

BEAULIEU PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19TH MARCH 2015
AT BEAULIEU VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Cllr. F. Norris (Chairman), Cllr. P. Fairweather (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Shanks,
Cllr. S. Steele, Cllr. Knight, Cllr. Weiss

APOLOGIES

Cllr. Gibbs, Mr. M. Grindrod

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk), Cllr. K. Thornber, Cllr. P. Vickers, Cllr. M. Harris, Mr.
J. Beaumont, Mrs. R. Pearson, Ms. C. Marshall

1049. **MINUTES OF LAST**

Proposed: Cllr. Shanks Seconded: Cllr. Knight

1050. **MATTERS ARISING**

1044. Cllr. Steele said the Minutes need amending re planning application we authorized for the Biomass Boiler at the Montagu Arms. Said the height of the chimney is too high and shiny and cladding not done. NP are not happy it is so close to a listed building. Application withdrawn. Work in progress.
1028. Cllr. Steele said the defib photo shoot went very well, with picture in the Lymington Times. Unfortunately it says the cabinet is locked, even though they were given briefing notes. Said Mr. Fort was very pleased and is supportive of the village.
1038. Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr. Weiss said he agreed to be involved with two others, working equally with them, but not masterminding it and now the other two have dropped out – so not sure what he can do, so not agreed to take it on.
1042. Cllr. Norris said Gail Allen from Age Concern spoke to us last month about rural loneliness – we have had an email from her asking how we got on. Said it was proposed to combine Beaulieu, Boldre, East Boldre and Pilley together and said there is a name coming forward to take this on.
1048. Benches in the Twinning Garden were mentioned. Cllr. Knight said he had not had time to look at them, but would attend to this before the next meeting
1051. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- None
1052. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
- Mr. Beaumont reported that the Beaulieu Residents Association meeting was very successful and asked if BPC would like to reconsider who represents them. Said he had been to see Jane Cooper at the CET and has offered to organise fund raising for it, as it would be better than having Embers Camping there. They have a contract for another year, but next year she will not renew it and said he intends to get substantial funding for it. Said Browns Lane is now No. 1 on the sea list. Harry Goodchild is the person in charge and appointing a new team based in Hants and should be in operation at end of year.
- Neighbourhood – trying to start and make this work and will try and get it off the ground.

1053. **UPDATE FROM PC YATES**

PC Yates not present.

1054. **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Thornber declared an interest in the CET as now Vice-Chairman.

Said the CET have been through a fairly torrid time, as County Council withdrew £40,000 over 2 years and this coming year there will be no grant. The forecast is we still should be able to weather that reduction. It follows from Inner London Education Authority many years ago withdrew funding, followed by Southampton and Portsmouth and now Hampshire. Now have an Executive Trustee who is running the CET after the departure of the Director. She is Jane Cooper and running this free of charge for the whole of the year, which is a remarkable gesture. Things within the CET are now settling down, have a new fee structure with a slight increase and that should enable us to break even this year. He then went on to say Cllr. Knight had reported a drain by Shepherds Mead, and understands this maybe on Estate land and the country councils officers will be talking to the Estate.

Regarding the cattle grid between Beaulieu and Lymington, the side closest to Lymington has sunk yet again. Will repair in the first quarter of new financial year, April-June. Had report saying this will not be done until B3055 Latchmoor Bridge rail repair is completed, Brockenhurst through to Sway. Thinks this is more a question of reducing the number of major roads closed.

