduce energy consumption in line with the LPC Environmental Policy) would be appropriate as part of a general upgrade.
- d) The sound system which was not currently in use would require a secure storage area in the Village Hall. Cllr Deacon offered to assist with any technical issues in getting this set up.

Cllr Hargreaves left the meeting at this point.

12/F22 Play equipment and inspections

The Clerk reminded Members that quarterly inspection reports were received for each site which were colour coded (green – low risk, amber- moderate risk and red – high risk) to help identify works required. There were amber issues highlighted with the Cross Scales and Multi Play Unit at Liss Forest which the Clerk would investigate to ensure any necessary works were carried out.

The Clerk advised that the Track Rider at Newman Collard remained out of use. An initial check had been carried out by the installer, Kompan after a number of incidents which had led to the installation of some additional safety surfacing at no cost to LPC and the installation of a buffer. However, following a further incident, the Clerk had asked the Groundsman to remove the top bar to prevent any further use until further checks could be carried out. However, this check had not yet been scheduled by Kompan. The Clerk highlighted concerns that parents and children alike had lost confidence in the item and proposed that Members consider its future, including the possibility of replacing it with a different facility. Members supported the proposal and agreed that that the LPC Chair should write to Kompan in the first instance to request an onsite meeting to discuss the issue. The outcome would then be reported back with a recommendation to Full Council.

13/F22 Moveable goals for Liss Forest recreation ground

Cllr Linsley noted the high level of use of the new moveable goals at West Liss Recreation Ground.

The Chair reported that the Newman Collard trustees were due to vote on whether to accept the set of moveable goals offered by LPC at their next meeting.

Residents of Liss Forest has since shown an interest in moveable goals as an alternative to the waterlogged area between the current fixed goals.

Members agreed that the Liss Forest Residents Association should be consulted to inform a recommendation to PRG and/or Council on the allocation of funds for a set of moveable goals at Liss Forest Recreation Ground (assuming that the set which had been offered to the NCPFT for Newman Collard Recreation Ground were accepted).

Members noted that the second set of goals had originally been purchased for West Liss but it had been decided to offer them to Newman Collard in line with the principle of equity across the village.

The Crossover had now requested that a second set be installed at West Liss to enable different groups to play football at the same time.

The Clerk noted that with a second (and possibly a third set) in the village users would likely spread themselves out thereby possibly reducing demand at West Liss.

The Chair added that an approach was due to be made to discuss use of the West Liss pitch by Liss Athletic Junior Football Club and that consideration of an additional set at West Liss might be dependent on securing an income stream.

14/F22 Tree management

Resolved: That Members agree to commission a full Tree Condition Survey for the sum of £690 (exc. VAT) and agree to undertake this survey every 2.5 years going forward, alternating between summer and winter checks (proposed by Cllr Wilson and seconded by Cllr Smith with all in favour).

15/F22 Revised LPC Environmental Policy – implementation in facilities area

The Chair proposed that an officer be asked to check the revised LPC Environmental Policy for compliance in facilities areas and that he and Cllr Deacon provide any support required.

16/F22 Any other business

Cllr Williams enquired as to whether the Groundsman could make use of a 1,000 Ltr water storage tank. The Clerk thanked Cllr Williams for the offer and undertook to check with the Groundsman. Cllr Baker noted that the Guides had raised access issues at Newman Collard. The Chair advised that this was primarily an issue for the NCPFT.

The meeting was closed at 21hrs.

Date of next scheduled meeting: 13th June 2022

Signed..... Dated.....