



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7.30pm on 21st October 2019.

Members

*Mr R Hargreaves (Chairman), *Mrs S. Baldwin, *Mr K Budden, Mr D Dodds, *Ms C Edwards,
*Mr I James, *Mr D Jerrard, *Mrs M. Knibbs, *Mr H Linsley, *Mrs L McDonald, Mr A Smith,
*Mrs C. Williams and *Mr N Wilson

* Present

Clerk: S. Smith

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the new councillors.

162/19 Apologies

Members accepted apologies from Cllrs Dodds and Smith and noted that County Councillor Russell Oppenheimer had also sent apologies.

163/19 Declarations of interests

None declared at this point.

164/19 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman advised the following:

- a) Frances Cook left LPC on 8th October - applications were being considered by the Staff Committee for the positions of Assistant Clerk as well as a Planning Committee Clerk (although the posts could be combined). The Chairman highlighted the current resource implications arising from the vacancy;
- b) Forthcoming training opportunities for councillors included Local Council Finance for Councillors to be run by HALC at Hook Parish Council on Tuesday 22nd October, 7-9pm; GDPR training on Wednesday 30th October in the Village Hall at 7.15pm; with a further broader training session for new councillors (or those who hadn't yet benefitted from the training) currently being arranged. The Chairman highlighted the importance of GDPR training in particular;
- c) The Clerk had also arranged defibrillator training which was open to all and would take place on Tuesday 12th November at 6pm and on Monday 18th November at 10am in the Pavilion;
- d) The passing of Ian Halstead would be commemorated with a Thanksgiving Service to take place later in the week;
- e) The new website was up and running – feedback was welcome but more so on the detail rather than the general structure for the time being;
- f) The date for the LPC Staff & Councillor Christmas meal would be confirmed shortly;
- g) Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday: Cllr Budden summarised the arrangements for 2019 which would differ given the temporary closure of St. Mary's. The parade would commence at 10.15 at the Liss Pavilion and finish at the War Memorial with a short service, wreath laying and then the 11am silence. The main service would follow in the Triangle but numbers would be limited and so would only include the adult contingents. Members should advise the Clerk if they wished to attend the service.

165/19 Adjournment for public participation

There were no members of the public present.

166/19 Report from County Councillor

CC Russell Oppenheimer had submitted a written report (**Annex A**). This was noted by Members.

167/19 Reports from District Councillors

DC Budden reported that:

- i. Norse had now taken over the refuse collection service and any teething issues were being ironed out. He advised that should a bin not be collected on the Thursday it should be left out and reported to EHDC via the online facility;
- ii. A 'Think Safe' community week had been held at Penns Place for local children providing an opportunity for the children to spend time with the local police and discuss relevant issues. A further event would be held for local children to get to learn about the work of the district council;
- iii. The Liss Area Historic Society would now supply historic photos of Liss to complete the display at the railway station;
- iv. The Radian Life Link would be discontinued once a service provider had been identified for all current individual users of the service;
- v. A charity fundraising dinner would be held on 26th October at Rake Village Hall to raise funds for the Crossover and Dementia Friendly Hampshire. The event would be hosted by Cllr Budden in his capacity as Chairman of EHDC.

168/19 Minutes of the meeting of 16th September 2019

Resolved: That, subject to a couple of minor amendments, the minutes of the Council Meeting of 16th September 2019 be accepted as a correct record (proposed by Cllr Jerrard and seconded by Cllr Linsley, with all in favour).

169/19 Matters Arising

147/19: Cllr James enquired as to whether the Chairman had received a response from the Chairman of the Conservative Association regarding the content of the Spring 2019 edition of the In Touch publication. The Chairman advised that no response had been received but that he would follow this up.

121/19: The Clerk advised that the meeting with Steve Peach, HCC, on the Service Pollinator Project would take place on 23rd October at 9.30am. Cllrs Dodds, James and McDonald would attend along with the Clerk.

