

BEAULIEU PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2021

A virtual meeting held on zoom due to the coronavirus pandemic HM Government regulations.

**PRESENT**

Cllr. F. Norris (Chairman), Cllr. P. Fairweather, Cllr. C. Knight, Cllr. S. Reece, Cllr. S. Steele, Cllr. M. Grindrod, Cllr. L. Dearing

**APOLOGIES**

None

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr. M. Harris, Mrs. R. Pearson, Mrs. E. Schofield, Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk)

1932. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Proposed: Cllr. Steele      Seconded: Cllr. Grindrod

1933. **MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Steele said done the playground inspection and will email to the clerk. Mark has swept the leaves from astroturf.

1934. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

1935. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mrs. Schofield said the school are opening the gate by telephone box and not closing it quite a lot and donkeys are getting in and eating the bushes. Occupants of 51/52 High Street have been shutting the gate, but it should be the responsibility of the school to check both gates are shut before they leave. Clerk to write to school. Cllr. Norris said please report to the Estate that the small gate at the top of the walk to Bucklers Hard by Norris' shop has not been repaired, spring has come unscrewed. Mrs. Schofield said residents are still putting bin bags behind the railings opposite Queensmeade. This is no longer a refuse collection point. Clerk to ask the Estate to do a sign. Cllr. Fairweather said could we put this on the Whatsapp group. Cllr. Norris agreed to do. Said one or two people in the village received penalty notices from parking in the village car park without a ticket today. Hampshire Highways here to clean out all gully traps and letter sent to all residents to keep High Street clear and on community Whatsapp at 6.30am. Think some people assumed this was a parish or NFDC initiative, where we arrange car parking fees to be suspended. Not an arrangement we made. Have spoken to Cllr. Harris and asked that the residents who received notices could be ripped up, unfairly fined. Said he would put Clerks email on Whatapp, so anyone with a notice on 21<sup>st</sup> could email Clerk with reg. number and forward to Colin Read and cc Cllr. Harris and get the fines withdrawn.

1936. **POLICE LIAISON**

PC Eastwood not present.

1937. **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Norris said Cllr. Mans might be delayed at another meeting.

1938. **NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Norris said Cllr. Harris will join us at 7pm.

1939. **PLANNING**

Cllr. Norris said he attended NP planning committee meeting as an observer, re Ipley crossroads. We supported for a staggered junction. Denny Lodge opposed, they wanted a roundabout. Maureen Holding NFDC spoke in favour. Vote went against her. Unanimous with NP planning committee to go ahead with staggered junction. A consultant was present who specializes in road junctions. Told us why roundabout was the wrong thing for that junction, apart from environmental reasons. Denny Lodge did change their mind and accept the ruling of the NP.

Plan to go ahead. Two planning applications for us to consider.

20/00919 – Out of Town Centre – Educational building, alteration and extension to car park and car park access.

Cllr. Norris said Cllrs. Knight and Reece had a meeting with Jane at OOTC. Cllr. Reece said they want a climate control classroom. They want two independent places, one for residential children and one for day children. Also it will be a meeting room Jane spoke about it and everyone in favour, apart from one negative comment to do with car parking. Said this is not a drop in centre, purely for reservations only. Cllr. Norris said the person who made the comment is in favour. Tree officer happy. Really good meeting, very positive and very good project. Cllr. Norris asked Cllr. Steele what the neighbours thought. Said Kelhams and Arnewood House are quite happy. Said looks really good and give the OOTC a new lease of life. Suffered very badly through lockdown, revenue completely disappeared. Just wonder if the building will weather down sufficiently, as other new building has not weathered at all. Cllr. Reece said I am not sure what the cladding is. Said cedar goes down to silver/ash colour and blends in. Cllr. Norris said impressed by absolute brilliance of passive solar design, putting building up and by use of material never need to burn any fuel to heat it. Very clever. Said at end of our comments should we put ‘when the NP considers buildings of good design and greatly reduced carbon foot print, this building should be included. BPC recommends permission, No. 1. Imaginative project, strongly support the passive solar design. As this is to replace an existing classroom we do not think there will be an increase in activity, we feel this building is far enough away from any listed buildings to not to make an impact on them.

