

BEAULIEU PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING ON THURSDAY 17TH JANUARY 2019
AT BEAULIEU VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Cllr. F. Norris (Chairman), Cllr. S. Steele, Cllr. C. Knight, Cllr. S. Blastock, Cllr. L. Shanks, Cllr. M. Grindrod joined the meeting after it had started.

APOLOGIES

Cllr. P. Fairweather

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr. M. Harris, Mrs. Schofield, Mr. A. Mills, Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk)

1647. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Proposed: Cllr. Blastock Seconded: Cllr. Knight

1648. **MATTERS ARISING**

None

1649. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Steele – Hides Close Planning Application

1650. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mrs. Schofield said she was slightly confused about the minutes regarding the application for car park and building consent. Cllr. Norris said the application for the car park has been passed by the NPA, but Beaulieu Estate do not wish to lose the value of the planning permission they have for a dwelling on that field and they decided to ask the NPA if it was possible to move this consent and they put in planning application to relocate that dwelling to Harlicks Hill, between the two existing cottages. It will be in the dip and not apparent, so discreet. The PC supported this. After discussion Cllr. Harris felt there was no will on the NPA and it would go to committee and the majority would not support it. Cllr. Harris and Mrs. Pearson met and Mrs. Pearson decided in the absence of Lord Montagu to withdraw that application, so the application never went before the NPA committee. The Lymington Times showed the PC to be very robust over this application and not weak as indicated at the last meeting of the PC. Beaulieu Estate are going to resubmit an application and hopefully take advantage of the new policy of the NPA and apply for two x two bedroom dwellings which will be for Estate workers, which I feel is quite sensible as a) they are small dwellings which the NPA like and b) they are for local key workers. Feels it is more satisfactory.

1651. **POLICE LIAISON**

Cllr. Norris said PC Eastwood not present, but attended last meeting and updated us.

1652. **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Mans not present. One of the issues on the agenda is the 112 bus service. Think he has been active on this.

1653. **NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Harris said they have the same challenges as last year. Broadband is a priority across the New Forest. Said NF Business Partnership, who will be having

meetings in different locations, today in Lymington, and hope to hold one in Beaulieu. Said car parking was talked a lot about as a problem for everyone. Said Cllr. Mans spoke about the bus service. Cllr. Norris said he noticed there was a presentment by County Council Broadband rollout officer at NF Consultative Panel committee in December. Said Beaulieu was on the list. Assume that was concerning the work that has not started or due to start this week in the High Street. Was an evening road closure for this village this week. Mrs. Schofield said they are out there now. Cllr. Norris said I think we may get it delivered in July in the High Street. Cllr. Harris said he keeps having meeting, it is slow but moving in the right direction. We need to find solutions to little problems, patchwork quilt effect. Cllr. Norris said he thought Glen Peachy was very good. Cllr. Harris confirmed that he knows his subject awfully well. Need to concentrate on local solutions. Cllr. Norris thanked Cllr. Harris for making BT Open Reach more aware of us in the forest. Cllr. Steele asked Cllr. Harris for his view on the car park issue. He replied that hopefully the cottages will get planning permission and go through, but its all taking time. Cllr. Steele wondered what the view would be to use the field for temporary car park. Would there be any mileage in going to the Estate and asking. Work that would need to be done to turn it into a car park, they would need for hard standing anyway. Cllr. Harris said of course we can ask. It is the principal that they are giving something that has a value and if temporary made into car park, the concern would be, would the NPA say you are using it as a car park and would they agree to the planning consent? Says the new planning application is ticking all the boxes, said he wants to attend planning meetings when it comes up. Cllr. Steele said it would be very tough on traders to go another summer season without any improvement. Cllr. Harris feels we should ask now for summer use. Said lets review it at end of March. Cllr. Norris thought that was a good idea and we could always write a letter.

1654. **PLANNING**

Cllr. Norris said we have two applications, Hides Hill Close and Hazel Copse Farm, adaption of agricultural building to be used by NF Activities and we have had a meeting here with Richard Pearsall. Decided not to decide on this application tonight, because there maybe residents who would like to comment on it prior to us making a decision. Deferring to next meeting.