135/19: The Clerk had been advised by EHDC that the bollards for the entrance to the Riverside Walk would arrive on 25th October and an installation date would follow.

139/19: Cllr Wilson advised that some prospective candidates had emerged up for the Village Agent vacancy which could possibly lead to a small volunteer team.

157/19: The Chairman noted that a new PC had been purchased and installed for the RFO as part of the agreed office upgrade; The Clerk clarified that the chair for the Assistant Clerk had not yet been purchased.

158/19: Cllr Wilson advised the Clerk had received some clarification as regards LPC responsibilities for the Christmas Village Fair road closure. A productive meeting had also taken place with the co-ordinator from Tesco and the Triangle. The Clerk added that the road closure application had now been submitted. Cllr Wilson would meet with the Groundsman later in the week to check road closure signage. Further volunteers were welcomed.

170/19 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Resolved: That the payments and receipts recorded in Responsible Finance Officer's Report be approved (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr McDonald, with all in favour).

171/19 Correspondence

Correspondence for response:

- a) Road closure application for Liss Remembrance Day Parade - Members agreed no comment was required;
- b) SDNPA Invitation to Workshop on implementation of Neighbourhood Development Plans – The Chairman would speak to Chris Patterson of the SDNPA at a meeting the following day to enquire as to whether attendance would be useful for Liss;
- c) EHDC notification of removal of public payphone in Vinson/Inwood Road and invitation to comment – Members agreed no comment was required.

All other items of correspondence were for information only and would remain in the office for viewing until the date of the next council meeting.

172/19 Report of the Facilities Committee of 23rd September 2019

Members would consider the report at the November meeting of Council following an omission in the papers circulated.

The Chairman noted that new safety surfacing was being laid under the Track Rider due to a number of incidents. Liss Parish Council had sought a resolution from the manufacturer to improve the safety and to reduce the level of risk of the item, although the manufacturer had advised it met the required standards. The surfacing would be provided at no cost to LPC.

173/19 Report of the Finance Committee of 25th September 2019

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Finance Committee of 25th September 2019 be noted.

Cllr Wilson asked whether full Council would be involved in the decision-making process on priorities for CIL funding given its importance for the future of the village. The Chairman agreed the importance of the matter given the potentially significant sums of money which could be forthcoming, in particular from the Andlers Ash development. The Chairman advised that a procedure would need to be established for consideration and prioritisation of funds received.

174/19 Report of the Planning Committee of 30th September 2019

Members noted that the Planning Committee had again been inquorate. It was hoped that the addition of new members in due course would assist in achieving a quorum. This meant that Council would have to approve the Minutes.

Cllr McDonald asked about the implications of the dismissal of the appeal for 71 Station Road (currently occupied by Puddleducks Nursery). Cllr Budden advised that the appeal had been dismissed on the grounds of flood risk and that the nursery had 90 days in which to respond.

Resolved: That the Planning Committee Minutes of 30th September 2019 be accepted as a correct record (proposed by Cllr Budden and seconded by Cllr Linsley, with all in favour).

175/19 Report of the Review Committee of 7th October 2019

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Review Committee of 7th October 2019 be noted.

176/19 Policies approved by the Review Committee

Resolved: That the policies adopted by the Review Committee, as circulated to Members on 10th October 2019, be noted: Business Continuity, CCTV, Disciplinary and Grievance.

Cllr McDonald, as Chairman of Review Committee, noted the importance of implementing the Business Continuity Plan in particular as an operation policy.

177/19 Revised Standing Orders

Resolved: That the revised Standing Orders, as prepared by the Review Committee, be approved (proposed by Cllr McDonald as Chairman of the Review Committee, seconded by the Chairman and with all in favour).

Members extended an expression of their thanks to the former Assistant Clerk for her work in preparing the revised Standing Orders.

