

BEAULIEU PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 16TH JULY 2015
AT BEAULIEU VILLAGE HALL

An informal meeting was due to commence with Brockenhurst, East Boldre and Denny Lodge PC, District Councillor Michael Harris and Brian Bryne of NFDC at 6.30p.m. Due to an incident that required his attention Mr. Bryne was delayed. Cllr. Norris decided to open with a report from Cllr. Thornber, Hampshire County Councillor.

PRESENT

Cllr. F. Norris (Chairman), Cllr. P. Fairweather (Vice Chairman), Cllr. L. Shanks, Cllr. C. Knight, Cllr. N. Weiss

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr. K. Thornber, Cllr. M. Harris, Mrs. R. Pearson, Mr. J. Beaumont, Mr. B. Gregory, Mrs. J. Horton, Mr. H. Oram, Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk)

1103. **HAMPHIRE COUNTY COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Thornber said he has allowed the water to flow under the bridge since the last meeting, regarding the problems of superfast broadband. Said a number of his parish councils that he represents are becoming very impatient about the lack of progress for the application of superfast broadband. After the East Boldre meeting he sent a political tantrum email to the officers, saying we do not want bland assurances about generally when superfast broadband will be installed in hard to reach areas. Reply from the officers concerned saying they were very concerned that I was embarrassed in trying to put over reasons and excuses for the lack of progress in hard to reach areas. Outcome is the officers have given me dates when we could meet, as I want to chair a meeting of the chairman's of my parish councils, apart from Bashley and Sway. No public or BT allowed. Officers say they have now installed 59,000 cabinets and the take up is more than national average. Said BT have a flexible approach to schedule and overall commitments continue to be met. Problems have been encountered at specific locations and BT are finding it difficult to provide firm go live forecasts for individual cabinets.

Said today has had a five and half hour meeting, said CC has put forward a programme for boundary reviews. He will touch on how that review will impact on the new forest. Charged by the Boundary Commission to make sure there was electoral equality in all our 75 divisions and we have to achieve an equality based on overage of 13,846 constituents + or – 10%. Research I did shows we have the highest representation in the country and some county councils only represent 3,000 people, average is 8,000 and we are told to represent 13,846 + or – 10%. We have 50 of our divisions conforming, result of the work that the group I have been chairing – 50 is now 67, there are 9 divisions only in whole of county council who do not confirm to the + or – 10%. This is where it impacts on your council and others. 3 divisions in the New Forest which are well below the – 10%, and Brockenhurst, Fordingbridge and Ringwood. Since Brockenhurst

division is the 3rd largest in the county council and Fordingbridge the largest, we argue that it is difficult geographically to represent a division as large as Brockenhurst. Fordingbridge still meet the increase that is required. We are applying P11 of the local government boundary commission guidance which says 'we the Boundary Commission will take account of geographical areas and the difficulty of councilor to represent that division'. Arguing sparsity in the 3 divisions, as a consequence we put forward today and the DC supporting the view that status quo should be obtained throughout the New Forest, because we have the problem of the NPA, which does not allow development generally and pushes pressure on the Waterside and Ringwood, so have argued the status quo and DC has approved and said, chairman, if you are approached as I am sure you will be, then you understand that we have argued status quo and I will be very grateful if your council could support, because Eastleigh with 7 councilors is arguing they need 8 and today the Leader of the Labour opposition said that we should take one member from the New Forest. Said the County has rejected the extra member for Eastleigh, as accepted status quo for the New Forest.

1104. NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Cllr. Harris said he has spoken to Brian Bryne and he is just leaving Lymington. Said he has had a number of telephone conversations with him about the vagrant. Cllr. Norris said he will read out PC Eastwood's report as that is regarding the vagrant. Reports that he arrested him on suspicion of harassment and the matter is still on-going. Arranged for his trolley of his possessions, which was being stored in the village, to be made ready for collection or disposal. Fortunately for him he collected it and then left the village and has not been seen since. Continuing to explore long term solutions with other business and agencies and will provide an update when one is available. Said he has also been active in the issue of 4x4 vehicles ripping up the forest, which is something I am keen to put a stop to as best I can, liaising with the FC in exploring ways to advertise the consequences of using the forest as an off road race track. Reports of ASB on the airdrome have stopped since police patrols and police intervention. Said crime in the village is nil and no reports of suspicious incidents. Public reassurance has been high on my agenda, post the vagrant, and feel this has been restored to normal levels and will obviously continue to maintain a presence. Says he is looking to start a beat surgery, to take place one Saturday a month in the village. Thoughts are 12 noon outside the newsagents, purpose to have a fixed time so can speak face to face with the police should they wish. If it does not work and there is no interest, I can easily cancel. Cllr. Norris feels PC Eastwood is a good person and says it will be the first time we have had anything like this for years. Mrs. Pearson said that the vagrant was on bail. Cllr. Harris said that during his conversations with Mr. Bryne he was guarded and very careful about confidentiality. Said there was a lot of ifs and buts, so a learning curve and that is why he invited other PC's to attend, in case it happens in their parish. Cllr. Norris asked if this was fairly common in the forest and he said he has not had this problem before. Said 80% of vagrants have somewhere to live and they choose not to.