Proposed: Cllr. Reece                      Seconded: Cllr. Dearing

Cllr. Steele asked if we are going to mention that the cladding weathers down?

Cllr. Norris said we could say ‘like to ensure cladding is unobtrusive and weathers down. Cllr. Steele said we could ask Jane. Cllr. Reece to ring and advise Cllrs.

20/00877 – Otterwood Gate, Summer Lane

1<sup>st</sup> floor extensions and balcony, single storey ground floor extension, replacement porch, alterations to doors, windows, roof and chimney.

Cllr. Norris said this was going to be a refusal, but yes now. Original plan never got started and want to start now. New minor alterations, then were outside the 30%, resubmitted plans and now compliant and NP happy

Proposed: Cllr. Fairweather      Seconded: Cllr. Reece

Amended plans are now compliant with core strategy and the proposals regarding garage are acceptable. All in favour. No. 1.

#### Planning Decisions

20/00851/VAR – The Tukul, Dock Lane – Application to vary condition 3.

Granted.

#### Tree Decisions

CONS/20/0701 – Heath House, Furzey – R.N.O

CONS/20/0638 – Oakwood, Furzey Lane – R.N.O

CONS/20/0655 – Carpenters Cottage, Dock Lane – R.N.O

CONS/20/0661 – Curtlemead House, Fire Station Lane – R.N.O.

CONS/20/0669 – Spence House, Dock Lane – R.N.O.

#### 1940. **PRECEPT**

Cllr. Norris said the clerk has applied for to NFDC for normal Precept.

Proposed: Cllr. Dearing      Seconded: Cllr. Grindrod

Budget – Cllr. Norris said as you can see there is a small surplus, have reasonably good reserves, need them and notice new bins are in the High Street.

Proposed: Cllr. Fairweather      Seconded: Cllr. Steele

For precept applied for of £8,000.

#### 1941. **BEAULIEU COMMON GOOD TRUST**

Cllr. Norris said I think we should make an application. Applications have to be in tomorrow. Cllr. Dearing asked how much they offer. Cllr. Norris said we apply for £500. Said we need to discuss the village notice board. Clerk to email tomorrow requesting £500.

#### 1942. **CASUAL VACANCY**

Cllr. Norris said he was incorrect that he did not serve this on the parish that there was a casual vacancy. I approached a member of the parish and suggested they apply for the vacancy to join the parish council. I was wrong in doing this, therefore now doing it as requested, we are advertising. Clerk to put notice on notice board and Cllr. Grindrod to put on website tomorrow to say there is a vacancy on Beaulieu Parish Council and applications will close on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. One written application has come in already. Said been approached by Christina Dykes who wishes to advertise the casual vacancy to the Residents Association. Cllr. Dearing wonders if we would be inundated, cannot remember how many residents are in the RA. Cllr. Steele thinks we should stick to the procedure in our instructions. Start doing it a different way, where do we stop? We have a laid down procedure and safer and sensible to stick to that. Cllr. Fairweather said would it not be better if the RA feel they want a greater representation in the parish council they choose and support an individual they have decided upon. Cllr. Norris said I just think she is being helpful. There is a custom of practice, we are the Parish Council and should carry on doing this. Difficult as we have to be all to everyone. Feel we cannot get too close to one group. Cllr. Reece said it would look like favouring. Cllr. Norris said I will tell Mrs. Dykes we are advertising on the website and notice board and she can let her residents know.

