



LISS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Liss Parish Council took place at 7pm on 17th February 2020.

Members

*Mr R Hargreaves (Chairman), *Mrs S. Baldwin, *Mr K Budden, Mr D Dodds, *Mrs 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, in addition to one member of the public.

22/20 Apologies

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

23/20 Declarations of interests

None declared at this point.

24/20 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman invited the LPC representatives to the NCPFT to provide an update under Reports of Representatives to Outside Bodies on the proposed pitch improvement project to be carried out by the Football Association in conjunction with LAFC and the NCPFT.

25/20 Adjournment for public participation

No members of the public were present at this point.

26/20 Report from County Councillor

CC Russell Oppenheimer had submitted a written report (**Annex A**). This was noted by Members. Members again highlighted the need for the new requirement for Hampshire residents to register their vehicles to be able to use the Household Waste and Recycling Centres from April 2020 to be advertised more widely by HCC.

27/20 Reports from District Councillors

DC Budden extended thanks to Deny King at EHDC for his work over the weekend monitoring the effects of storm Dennis on the River Rother within Liss.

He also noted that:

- i) An Environment Day Let's Talk event had been held at Penns Place last week to discuss actions required faced with climate change. Several relevant groups had participated which resulted in a positive event to help things move forward in the right direction;
- ii) Full Council next week would agree the budget for the coming year. This proposed an increase to the precept of 1.99% which would be used to fund welfare projects, to cover initiatives such as homeless pods in Whitehill.

In response to a query on excess surface water arising from the development on Andlers Ash Road, Cllr Budden advised that EDHC Planning Enforcement were liaising with CALA Homes.

28/20 Minutes of the meeting of 20th January 2020

Resolved: That, subject to a few of minor amendments, the minutes of the Council Meeting of 20th January 2020 be accepted as a correct record (proposed by Cllr McDonald and seconded by Linsley, with all in favour).

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

29/20 Matters Arising

192/19: The Clerk confirmed that renovation works to the Lych Gate had been completed.

197/19: The Clerk confirmed that a revised bid for CIL funds for West Liss Recreation and Leisure Facilities had been submitted by the 31st January deadline.

30/20 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

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

The Clerk advised that the information on petty cash requested at the last meeting was contained within this report.

31/20 Correspondence

Correspondence for response:

- a) HALC Conference on 18th March – The Clerk would attend and would enquire as to whether there were any places free of charge available to HALC Board Members;
- b) SDNPA Vineyard Growth Impact Assessment Workshop on 6th March – Cllr Budden would attend;
- c) SDNPA Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document Consultation with deadline of 24th March – Cllr Budden advised that Planning Committee were due to consider the document and that any other Members who wished to do so should feedback before the next Planning Committee.

All other items of correspondence were for information only and had been circulated via e-mail.

32/20 Committee Reports

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Highways Committee of 20th January 2020 be noted.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee of 10th February 2020 be noted.

33/20 20/21 Budget Proposals

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council agrees to adopt a budget of £233,428 for the Financial Year 2020/2021 (proposed by Cllr Linsley and seconded by Cllr Williams with all in favour).

The Chairman noted the increase on last year's budget was 2.96%.

34/20 Action Plan 2020/21

Members discussed and agreed a few amendments. The need for a more full discussion on community engagement was noted.

The Chairman advised that the revised version of the Action Plan for 2020/21 would be considered at the Annual Parish Meeting so any further comment from Members had to be received before then. There would then be a period in which parishioners could make further representation prior to approval at the April meeting of Council.

35/20 Mill Road Community Garden initiative

Resolved: That Liss Parish Council makes an application for EHDC s106 Open Spaces and Transport funds, for the sum of up to £9,677.99 and £11,025 respectively, and if successful, makes use of that funding to further the Mill Road Community Garden initiative, following an unsuccessful application to the MCHLG Pocket Park Programme (proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Wilson, with one abstention (Cllr Budden) and the remaining Members in favour).

The Chairman advised that the proposal would be subject to further consultation and approval by

Council.

36/20 Appointments to Committees

Resolved: That Cllr Knibbs be appointed to the Facilities and Review Committees and Cllr Wilson to the Facilities Committee (proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

Resolved: That Cllrs James, Knibbs, McDonald and Wilson be appointed to the Project Review Group (proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Budden with all in favour).

37/20 Reports of Representatives to Outside Bodies

Cllrs James, Linsley and McDonald had attended a meeting of the NCPFT on 7th February and reported the following:

- i) Liss Athletic Football Club had identified a funding stream for youth football from the Football Foundation for pitch enhancement and general ground improvements over a 10-year period. Members noted that any agreement could not exclude use of the pitch by others;
- ii) The Tennis Club had identified funds for other uses of the tennis courts; further consultation would take place in due course;
- iii) The Little Treasures Nursery now provided a steady stream of revenue which would go towards improving the acoustics in the NC Pavilion;
- iv) The issue of dog fouling was raised; the Clerk noted that this was also a live issue for the Facilities Committee;
- v) The issue of flood water had been raised and it was thought that excess surface water was running downhill to NC from the school site;
- vi) The Men's Shed would fit a new kitchen in the NC Pavilion.

Cllr McDonald advised that the Simon Wood Liss Youth Fund and the Dorothea and Mary Cole Foundation had been combined to form the Liss Youth Fund. This would be up and running shortly with a healthy fund to further education and training opportunities for children and young people. Cllr McDonald requested that details of the fund be added to the LPC website and advertised via social media in due course.