1105. TALK BY BRIAN BRYNE, NFDC

Cllr. Harris introduced Mr. Bryne and Cllr. Norris said we would like his advice on what we should do if/when a vagrant turns up. Said under the Crime Disorder Act they identify the top 15 offenders and work with police to try and turn their lives around, make their lives less difficult and try to persuade them to change their ways. They support the families of domestic abuse which they endure daily, tag those families in a supportive way and have had 65% success. Regarding travellers, specific legislation came in and said the law is very clear with the illegal encampment and said if those vehicles are causing a nuisance, interfering with the function of the local authority, then we have a duty and can act on that and in this case they are in a public car park and not paying. When it comes to individuals it is somewhat different and you cannot just move them on. You have to look at where they are, what the issues are, concerns are, is harassment being caused, and have to get statements to support that. The trouble with this case is I did not have substantial evidence, only had 'he is here and it's a problem'. Given a couple of calls but when I chased those callers about specific allegations they said there was no harassment, no stress. I came down to the village on a number of occasions and spent some time here and what I observed was members of the public offering gifts of food. They were not being solicited, they were offering it. Said he has to be careful as he cannot solicit for statements, they have to come to me. Said he spoke to some of the traders and again had no specific allegations. Said we have to work with legislation. Says if you have members of the public coming to you, they need to be directed to us, so we can take statements. Said he has not had members of the public coming to him. Spoke to one individual, but they did not have enough specific information. Said send individuals to us or ring 101 – police, then if someone makes a complaint of ASB, the police will look at it and can pass onto local authorities or landlords. If the police can deal with it then they will and they can send info to us and we look through and see if there are any issues. Cllr. Norris said he is a little bit surprised about what you have said, that some people have backed down when you approached them, because certainly the reaction I had was I was getting lobbied quite hard towards the end by mothers living in Pondside flats, by some of the shop keepers and also PC Eastwood asked us to support him. Cllr. Norris says it seems to me you spoke to a different set of people to me, also said when he first came here and it was a cold wet night, people would look out for him. The community eventually turned against him, the parish turned against him and the support for him is coming from outside our parish. Said he has no idea who the people are that were bringing him food. Cllr. Norris asked what other councilors thought and they all agreed. Cllr. Shanks said if people have to come and see you, then for some people that is very difficult for them to do, so would you accept a written letter of complaint. Mr. Bryne said yes, but within those complaints there were no specific allegations that he had done x,y and z. Said he had one email and he replied and said please let me have your address and I will come and see you and I can take a statement. Said he needs evidence and the person needs to support that evidence or I do not have a case. He said it is best if they come to him, rather than go through a third party. Cllr. Fairweather asked what his opinion is of an individual sleeping in the public toilets every night. Said he

needs to find out where the radar key came from. Cllr. Weiss asked what your attitude about him sleeping in the bus shelter and said that was difficult because the bus shelter belongs to the Estate or PC and has no jurisdiction on Estate land. Contacted the Estate with a request to ban him from Autojumble and the Estate decided not to ban him. Said we need direct complaints to be able to deal with this. Cllr. Norris said so there is little we can do as a PC if the person is not in the bus shelter as we are not landlords. Cllr. Weiss said the police did arrest him. Mr. Bryne said yes at a late stage they did, this was for a specific incident, said he had not done anything wrong up until that time. What is the next step – Section 27, ASB, harassment, remove from area, but can come back after 48 hours, then if causing issues and now done this, ask the District for an order of exclusion and need to ask landlord. Said they are being proactive and need to look at the positives and look at the bigger picture and offer support and what will prevent him returning? An assessment has been done, is he a risk to the community, to the public? Cllr. Shanks said he is very vulnerable as he is simple and has money and said is there anyway the NFDC can protect him. Mr. Bryne said they have consulted all groups/partners at the start, but says they can only help someone who wants to be helped. Cllr. Norris thanked Mr. Bryne for his help and for being frank with us. Mr. Bryne said unless he does something wrong we cannot do anything. He is an individual who does have rights. Said we need to keep an exact diary with evidence. Cllr. Weiss said the tourists are now being able to use the patch of land again by the mill pond and Cllr. Knight said the children can return to using the bus shelter. Cllr. Fairweather said he was surprised Mr. Bryne did not get any statements. Cllr. Norris said we are going to start a diary. Cllr. Norris thanked Cllr. Harris for bringing Mr. Bryne to the meeting and said it was very useful the other PC's attended. Brockenhurst PC said regarding off roading in the forest – if the police catch the culprits a second time they can impound their vehicles.

Cllr. Harris said thank you for allowing Mr. Bryne to attend. Cllr. Norris said we have found it very useful. Said he attended a presentation on dementia and the facts were surprising. Can share the findings with us. Cllr. Norris thanked Cllr. Harris.