#### 1943. **NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

Cllr. Harris joined the meeting. Cllr. Harris said life at NFDC is incredibly busy. Given responsibility by government to channel funds coming from central government to DC to be distributed to businesses and others affected by the pandemic. Total handled £7.4m, still distributing to businesses the £3m given to us in December, earmarked to last until March 2022. Good incentive not to give it away immediately, mindful of the fact we might need it if another lockdown, equally businesses have to stay alive now. Said boundary changes have been finalised, recommendations going to parliament. By 2023 Beaulieu will be part of Forest Solent together with Exbury, Lepe, East Boldre and Boldre. Have one Cllr. The other part of the ward will be Brockenhurst, DL with one Cllr. The DC are keen to acquire properties as part of their own portfolio to rent to local people. Recently acquired a couple of properties in Waterside but looking to acquire more for shared ownership, you can increase the amount you own, and rent the part you do not own. When you sell it we will insist it is sold not at a high profit, and only to someone in the forest, who has a connection or family ties here. Helping people at the lower end of the market and try to do away with people from afar buying second homes. Said bid being put together for the free ports. Government want to attract free ports in the UK, so working with Southampton and Portsmouth and many other people within their consortium. Letter in to say we want to apply and then shortlist the seven or so areas that are being chosen and will be given funding. In our case it will be £2m. Need to put in a significant meaningful bid. Could be very exciting for the economy of the NF. If nothing else working with other organisations, in terms of planning and putting a submission into government, the journey to the ultimate bid, successful or not will have its own benefits. Health and Leisure review, 5 in the NF, not financially successful ever. They provide a fantastic service, but could provide an even better service. Now found a new partner, a not for profit company, someone who has over 100 H & L centres in England and also work with 23 local authorities in a similar way. All surplus money is invested back into the Trust and feel very confident about this and will be implemented in July and it will be very successful, will add huge value to the service, which is very exciting. Cllr. Norris asked if the free port is going to be at Marchwood? Replied that Marchwood will be part of it, but not entirely there. Southampton will be a big part of it. Cllr. Reece asked about the right to buy, when will you set that from and what about those who have already brought theirs? Replied it will only apply from about a month's time. Not retrospective. Asked about the properties in Hythe which are boarded up. Is that an option to buy them and do up. Said we are writing to people saying notice your house is empty, could we not find a tenant. Trying to do what we can. Cllr. Steele asked about roll out of vaccines, round here things going pretty slowly. Said Father John and myself did a quick check to see how many 80+ who had been called up and beginning of last week none of them had. Said some surgeries are using text messages to call people up, a lot of older do not do texting, a letter is needed. We are the lowest vaccination rate at the moment, and maybe higher % of elderly than some areas, so that might be the issue. Asked if you can assure us things are going to work out alright. Replied confident, but we have no operational involvement in the process, no influence to bear. Said

letter should be going out soon. Cllr. Steele said some people have been asked to go to Bournemouth for their vaccination, can they change to somewhere in the forest? Replied phone 119 and come back to me in two weeks if nothing has happened. Cllr. Norris asked if anything happening with broadband rollout in the forest. Replied had a very good meeting with Solent Let chief executive and colleague, Anne-Marie about what we can do. She said I know the minister, Caroline Dinage, MP for Portsmouth. Suggested we put together a presentation and will make an appointment for us to meet her and tell her our issues at local level, particularly for the NF that is very rural, where you need to put a cable down in trench or across some poles and 3 or 4 organisations all have an interest and put up an objection. She said we need a local ombudsman given the responsibility to say put cable here and if they have objections come and talk to me, I will listen and make a decision and that decision will be binding to all participants. Anne-Marie said we could offer the NF as a trial to do this, then if successful roll it out across England. She suggested I would be the perfect ombudsman. Cllr. Norris said to Cllr. Harris that I officially congratulate you on your OBE. Well done. Also thank you for arranging joint meeting with EBPC on waste strategy.