Cllr Jerrard had attended a meeting of the Community Partnership, noting that drugs had been an issue in Liphook and fly tipping more generally.

Cllr Baldwin had attended a meeting of the LFRA which had discussed issues including flood damage around the recreation ground, the Speedwatch initiative and the possible tightening of bylaws relating to the Ranges.

38/20 Matters of concern from councillors

Cllr Linsley noted that correspondence had been received about an increase in allotment costs and conditions at Riverside Walk; the Clerk has responded accordingly.

Cllr McDonald expressed concern regarding the possible increase in empty shops in the village with the imminent closure of the Serenity Beauty Salon.

Cllr Jerrard and the member of the public left the meeting at 20.41hrs.

39/20 Exempt Items: Consideration of the Good Villager of the Year Award 2020

Resolved:

That the item be considered in Exempt Session (proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Linsley with all in favour).

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.59hrs.

Next meeting: Monday 16th March 2020 at 19hrs

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

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT
TO
ALL PARISH COUNCILS
IN PETERSFIELD HANGERS
3 FEBRUARY 2020**

1. Libraries consultation gets underway

A 10-week public consultation opened on 9 January 2020 asking Hampshire residents for their views on the emerging vision for Hampshire's Libraries to 2025 and the level of need for library services in specific local communities.

As previously reported, at HCC we are facing an anticipated budget shortfall of £80 million by April 2021 and are having to look across all the County Council's services to find savings which can help to bridge this gap as demands for services rise, particularly in social care. The Library Service is required to identify £1.76 million towards the County Council's overall savings target.

There are 10 libraries which have been identified for possible closure, following an elaborate scoring process. None of the 10 libraries identified for closure is in East Hampshire. The alternative to closures is to reduce opening hours everywhere. The proposals in the consultation include options for the community to step in to run independent community-managed libraries.

The consultation is open until Wednesday 18 March 2020. Feedback received will inform decisions to be made by the Executive Member for Recreation and Heritage Cllr Sean Woodward in summer 2020. No decisions will be made on any of these proposals until people have had the opportunity to give their views. To take part in the consultation just visit www.hants.gov.uk/library-consultation or fill in a printed copy from any Hampshire County Council library.

2. HCC Budget news

Care pressures continue to top the list of priorities for the budget. We are determined to continue to provide high-quality care for vulnerable children and the elderly despite substantial financial pressures. At Cabinet on 3 February there will be considered the following additional budget decisions and indeed it is quite likely that they will be put forward to Council:

- One-off investment of up to £2million to tackle climate change (see below item)
- An extra £2 million each year is being proposed for fixing potholes, together with another £3 million for 2020/21. (This is on top of the £10 million we spend annually on Operation Resilience - our long-term strategy to ensure Hampshire's road network is more resilient to the impact of heavy traffic and worsening winters.)

- A total 3.99% increase in Hampshire County Council’s council tax precept for the financial year beginning 1 April 2020 – of which 2% is specifically for adults’ social care, in line with Government policy.

The proposed council tax precept for 2020/21 would generate an additional £25 million for delivering County Council services in 2020/21 and would mean that Hampshire is still likely to remain the 2nd lowest council tax of counties in the country.

3. Cabinet receives Interim Report on Climate Change Action Plan

Cabinet considered the Interim report on 6 January 2020. The Interim Report was developed following the declaration of a climate emergency on 18 July 2019 and the endorsement of the Hampshire 2050 Commissioners Summary report on 23 September 2019.

Cabinet approved the target of **carbon neutrality by 2050 for the wider Hampshire area** which aligns with national government target. The Cabinet also approved a “resilience target” which is to plan for the impacts of a two degree Celsius rise in temperature. There are three other noteworthy initiatives:

- Establishment of a Salix De-carbonisation Fund of £1million to fund a range of energy saving initiatives on the County Council’s corporate built estate. The fund will comprise a £500,000 allocation from the remaining £1.1million of County Council funding identified for energy saving initiatives with match funding of £500,000 from Salix.
- A programme of tree and wildflower planting on highways amenity land, which will be funded by ringfencing 100% of capital receipts from the sale of surplus highways land.
- Revocation of the 2013 Executive Member for Policy and Resources “Wind Policy” which prohibited large wind turbines and wind farm developments on county land. This blanket ban (it is felt) does not support the principles of the climate change strategy. Any decisions on changes to County Council land use will henceforth be subject to the normal approval processes and will be assessed on their own merits.

For anyone who wishes to read it the report is available at this link:

<http://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s42787/Interim%20Progress%20on%20Climate%20Change%20Strategy%20and%20Action%20Plan-2020-01-06-Cabinet.pdf>

4. Dark Skies Festival takes place in February across the National Park

The South Downs National Park was designated as an International Dark Skies Reserve in 2016. Every year we celebrate this with a festival, now in its fourth year.

2020 also marks the 10-year anniversary of the South Downs becoming a National Park and throughout the festival we’ll be suggesting 10 actions you can do to protect our night skies.

In East Hampshire our local Stargazing South Downs event takes place at the Petersfield Festival Hall on **Tuesday 18 February between 16.00 and 20.00**. No booking is required and it is a free event. Activities include:

- Indoor planetarium shows
- Virtual Reality Experience of our dark night skies
- Giant 'sky at night' colouring wall
- Nocturnal wildlife
- Outdoor stargazing (if the conditions are right)

Unfortunately, I will miss this event as I am taking my children to Paris for half term. I do hope that some of you can attend!

RUSSELL OPPENHEIMER
County Councillor for Petersfield Hangers