The informal joint meeting closed at 7.30pm. Cllr. Norris then proceeded to open the regular monthly meeting of the council.

APOLOGIES

Cllr. M. Grindrod, Cllr. S. Steele, PC Eastwood

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk), Cllr. K. Thornber, Cllr. M. Harris, Mrs. R. Pearson, Mr. J. Beaumont,

1106. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Proposed: Cllr. Shanks Seconded: Cllr. Knight

1107. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Norris said regarding procedures at meetings, he has spoken to NFDC and councilors not present are unable to vote and quorate = 3 councilors

1108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

1109. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Beaumont said we have a magnificent police officer in PC Eastwood and he has kept me in the loop regarding the vagrant. Has spoken to the housing officer in Spalding, know PC Eastwood has contacted the police solicitors and his superintendent. Cllr. Weiss asked Mr. Beaumont if he can confirm he definitely has sheltered accommodation.

1110. **TALK BY GERALDINE SPENCER FROM NEW FOREST ADVICE**

Said New Forest Advice is the leading advice outreach service. From January to end of August they will be out and about at fetes, fun days etc to spread the word. There are 5 advice organisations and it's a cross referral tool, so the person only tell their story once.

CAB – running budget courses at the moment.

Community First New Forest – home improvement, young carers and grandparents forums.

Age Concern – based in Dibden Purlieu, provides help on benefits, toe nail cutting service, lunch clubs etc.

Its Your Choice – deals with young people, money management courses, youth clubs, Night Stop where families give a bedroom up for up to 5 nights and well supported. Knows other services that can work with these youngsters and help them.

New Forest Disability – running for 14 years, has 5 part time people and 20 volunteers and based in New Milton. Has outreach at The Grove on Wednesdays. Helps all ages from applying for benefits, tribunals, zimmer frames/equipment. Any problem there is a piece of equipment to help. Meal suppliers, transport. Hospitals fund drop in sessions for patients returning home. Working on what areas need outreach so they can expand to rural areas when they have funding. So person just makes one call and that gets everything happening and they link it all together.

1111. **PLANNING**

Beaulieu Enterprises Ltd – 15/00448

Construction of Exhibition Building, associated landscaping and hardstanding.

Cllr. Norris said there is no impact on increased traffic, 3 bat boxes to be installed.

Had preplanning consultation with Steve Avery.

Vote – all councilors in agreement to recommend permission.

Mrs. Pearson said they do not know time scale as no funding at present.

1112. **DECISIONS**

Tree Works

Furzey House – CONS/15/0483 – Raise no objections

Mares Tails – CONS/15/0511 – Raise no objections

1113. **CCTV FOR THE VILLAGE**

Cllr. Fairweather said Lisa Crouch from NFNPA has been to see the camera installed on the Montagu Arms (listed building) and cannot support this and it has to be removed and the brickwork repaired with advice from NP. Asked if any other locations had been thought of. Cllr. Fairweather will arrange a meeting and try and get the camera moved to an agreed location. Cllr. Norris said the police want cameras to help them in their investigations re: shop lifting etc.

and would have been useful in connection to the murder. Cllr. Norris thanked Cllr. Fairweather for his continued work on this.

Cllr. Norris also mentioned new bollards outside Northern Cottages.

1114. **CORRESPONDENCE**

General

Velcourt Tractor movements

Cons Stock – cashed in our stock = £21.75 and thanked Mrs. Pearson for doing our audit.

Rural Services Network - Rural Opportunities Bulletin

Weekly email news digest 29th June, 6th and 13th July

Rural Vulnerability Service

Rural Housing Spotlight

Bank Statement – Lloyds, 30th June - £16,309.38

Clerks and Councils Direct

RM Smith Fencing

Broxap – Street Furniture

NFNPA

Building Design Awards – able to nominate a building. Said Beaulieu Church is pictured on the leaflet.

Agricultural Occupancy Monitoring Cases

Minerals and Waster Monitoring Cases

Enforcement Control

NFDC

Temp Events Notice – Southern Beer Traders Ltd– Treehouses – 11/18th July
- Beaulieu School Event 21st July

Info Bulletin – June

Electrol Register changes

Customer Access Questionnaire

1115. **CHEQUE SIGNING**

None

1116. **QUESTION TIME**

Cllr. Shanks asked if the Estate is pulling ragwort – Mrs. Pearson said this has been done over the last two weeks.

Cllr. Weiss asked if we can chase the company regarding the see-saw.

Cllr. Knight said that regarding the new dog bin, which he thanked Cllr. Harris for arranging along the riverside walk, is in the wrong position and needs moving to other side of track and BT manhole by Chestnut Cottage has holes in it. Clerk to report to BT.

Cllr. Fairweather said what action do we take if the vagrant returns, says the council will support residents and said he was surprised that some residents complained and are angry, but back down when asked. Said we need to get proactive if it happens again. Said we should be ready and prepared. Cllr. Weiss said he was disappointed the Estate did not take a tougher view.

Meeting closed at 8.30p.m.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 20th August 2015 6.30p.m. in the Main Hall of the Village Hall.