178/19 Notice of Conclusion of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2019 and External Auditor Report 2018/19

The Chairman advised that:

- a) The External Audit for the year ended 31 March 2019 had been completed; &
- b) The Report from External Auditor concluded that the Liss Parish Council Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2019 was in accordance with Proper Practices and no matters had come to the attention of the External Auditor that gave cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met. No other issues were highlighted for attention.

This was noted by Members.

179/19 Pension Scheme

Resolved: That Mrs E. Ford, as the Responsible Finance Officer, is eligible to join the Local Government Pension Scheme and that all staff at Liss Parish Council are entitled to access the scheme where this benefit is included in their contract of employment or pension enrolment regulatory requirements apply.

180/19 Liss Parish Council Action Plan

Members considered progress against the 2019/20 Action Plan at this half way point in the year. Achievements included good progress on promoting and managing use of the new Liss Pavilion and on improving community engagement in line with the Community Engagement Policy as well as completion of the upgrade of the Liss Parish Council website.

Members considered a draft Action Plan for 2020/21 given the need for this to feed into the budgetary process. It was proposed that some measures be moved from the project section to the ongoing action section, e.g. to reflect the continued need for staff training and induction. Other specific deliverables related to priorities identified by the Highways and Facilities Committees.

Members would consider further with a view to returning to this at the future meeting of Council.

181/19 Appointments to Committees

There were no appointments to committees at this time. The Chairman proposed that new Members attend the various committee meetings prior to making a decision on committee membership. The item would remain on the agenda for the next few meetings.

182/19 Extension to meeting

Members agreed an extension to the meeting of no more than 30 minutes (proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

183/19 Reports of Representatives to Outside Bodies

Cllr McDonald had attended a meeting of the Dorothea & Mary Cole Foundation and the Simon Wood Liss Youth Fund which continued to work towards Charity Commission re-registration. Cllr McDonald noted that the charities were not being advertised pending re-registration and that they would likely be combined going forward.

Cllr Linsley had attended a meeting of the Longmoor Community Partnership. He highlighted a real issue in reporting incidents and noted 101 incidents could also be logged online, although there was no specific category for reporting incidents relating to anti-social behaviour which had to be reported under the closest category. He added that there had been an increase in fly tipping and noted that crime in the areas could be found on the Hampshire Constabulary website.

Cllr Jerrard had also attended the Longmoor Community Partnership meeting for Liphook Parish Council and echoed the issues with reporting of crime as well as staff shortages.

Cllr Edwards advised she had attended a meeting of the Crossover and that numbers were up and more volunteers were urgently needed. The Clerk requested some material which could be

advertised on LPC social media and forwarded to local community contacts.

Cllr Budden had attended a meeting of the Liss, Greatham & Hawkley Friendship Fund and advised that the group had been closely involved with the Bordon Furniture Helpline – the MOD had now agreed to extend the lease for a further five years.

The Chairman had attended a meeting of the Flood Action Group and noted that work was underway with the Arun and River Rother Trust (ARRT) and the Environment Agency regarding works upstream to assist in reducing the flow in the Rother. He noted that the ARRT intended to present to Liss Parish Council about the proposed works.

184/19 Matters of concern from councillors

Cllr Wilson noted a constructive meeting had taken place between EHDC and HCC regarding the speeding and parking issues in Forest Road following Cllr Smith's input.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.41 hrs.

Next meeting: Monday 18th November 2019 at 19.30hrs

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

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

1 OCTOBER 2019

1. Hampshire 2050 Commission issues final report

Hampshire County Council has unanimously endorsed the findings and conclusions of the Commission of Inquiry - Vision for Hampshire 2050.

The Independent Commissioners, drawn from a range of backgrounds, identified Climate Change as the key driver for change in Hampshire. The Commission's conclusions therefore provide a timely endorsement of the County Council's decision to declare a climate emergency earlier this summer.

The Commission also made a number of interesting recommendations around the changing economy, the changing environment and advances in technology.