18/00871 Hides Hill Close – 2 storey extension, first floor extension

Cllr. Norris said this was an isolated location surrounded by woodland, falls within the 30%. Appearance would be an improvement and supports application. Cllr. Knight said did we put a wrong comment on a recent application? Cllr. Norris said if you want to go to committee all the time, then we don't agree to the NPA decision and a councilor would have to attend the meeting. Cllr. Shanks said if we are totally passionate about an application, then we need to not say we will put it in the hands of the NPA, we should not pass the buck.

Planning Decisions

18/00830 Moonhills Gate, Exbury Road, Retention of tennis court. Granted.

18/00440 Land at Harlicks Hill, New dwelling. Withdrawn.

18/00845 Heatherlands, Furzey Lane, Detached garage/car port. Granted.

Tree Works

CONS/19/0017 Curtle Mead, High Street, Prune 2 Sycamores, 2 Ash, 1 Evergreen Oak. Arboricultural maintenance. – All councilors agree.

CONS/19/0006 West Timber House, BH Road, Fell 1 Leylandii. Over Dominate/shade. All councilors agree.

Tree Decisions – TPO/0032/18 – Tree Preservation Order, Land at Harlicks.

Decided not to confirm the TPO's.

1655. **PLAYGROUND**

Cllr. Steele said we now have, courtesy of Cllr. Fairweather's health and safety people, a document outlining risks that need to be looked out for and offset them and includes a monthly check list. Very detailed. Cllr. Fairweather and myself have completed it this month. Said we need a file to put these documents in and anyone who wants to see what our policy on the playground is and what we do to make it safe can look. Need a sheet where we can log complaints from the public. Decided to work in teams of two each month, Cllr. Fairweather and Cllr. Grindrod in one team and Cllr. Shanks and myself in the other. At the end of each month, one team will check the playground and complete the form and bring to the next meeting and any issues that come up will be discussed and I will be in overall charge of making sure any issues are dealt with. Cllr. Norris asked if the clerk keeps the file? Replied yes and should bring to every meeting. Said the main issue is the see-saw, which a child could get their finger squashed. One of the flanges is broken, another not good and looks like mechanism is bent. Cllr. Fairweather and myself have decommissioned it and is roped off and notice saying dangerous, do not use. Would like manufacturer to inspect it and want to meet them to hear how practical it is. Some of the equipment is 10 years old and we are of the opinion, unless the manufacturer tells us they can make mechanism safe, we think it should be decommissioned and taken out of the playground. Everything else is safe. We need to make a decision. Possibly next year ask for a grant from the CGT for a new piece of equipment, but feel we do have enough play equipment already without the see-saw. Other issues are the gate by school has dropped on its hinges, but now been mended. Said when you walk into the playground section, the box step is meant to be full of chippings and they have got very low and a ridge has formed, which you could trip on. Maybe put hardcore in there. Cllr. Norris feels chippings are there for H & S aspect. Cllr. Steele said we have ordered chippings. Also a Jasmine on one side of the fence comes out almost across the path, child height, feels this should come out as always causing problems. Said we should wait for the inspection and then make a decision. Cllr. Norris said the one piston we replaced was approx. £300. Have ROSPA inspection every year but they have never picked this up. Cllr. Steele said it is not a very safe mechanism and a risk. Sensible to see if we could get a yearly service of equipment by manufacturer. Feels there are bits starting to need to be replaced, like ropes on climbing frame, these need to be replaced as soon as they start looking in a bad way. We would have comfort knowing that it was all checked by manufacturer and if had a problem we can show the public that we do regularly service it. Feel equipment is getting old and in ideal world we would have a sinking fund to replace it at some stage. Cllr. Norris asked clerk to chase

manufacturer, so Cllr. Steele can meet them on site. Said the playground is used a tremendous amount. All councilors agreed that we wait for manufacturer to inspect. Mr. Mills said you are doing everything correctly, but you do need to follow up any problems. Cllr. Shanks said important if an issue is raised, and it has been dealt with then it is signed off. Cllr. Steele said there is an action section on the form. Cllr. Norris said I sent you all details of a course being run on Maintenance and Inspection of play equipment, would be nice if a councilor could attend, cost £60. Cllr. Steele said one of the raised bed boards is starting to rot and a fence post a bit rotten. Cllr. Norris feels that is an Estate matter and thanked Cllrs. Steele and Fairweather.