Said there was a press report months ago about Verderers saying they have an agreement with the county to have grey surfacing on the roads of the NF. Cannot do this as the grey surface does not meet the requirements laid down by the Dept of Transport in terms of skid resistance. But taken the opportunity to talk to the Verderers and county officers will produce a guidance for the Verderers, Forestry Commission and Natural England on road maintenance in the forest. Should be produced in next couple of months. Then have a conference to agree draft and then whenever maintaining roads/cattle grids, produce a schedule of repairs. Said he is conscious we have a largish number of people of mature ages who may need social care and there are 2/3 major alterations happening to the rights of individuals, having a deferred payment scheme, which allows people to use the value of their home to pay the care home fees. These are recouped when sold. Government will allow councils to charge an upfront admin fee and interest on the loan. Those charges are specified by government and max interest they can charge for this deferred payment is for Hants 2.65% from next month and interest charge on a compounded basis. Government has introduced a cap on the amount an individual can contribute to their care. Financial threshold for people to be accessed as able to have free care has been raised from £23,250 excluding the value of any property that the individual might have and raised to £118,000 in savings and assets, including the value of the home. The average for a tenement house in say Liverpool and personal savings comes at more than £118,000! Another point that is fairly sensitive is the 1877 act that gave the Verderers the responsibility for the maintenance of grazig land.

Broadband – having considerable difficulty in the forest in terms of placing the cabinets for broadband and regrets there are six areas where cabinet installation is

delayed, due to the fact they will be on grazing land and unfortunately that includes Beaulieu, Bucklers Hard, Burley, Downton and two at East End. Have to satisfy the Verderers that we have exhausted all possibilities before we can go to them and say we have done this and we must now site them and in doing that we must give land in mitigation, so delaying broadband installation in the NF. Cllr. Norris asked if there are cabinets to be placed on forest land, it is HCC who then have to find an alternative. Cllr. Thornber said it is HCC. Government have charged each of the 42 councils with that responsibility. HCC have dipped deeply into reserves and all in all together with BT investing arounds £23m. Phase 1 is to supply broadband to 60,000 houses and hope to complete a lot by the end of the year. Phase 2 is 35,000+ and will probably not be completed until 2017. Said in other parts of the country applying broadband is simple, but in Hants we have to consult with Forestry Commission, Natural England and Verderers and then when consulting about roads you also need to add District Councils and Parish Councils. In the case of broadband it is now very much a case of the Verderers exercising their right with the act, and have inadvertently or otherwise caused the delays. There are 303 cabinets in the forest to be installed, so far 48 have agreed locations, 28 not impinging on the Verderers, 13 are yet to be planned, but do not know if would be ideally located on grazing land. 7 have been identified as an issue of the Verderers and marked on a table here. Cllr. Norris asked if there is a website this info can be found on? Can we put it on our website? Cllr. Thornber said can he consider the matter as relationships between HCC and Verderers are very sensitive on this matter. Mr. Mills said Michael Ball, a local resident has had this spelt out very clearly by BT. Cllr. Thornber said he was so grateful, so said then please put on your website. Cllr. Norris asked Cllr. Knight if the Commoners want broadband, he replied that some do. Cllr. Weiss asked Cllr. Thornber if these issues were affecting all of Beaulieu and Bucklers Hard or just parts? Cllr. Thornber said he was not sure which parts. Mrs. Pearson said she cannot comment as the Estate have not been asked, but says the Estate does own all the verges. Cllr. Thornber will make his officers aware that the Estate have not been contacted and will ask them to do so. That might just ensure this delay is cleared.

1055. **NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

Cllr. Vickers introduced Cllr. Michael Harris, a Brockenhurst resident who will be standing to replace him at the next election. Said at last East Boldre Parish Council meeting the subject of the SLR came up. Cllr. Norris has emailed the clerk and suggested because a lot of the councillors are working, that he could meet with the Chairman for coffee at the Turfcutters and discuss exactly what they want. Cllr. Vickers said at the Residents meeting the coastal path came up again and there will be consultation with NP and DC, neither been approached officially. This has been a dormant subject for approx. 5 years. When this does become a 'live' subject Cllr. Harris I am sure will do an excellent job to ensure your issues are heard.

Cllr. Steele asked if a change of government will have any impact on it or will it go ahead regardless. Cllr. Vickers thought a change of government would not make a difference.

- Said they were totally caught out regarding Marchwood Military Port, the only dialogue they had was with Caledonian McBrian and they stopped talking to us, so that combined with the purchase of the industrial estate at Marchwood lead us all to believe that ABP would be the winner. Said if this becomes a car import/export business it will displace more traffic onto the forest roads.
1056. **TALK BY CHRIS MARSHALL – COASTAL RANGER FOR THE NFNPA**
Chris said thank you for the invitation to come and talk to us, as she is new to the job and wanted to introduce herself. Said this is jointly funded by NP with HCC, set up in 2008 with Exxon. Have 3 rangers working 50% with NP and 50% at Lepe Country Park. They cover 26 miles of coastline. Main role is the balance of conservation with recreation. 34,000 people live within the NP boundaries. 56% of NP is of international or national importance, with 96% of visitors arriving by car. 39% is woodland, 34% open forest, 24% farmland, and 1.5% coastal, 500 commoners, 9319 animals in the forest. Lot of work involves going out to schools, different groups and Brockenhurst college trying to get young people/new drivers to be aware of their driving style in the forest. Work with other organisations like Highways, Verderers, FC to try and find ways to reduce animal accidents, like pinch points and changing wording on signs. Think about ways of making people more aware, like pony collars and encouraging commoners to use these on their ponies etc. Said area as coastal ranger covers Marchwood – Fawley – Lepe – Hurst Spit, so quite a large area, including Beaulieu. 3 rangers cover the forest. Main job is to be the eye and ears of the people, to be aware of what is happening. Have an office at Lepe Country Park and said this time last year it was completely flooded by the storm of 14th Feb. Taken nearly a year to get the car park up and running. New office and visitor centre in the pipeline on the cliffs. 300,000 visitors a year. Said whenever she is there she always does a litter pick, there is lots of marine and visitor litter. Do a lot of work on coastal erosion and conservation. Have a great team of volunteers do help with conservation work. Also do workshops to get people engaged with practical skills using materials on site, therefore learning about the environment and how we use it. Lepe has history re: D Day, Mulberry Harbours – it is part of our heritage that needs to be protected. We have to decide what to protect and spend our money on. Part of the job is learning and understanding our heritage of the NF. Said tourism and recreational activities have a huge impact on the forest and are trying to manage that. These include cycling, camping, dog walking etc. It is very important to try to get over to visitors just how important and diverse the quality of the forest is. It is a living thing and a working environment and in that respect it is a very special unique NP. Cllr. Norris thanked Chris and said her enthusiasm has fired us all up and given us quite a lot to think about. Said Lepe is a very beautiful place, but quite a few people complain that the car park shuts early in the evening – why? Chris said it is being looked at, but said we do not own the land, and any decisions made we have to have the permission from the landowners and they are against that at the moment. Said do have a problem with litter as people come down in the evening and there are a lot of drinks cans etc and vandalism and anti-social behavior. Mr. Beaumont mentioned to Chris about animal accidents and said

Nigel at the NP has produced a black spot map and he has convinced the Lymington Times to publish this and feels children might be interested.

1057. **PLANNING**

New Forest Activities	New building to replace toilets in a
Franks Yard- Baileys Hard 15/00067	container and shed store and changing room

Had site visit. Felt new building would be an improvement, did not think it would make a lot of impact, although maybe more bikes about the place, but that is NP policy for people to cycle everywhere. All councillors in agreement and recommend approval.

Little Marsh Lodge – 15/00129	1 st floor extension, single storey extension,
Parkshore	2 dormer windows, 2 chimneys, 2 porches
	2 bay windows

Feels this will compliment the main building much better. No increase in foot print. All councillors support this application and recommend permission.

Twin Palms – 15/00076	Solar Panels x 8
14 The Hummicks	

All councillors support this application and recommend permission.

Moonhills – 15/15/00117	Replace existing stable and hay store with
Moonhills Lane	new building in include tack room, 2 stables,
	hay store and store

All councillors support this application and recommend permission.

1058. **PLANNING DECISIONS**

Bergerie Farm - 14/01047	Single storey extension, glazed roof
Bucklers Hard	extension
	Withdrawn

Bignalls	Tree Works
Dock Lane	Raise no objections

1059. **CCTV FOR THE VILLAGE**

Cllr. Fairweather said hopefully no one has seen the two cameras on the Montagu Arms and has not received any comments from residents. Cllr. Fairweather showed us a day time video recording, the image quality was excellent. Night time video you could see the number plates. Day time camera allows you to identify make and model of cars. Currently the computer is in attic at Montagu Arms and they have been very helpful – not connected to internet yet. Would be able to dial in now and watch number plates passing in darkness. Currently two cameras facing the mill. Proposal is to give coverage of everything entering the High Street, and another number plate camera positioned facing the bus stop direction, and another daytime one pointing up the High Street. This would allow us to identify any vehicle that goes up the High Street and look back at number plate camera to pick up where they have come from, either Hythe

or Lymington direction. Need to follow the advice of the planners if we are going to put more cameras up. Need to make a decision about funding if we are going to go ahead. Have contacted lease/purchase finance company and he said the price we have been quoted is very competitive. Including maintenance over 3 years is 12 quarterly payments of £324 lease purchase and own outright at end of period, or buy outright for £3,159 and annual maintenance of £150 – total £3,888 leasing and purchase £3,609 – £200 difference. Cllr. Shanks still struggling with what are we going to do with info obtained. Said if we have a burglary the police will not sift through hours of CCTV, and will not be interested. Councillors said the police are obliged to come and get the tape. Cllr. Norris said the first thing police ask is ‘have you CCTV’, and asked this when the murder happened. Cllr. Vickers said the police are in daily at Appletree Court asking for recordings of areas because of events that have occurred. Cllr. Norris said he had an update today from the police about the burglary at his premises. Cllr. Norris feels the more we can do to help ourselves and the more we do to help the police, then more people become aware that Beaulieu is an area where ‘people are on guard’. Cllr. Steele said that people will get to know we have this which will be good, as she thinks we are quite easy pickings around here – feels this would be a major deterrent. Mr. Weiss wonders if it will be a deterrent if no one has noticed them. Cllr. Fairweather said it was our intention to put a screen up, which could be in the Post Office. Cllr. Norris asked Cllr. Vickers if we want to do this properly, then the next step is to get planning permission, and will we have lots of problems? Cllr. Vickers said NP will be an issue and also listed building consent, but the cameras are not very large and intrusive. Cllr. Norris asked councillors if before we go further shall we contact Development and Control at NP. Cllr. Fairweather said we cannot commit to this without knowing. The majority of councillors were impressed. Cllr. Norris thanked Cllr. Fairweather for his hard work on this project. Cllr. Norris said he would like to have a pre-planning consultation with the NP. Cllr. Norris asked Cllr. Fairweather to thank the company who provided the camera and tell them how impressed we are and it is our intention to try and proceed, but have a few hurdles to jump. Cllr. Fairweather said we would have to wait and see if the company choose to leave the cameras up without us having paid for them.

1060. **WEBSITE**

Cllr. Norris said he thinks it is a measure of how good our website is, as this has been reflected in the fact that Cllr. Shanks has been contacted by Boldre PC asking how we did it – Cllr. Shanks let them know. RSS Button – Cllr. Norris said the person who is keen on this is not here tonight, but it is being able to alert residents or anyone wishing to have an update all the time of our postings via email. There are various ways to do this and have spoken to the webmaster who is on holiday. Maybe easiest to have a link on our website that parishioner’s click on and then they start to receive alert emails from us. Do we pursue this? Cllr. Norris will talk to Trevor when he returns. Cllr. Norris said he is very proud of the website, said the councillors have done it, it is an achievement – mainly Cllr. Shanks. Cllr. Shanks said it would be more of an achievement if more councillors

gave more info. Said she does not mind managing it, but not going to write pieces. Really hard work and if it becomes more complicated then we need to ask Trevor to manage it. Said all councillors should contribute maybe once a month, and also could they please check the website. Pick one drop down menu and check its contents and let me know if anything is incorrect. Cllr. Norris said to Cllr. Shanks, please keep up the good work, we are very grateful.