1944. **WASTE STRATEGY MEETING**

Cllr. Norris said Cllr. Dearing and I attended virtually. Chris Noble, NFDC spoke about waste strategy. Agreed that something got to be done more satisfactorily with household waste than sending it to landfill, generating loads of methane and carbon dioxide and causing global warming, and to try and improve NFDC's recycling rate is certainly supported, just the method of collection that concerns us and think we all feel that. Our main concern is Beaulieu and Bucklers Hard High Streets, in the fact that wheelie bins contribute nothing to the street scene, you have up to 5 different containers/bins beside your house, lots of clutter and in Beaulieu we have problems with terrace properties and people maybe tempted to store bins outside the front of their house. EBPC concerned about livestock issues. If wheelie bins were overflowing they could be attacked and debris spread. BPC have asked for a meeting with Chris Noble. His comments to my questions about High Street is probably what we wanted to hear – the strategy would need to be adapted for Beaulieu. Do not dispute food waste collection. Cllr. Dearing said going to be very fortunate to have new car park in Beaulieu and wondered if we could reserve a corner of it, very well screened and roof on and have a large communal refuse collection area, and it is collected from there. Prevent rodents and cattle raiding the bags. Looked at wooden building which would not take a huge amount of space. Just an idea so we do not want wheelie bins all over the place. Cllr. Harris said very interesting and practical idea. Said would elderly residents find it difficult to walk there with their bags? Collection point of view it would be good. Said we will have a site meeting in the High Street. Said everyone putting their biodegradable bags in the correct section. Waste a weekly collection, everything else fortnightly. Cllr. Dearing said it was brought up at the meeting about biodegradable bags for food waste caddy and he said the company they use to process food waste, they cannot use biodegradable bags as clog up system. Said have to open bags and throw them away. Cllr.

Norris said there are bags that are water soluble. Cllr. Harris said there are other places who do not want wheelie bins as they are in the NP. EB and Brockenhurst will want to avoid them, anywhere really where tourists visit. Totton and Waterside not an issue. Said they will not be collecting the same things every week and this is the way to go as it has improved recycling. Mrs. Pearson joined the meeting and said think we are both feel the same about it. Cllr. Norris said if a large bin for communal waste was a solution would that be acceptable to the Estate? Mrs. Pearson said yes subject to location, do not think it would be a problem.

1945. **CORRESPONDENCE**

£500 grant from Cllr. Mans for refuse bin for start of BH walk.

£770 from NFDC Covid support payment

Clerk to acknowledge

Cllr. Norris said to Mrs. Pearson that he has seen the new bins in the village, said they look quite smart. Cllr. Harris said he saw the new tidy fence at bottom of Fire Station Lane

1946. **CHEQUE SIG**

Clerks Salary : £750.00

HMRC - £2.48

Proposed: Cllr. Dearing                      Seconded: Cllr. Fairweather

Mark Young - £120 – Twinning Garden and Playground

Proposed: Cllr. Reece                      Seconded: Cllr. Steele

1947. **NOTICE BOARD**

Cllr. Norris said the PC notice board has suffered badly again from water, back board has blown, needs revarnishing. Said to Rachel we discussed bringing up the lower board in parallel to the existing board, other side of the letter box, get support of the PC. Get quotes in. Cllr. Dearing suggested buying new board, bespoke ones £1,000 for two, can get cheaper ones, oak look-a-like for £300 each. Cllr. Norris said Lord Montagu wants them to be oak. Cllr. Dearing to look further. Cllr. Reece said Graham might be interested in taking the job on, needs to know exactly what you want and he will do a quote. Cllr. Knight said the wall does not belong to us, Cllr. Norris has sought permission.

1948. **QUESTION TIME**

Cllr. Norris said can I have the councils support to investigate paying for Zoom services. Cllr. Grindrod said look at Zoom and Teams. Teams is safer. Cllr. Harris said NFDC have moved exclusively to Teams, very good, better than Zoom. Cllr. Steele asked the cost, Cllr. Norris said no idea. Cllr. Fairweather said they use Outlook, so comes as part of that package, Outlook 365 subscription. Cllr. Grindrod to investigate. Mrs. Pearson said we use Zoom and IT dept. could tell the clerk the cost.

Cllr. Norris said I would like BPC to do something for Lymington Hospital. Staff are under tremendous pressure and they need a little lift, an act of support. On Christmas day NF Tandoori went in and fed the staff and inmates Christmas lunch. Another donor sent 50/60 pizzas for all the staff. I wonder if BPC as people in Beaulieu get so much from Lymington Hospital, that we make a gesture to them. Quite a lot of the staff are getting very tired, they get home after their

shift and are not eating properly. Told by people that receive these things, be it teachers, nurses and care workers it does so much for their moral to get a gift. Do not know cost. Just an idea. Cllr. Steele said excellent idea and fully support. Cllr. Dearing said very good idea, just had to open another covid ward. Cllr. Fairweather said he has a lot of plants not selling and would be happy that they be given on behalf of the PC. 50 bowls of indoor hyacinths. Cllr. Norris said that's very generous. Cllr. Reece asked if we want to send food? Cllr. Grindrod said could we send cash to the League of Friends, so staff etc can get something as and when they want it. Cllr. Norris thinks hard to administrate, said League of Friends cannot even get into the hospital, said I will contact them and say we have potted hyacinths and would they like a pizza? All Cllrs. agreed. Cllr. Grindrod asked what are we using the covid support payment money for? Cllr. Norris said to cushion us from the effects of the corona virus, councils have incurred a lot of expenses due to the pandemic, councils unable to rent out things or do things they would normally to get revenue. Cllr. Norris said maybe we can use it partly for the hospital.

Cllr. Reece said at Cripplegate, just before you turn into Lodge, on the ground on the corner is still a work sign, been there nearly a year and another one at Dark Corner Lane. Clerk to report. Said cattle have got into the little wood next to Bucklers Spring, which runs down to MBHH. Reported it but still there. Said a problem with the fencing. Mrs. Pearson said Kelvin sorted it. Cllr. Reece said Geradine's fence does not look very secure.

Cllr. Knight said the water at Ropeway Corner is bad again, water going down as far as the cricket pitch. Mrs. Pearson said she saw someone there today. Cllr. Knight said it was still there. Pipe blocked and busted. Flooding outside garage has been sorted. Mrs. Pearson said we did that. Mrs. Pearson said she is still waiting for the final certificate for Harlicks in order to press go on the car park. Have pressed go on the archeological method statement which has to be done for council to tick condition on the car park. Talking about relocating the entrance, as resident not keen on having it opposite Estate Yard Cottage. Looking to see if we can move it next to entrance to Patricks Patch. Cllr. Fairweather said we have been working with Lord Montagu to find an acceptable way to try to combine the entrance, but also try and reduce visibility. It will make it more visible as you drive or walk up the High Street, so a design has been put together that brings a piece of hedge that hopefully will screen it off, but think it will mean that it will be less of a problem for lorries, which was one of my major worries, as lorries have to turnout quite wide coming down High Street wrong way and this will take the entrance to the car park up off the highway so to speak. Mrs. Pearson about to submit it. Cllr. Fairweather said am I correct in saying this is just requiring an amendment in plans. Mrs. Pearson said hoping it will be a minor amendment. Cllr. Dearing reported flooding at top of road, as come off main Hatchet Lane, its getting worse. Three lots of ditches have crossed the road. Not sure how to resolve it. Have kept ditches clear, but cannot seem to sort out top of the road. Cllr. Norris said it is a very old problem. Cllr. Dearing said there is a water outlet that goes into Hatchet pond from end of road. Cllr. Knight spoke to Derek Ingram and he did not know anything about it. Clerk to report.

Cllr. Norris said he might be starting a discussion forum via zoom for several village organisations, post pandemic recovery group. One or two organisations want this. Discuss good things that can be done by our community. When we get out of this pandemic there will be a big green agenda going on, plastic waste, carbon, methane all things to improve our community. Keep you posted and if interested in joining please let me know.

Meeting closed at 20.27pm

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 6.30p.m.