1656. **112 BUS SERVICE**

The clerk of EBPC has drawn our attention to the bus service as they received communication from an elderly person who uses it from EB on a Saturday, to say heard that the 112 was going to cease running on Saturday. The bus runs three times on Saturday. Funding is £6,990 which is a saving for HCC if they withdraw the service, which intending to do by April. Can save the service two ways 1) by PC's paying for it or investigating the cango bus system, which operates the other side of Lymington, Milford on Sea, New Milton and Sway and involves costs of £2,000 to each participating PC. A volume summary has been done for a Saturday and highlights no one in Beaulieu uses the bus. Residents in EB use it. Seems passenger flow is Lymington rather than Hythe, assume because of market. Saturday service 2017, no boarding and no passengers at Beaulieu. 2016 one person remained on bus at Beaulieu Garage and got off at Beaulieu Church and went on with no passengers to Hythe ferry. Cllr. Norris said the clerk of EB is being very active and finding out all the facts and getting more info. Beaulieu taxi share which operates on a Friday is 50p and leaves Beaulieu at 9.35am, but you cannot return till 16.45 meaning you have to stay in Hythe all day, so not ideal. 3 buses that run on Saturday get to Hythe at 2pm and you cannot get back to Beaulieu. Said it is the weak and vulnerable that will suffer. For Beaulieu very difficult to make a case of us doing anything, because no one uses it. Cllr. Shanks said if we say we have not got anyone getting on the bus, so we are not paying, does that mean the bus does not run? Cllr. Norris said other PC's would have to find more money. Buses are still running in the week, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday service through Beaulieu, kept running think Education Authority helps fund it, as well as HCC. HCC survey end of year 2018, Saturday journeys 1,749, average of 34 each Saturday. Cllr. Steele said it is difficult for us to justify the expense as not used here. Cllr. Norris said we will write to EB clerk and will listen to any updates, but feel we cant justify the money if not used by Beaulieu residents. Asked Mr. Mills if Residents Association members use the bus. Replied that they probably do not know about it.

1657. **FEBRUARY ROAD CLOSURE**

Cllr. Norris said had an informal meeting on Friday 11th January to discuss with traders the road closure, 3 days over half term 9.30am – 16.00 High Street closed. 18th – 20th February. Said Fairweathers will be closed, but other shops staying open. Said that Cllr. Fairweather said RWD can use his car park and also residents. School yard will be available and possibly Church Meadow hard

standing. Cllr. Shanks asked how do we inform everyone. Cllr. Norris said traders know, put on website and notice board and writing press release and put notices through letter boxes. Mr. Mills to inform Residents Association. Cllr. Harris to check on car park fees.

1678. **CORRESPONDENCE**

NFDC – Temp. Road Closure, 5th March – Pancake Race – no objections
Lloyds Bank, Balance 31st December - £17,286.49
HCC Re footpaths, but most managed by the Estate
BCGT – Grant cheque £500
Blue Sky – Foster carers wanted
Clerks and Councils Direct

1679. **CHEQUE SIGNING**

BVHT – Room Hire £36.00
Proposed: Cllr. Steele Seconded: Cllr. Knight
Cllr. Norris said if all in agreement he will sign cheque for Clerks new laptop.

1680. **QUESTION TIME**

Cllr. Grindrod apologised for laptop not being at meeting. Asked if we H & S check the bus shelters. Said he will go on the Inspection and Maintenance of playground equipment course. Cllr. Steele said we do not do a form, but we could. Cllr. Norris said they are in good condition, but can do form.
Cllr. Blastock said the road works by Lodge Farm are completed, but they seem to have given up on the work by the cemetery. Said water from ditch was still running down the road. Clerk to contact Highways. Said there has been a lot of rubbish from Lodge to Cripplegate, said collected a lot of it and four tyres this week. Reported to Alan Baker. Can this be mentioned to the Estate. Cllr. Norris to draft letter. Said Fire Station Lane gate left open at top and ponies getting in by Cllr. Gibbs house. Cllr. Norris to look.

Meeting closed at 8.05p.m

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 21st February 2019 at 6.30p.m. in the Main Hall of the Village Hall.