1061. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr. Norris said he has some feedback on broadband and will update later.

General

Rural Services Network - Rural Opportunities Bulletin

Weekly email news digest 23rd Feb, 9th Mar, 16th Mar

Rural Vulnerability Service

Rural Transport – Mar

Rural Economy Spotlight - Mar

Bank Statement – Lloyds, 24th February - £13,727.38

NHS England – Parish Council contact details

Action Hampshire – helping our community thrive

Clerks and Councils Direct

HMRC – UBODS Number

After the Battle – Photo identification

BT – Adopt a Kiosk

AON – Cheque Refund

NFNPA

Minerals & Waste Monitoring Cases

Enforcement Control – 2 March

NFDC

Forward Plan of Key Decisions – April 2015

Information Bulletin – Feb 2015

1062. **CHEQUE SIGNING**

Mark Young - £75.00

Proposed: Cllr. Steele Seconded: Cllr. Knight

Cllr. Steele said Mark has started work on the spring clear up, done the Twinning Garden, working on the Hall Courtyard which needs quite a bit of work and then the playground garden, which needs to be done before the school holidays. Cllr. Fairweather said it looked in good condition. Cllr. Steele feels Mark is doing a good job – just one point about his invoices is he charges for removing the rubbish, but nowhere in the village to dispose of it, so loads in his car and takes to the skip. Cllr. Norris asked if she was happy with no flagpoles in the Twinning Garden, she thought these were in the barn being painted and said she dropped the new rope into the Estate Office. Mrs. Pearson will check.

1063. **QUESTION TIME**

Cllr. Fairweather asked whether the tree on the Bucklers Hard Road was removed as a result of the investigation into the road traffic accident. Mrs. Pearson said it was removed by a request by us, even before we heard that it had been asked to be done. Cllr. Fairweather said he did not ask for it to be done, he asked at what cost of lives do we keep a tree. Mrs. Pearson said that as soon as she mentioned it to

Ralph Montagu he asked for it to be felled. Cllr. Fairweather said soon after this all the lines were repainted – Cllr. Norris felt this was just coincidence. Cllr. Fairweather asked if we get sight of the police report. Clerk had asked Cllr. Thornber, but does not think we will get to see it.

Cllr. Fairweather also wanted to tell the councillors and ask for their support regarding an application to put in an electric car charging point at the garden centre. Has applied for a grant from NP, so local residents, visitors and shoppers can use this. All councillors said they would support.

Cllr. Steele raised the issue of the new street lights again. Cllr. Norris asked the clerk to email Cllr. Thornber.

Cllr. Knight said he has been approached to ask if there could be a dog litter bin halfway along the BH footpath. Mrs. Pearson said the problem is getting someone to empty it. Cllr. Vickers said it is a question of ease of the council getting to that location. Mrs. Pearson asked Cllr. Vickers if the council would go down to Baileys Hard?

Cllr. Shanks reported the bollards are still down by Salt Marsh, clerk to contact Highways.

Cllr. Weiss said he has been approached by some parishioners on three issues

- 1) Parking on the pavement outside the Montagu Arms and outside Mill yard – said there are 3 spaces there and often 4 cars, which closes off the footpath, likewise outside the Montagu Arms, cars parking on the pavement, so can not walk on it. Noticed someone that had parked there had received a ticket – could we do something to encourage more tickets?
- 2) Salt Marsh – have been told a new fence has been put up on the grass verge with barbed wire. Are they allowed to put it up? Do they own the land? And is barbed wire appropriate? Councillor Norris said it is with hedging – it is called a Burley Hedge.
- 3) Also brightness of new street lights, seen as far too bright and inappropriate. The new lights in the car park make it look like a football pitch. Cllr. Vickers said these can all be remotely dimmed and said he is guessing the car park is in a conservation area, then suggests we write to Cllr. Thornber and say did you perhaps overlook this, as we feel it should be heritage lamps as in the village.

Meeting closed at 8.35p.m.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 16th April 2015 6.30p.m. in the Main Hall of the Village Hall.