A summary of the Commission's findings and recommendations is attached with this report for information.

2. HCC launches School Governor recruitment drive

As term gets underway, HCC is launching a drive to recruit more school governors. We are appealing to everyone to support this recruitment drive by helping to spread the word. With 524 schools in the county, there are currently more than 6,000 governors supporting them. While many schools have a full quota of governors, others have up to three vacancies on their board.

As all school Governors know, it can be incredibly rewarding to play a part in supporting a school to ensure that children and young people are getting the highest standard of education possible. Among many other responsibilities, governors are there to make sure that schools are making the best use of their finances and resources and that this is well managed.

Being a governor is also a great way to develop new and transferrable skills, benefitting individuals on both a personal, as well as a professional level. People volunteering to be governors do not have to have previous experience. All that is required is to be over 18, and to have enthusiasm, commitment and time. Full training for the role is available through Hampshire Governor Services at no cost to individual governors. For more information, visit the Hampshire Governor Services website, contact the Governor Services team on 02380 814820 or email governors@hants.gov.uk

3. Hampshire County Council considers changes to library service

Due to the £80m funding gap and the need to prioritise care for children and the elderly, HCC has to find £2.5m of savings from its Recreation and Heritage budget. A significant part of the

savings proposals (£1.7m) relates to library services. This represents 16% of the overall budget for the service, but still means that a budget of around £10 million would remain for library services.

This will require different ways of providing the libraries services which may mean reductions in opening hours, closures or relocations alongside a range of efficiency measures and a drive to maximise income through events and room hire. At this stage, the proposals do not include detailed plans for any specific library – these plans will come later as part of a public consultation and engagement with our local communities.

Where libraries are scheduled for closure, the local community will be invited to take over the library and run it as a book exchange staffed by volunteers.

4. Proposal for HWRC's to charge for non-household waste wood

At present, it is free to dispose of household waste at the HWRC. But non-household waste such as rubble and plasterboard is chargeable. In 2020 it is proposed to also charge customers to dispose of non-household wood waste such as fence panels, sheds and window frames. It is estimated that this measure will raise an extra £1m of revenue per annum across Hampshire which will help to plug the funding gap and keep the HWRCs open. The proposal has not yet been endorsed by County Council and, if it is, it will then be subject to consultation. I would welcome any feedback on the proposal which Parish Councillors may have.

5. Changes afoot for Project Integra (Recycling)

In the 1990's, Project Integra was established as the framework for recycling in Hampshire. As a result of Government policy changes and financial pressures, HCC is seeking to update that framework. Subsidies paid by HCC to all District Councils including EHDC will cease before April 2021. The Government's emerging Waste Strategy will, to a large extent, dictate the nature of the new framework. At this stage it looks likely that the Government will mandate food collection and kerbside separation of recycling which would both have implications for Hampshire. The County Council believes that by working closely together with Districts and Boroughs there are opportunities to achieve savings as well as reduce the climate impacts associated with the collection and resale of recycling products.

Based on my inbox, it seems to me that there is widespread public support for an improved and harmonised recycling system. I am increasingly optimistic that this will happen over the coming years.

6. Glover Review into Designated Landscapes is published

The Review of Designated Landscapes chaired by Julian Glover has issued its report and recommendations to HM Government. The Review was set up last year by Michael Gove MP when he was Environment Secretary. The central proposal is the creation of a "National

Landscapes Service” incorporating all 10 National Parks and the AONBs too. If accepted, this recommendation will have big implications for the South Downs National Park.

The review has a welcome focus on the role National Parks can play in improving the health and wellbeing of the nation. I was interested in the recommendation that a new National Landscapes Housing Association should be created to build affordable homes in National Parks. The review also proposes an overhaul of governance with smaller boards of 9-12 people. I include here below a link to a Summary of the Review’s Findings:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-landscapes-national-parks-and-aonbs-2018-review/landscapes-review-summary-of-findings>

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER

County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers