

BEAULIEU PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING ON THURSDAY 18TH MAY 2018
AT BEAULIEU VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Cllr. F. Norris (Chairman), Cllr. P. Fairweather (Vice Chairman), Cllr. S. Steele, Cllr. L. Shanks, Cllr. C. Knight, Cllr. S. Blastock, Cllr. M. Grindrod

APOLOGIES

Cllr. S. Gibbs, Cllr. M. Harris, PC Eastwood

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr. K. Mans, Mr. A. Mills, Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk)

1554. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Proposed: Cllr. Steele Seconded: Cllr. Shanks

1555. **MATTERS ARISING**

1548. Cllr. Fairweather said Page 8, line 32, should read 'if the land owner has a different focus'.

Cllr. Norris thanked the clerk for the Minutes and said she had a problem with her laptop and advised she get someone to look at it. Cllr. Grindrod offered the PC laptop.

1556. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

1557. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

1558. **POLICE LIAISON**

PC Jason Eastwood unable to attend meeting, but sent report and apologies for not contacting us last month. Said PCSO has moved on and thought he had sent something before he left. Said he was quite a good officer and it's a pity he has gone. Incidents reported for the area are a dingy theft from Gins Lane overnight on 2nd May. Fraud issue at The Hummicks involving a plumber, on-going at this time. Said he would like to make us aware that there have been two separate incidents in Hythe where males have been purporting to be gardeners, have carried out expensive work and then noticed rats nests, which they have charged large amounts of money to remove. Incidents in The Vale, Hythe, Mopley and Blackfield. Suspects two males 'Tree and Hedge' on the side. One male early 20's and other one in his 40's.

1559. **HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Mans said they have their AGM tomorrow, no change, Conservative group Voted Roy Perry to remain as Leader and I remain as Deputy Leader. Said he understands the point about traffic and have told Stuart Jarvis. I think it is an issue we just have to persevere and push. Will send the picture you showed to the Director of Highways. Said doing quite well with filling pot holes and have a bit of money left for this. If you see any please report to HCC. Cllr. Norris said he spent time driving around North Hampshire and said the state of the forest roads in comparison to elsewhere are awful, especially along road edges. Cllr. Mans

agreed and said one of the problems we have is we have a lot of minor roads and how we shore up the verges as restrictions on how much we can use. Said he use to go around with Tim Lawton and look at roads in my division, checking where the worse bits were. Said following the bad weather in March are we happy with grit bins? Said on track with savings we have had to make, do have some reserves and using them on projects to try to reduce revenue costs. Two examples are the support we give families not coping very well, has increased, hoping fewer children to be taken into care, optimistic making progress. Said regarding adult social services they are pioneering the use of IT and Amazon Alexa in elderly peoples homes to give them a way of contacting. This has been received incredibly well, and getting communications from all sorts of other areas, saying let us know about this as we want to take this on. Said devolved budget is open again, has £8,000 a year to give £500-£1000 for projects specifically for our division.

1560. **NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Cllr. Harris not present.

1561. **PLANNING**

18/00264 – Beck Farm, St. Leonards, Grain Silo

Cllr. Norris said the silo is going in the back barn, large round cylinder 1000 ton bin with gantry over it, blower dryer by the side. Reason they need is the old dryer can only dry about 4 ½ tons an hour and they need 10 ton. The listed building is a timber framed barn, which is used as an office now. We are being asked if this will impact on the listed building. Cllr. Norris said it does not as it is behind the barn that has been there since the 1960's. All quite well screened. You would not know there is a listed building there, unless you drove over the cattle grid and in. Cllr. Shanks asked about the noise. Cllr. Norris said I do not think it will affect anyone, the noise of dryers does not go on all year, only during harvest. Cllr. Shanks said do they grow grain around that area? Cllr. Norris confirmed. Cllr. Steele said main people who maybe concerned are the occupants of Beck Farm and they have not objected. Cllr. Norris said combining is so fast you can get your moisture content right and you can get it all in without using the dryer. Cllr. Knight agreed as it costs money to dry it. Cllr. Norris said if it is making noise they put straw bales around it. The planning officer says consider the visual impact and impact on the setting of the adjacent listed building. Said I do not think you will see it. Cllr. Fairweather said what about the height of the building. Cllr. Norris said it is a little higher, but not overlooked. Said conservation officer has not commented. All councillors agreed, No. 1.

1562. **COASTAL PATH**

Cllr. Norris asked Cllr. Steele to talk us through, as sent final representation document off. Cllr. Steele said not a lot to say, except document you all saw went to Lord Montagu, who added a few useful technical bits, mainly on spreading room. Said we were only allowed to make a representation so focused on parking issue, which they do not seem to be concerned about and also about the coastal margin and put in two examples, one for the east side of the Beaulieu river, the stretch along to Exbury House, it takes the path inland for a very long way, huge area of spreading room and not a coastal path at all. Takes advantage of the act.

Second example is Mr. Rolf at Park Farm. Cllr. Steele said she hoped he managed to get his objection in. Cllr. Fairweather confirmed he did and said Lord Montagu helped him. Cllr. Steele said we did what we could in our representation. Cllr. Steele said objections are forwarded to a special independent planning inspector assigned by the Sec. of State and he will decide if the objection is valid. The representations go to NE and the main points will get put to the Sec. of State. No idea how long this process is going to take, suspect so many objections and representations it could take quite a long time, so we wait. Said the fun starts if nothing gets changed. Said the preferred option of NE is the ferry which is still being considered. Will keep you informed.

1563. **B3054**

Cllr. Norris said at his request I went to see Mr. Norman, regarding Palace Lane road issues. Said he and the other residents of Palace Lane are quite determined to pursue this. He has been independently in touch with Speed Watch. Since the days of Nick Weiss, when he was interested in doing something like that, things have changed a lot. It is now not so complicated to introduce. You only have to do a one hour course, and don't have to be CBS checked. Just name, address, NI number. There is a police officer dedicated to this, who is called Richard Williams, who is quite keen for it to be set up in Beaulieu. Only need two people and the training course will be in the parish and the police select the sites and have selected sites already in Palace Lane. If there are enough people, there maybe other sites that we could consider if we get involved. Cllr. Steele said do the police recommend how often you deploy this? Cllr. Norris said I think we get guidance on that. Mr. Norman has asked if he can see the print outs from HCC of recorded speeds, because they are quoted in Cllr. Humby's letter. Cllr. Norris said he has asked Mr. Norman for a copy of the letter he had from Cllr. Humby, which is slightly different from the one we had. He feels the figures quoted are not right and said I know when I lived in Home Farm the PC put an SLR up and it flashed all evening. Said a lot of the vehicles going pass entrance to Dock Lane were doing 40mph and fastest vehicles were white vans and up to 50mph. Asked how councillors feel about this, said we are doing what we should as a PC and going with the residents to make the parish safer. Cllr. Knight said the reply we received from HCC, it seems they feel there is not an issue. Cllr. Norris said I think Cllr. Humby thinks he has seen us off, well he hasn't. Said I think we just have to keep trying to make them realise we have quite strong traffic issues here in Beaulieu. Cllr. Norris asked Cllr. Knight why can't lorries go across to Lyndhurst, turn right and go down through Ashurst? Cllr. Knight said they can not come under the bridge at Passford House. Cllr. Norris said can you bring a big HGV from Romsey Road. Cllr. Knight said no, would have to come down the High Street. Can go along Brockenhurst Road, but cannot get into Lyndhurst. Said also a problem with engine emissions. Cllr. Shanks said this is a different issue, size of vehicles and speeding problems. Said speed watch is speeding vehicles not size. Slightly concerned about who shouts loudest gets what they want. Do understand problems in Palace Lane, but also traffic issues coming down Hatchet Lane, been two accidents and also the High Street, these do not seem to be on anyone's radar, as no one is shouting about it. Cllr. Norris said we

need other sites like the Beaulieu bypass. If we are going to embrace this we can become more involved and spread it throughout the whole parish with other sites, so more people will benefit and Mr. Norman can do Palace Lane. Said one of the things that use to put people off was the cost of training, but this is free, the police have two sets of kits and they will lend us one, so do not have to buy kit. Said Mr. Norman has been looking on internet at signage and SLR's etc and the price of these has come down a tremendous amount, they are affordable and the PC could buy one and put it up. Cllr. Norris said I do not think we can put it up, think it has to be done in an approved manner by NFDC or HCC, on proper mountings, problems with public liability and siting them. Cllr. Shanks said when the SLR was up it monitored traffic going up the hill, but we all know the majority of traffic coming down the hill is speeding and also pony deaths, which are not being considered. Cllr. Norris said that machine recorded speeds from both directions. Said this is illustrated on Future Forest Plan, next on the agenda, one of the upgrades for recreation management plan in the forest, in the fact that the roads are not big enough for this sort of traffic. These roads were not designed to cope with such heavy vehicles. Cllr. Knight said that is a 42 ton lorry. Cllr. Fairweather said about the commitment the PC give this project, as previous post on our website, I do not think it looks as though we have full commitment as long as Mr. Norman is the contact. If PC are fully committed, would he feel confident in us pursuing the project, as his interest and the wider community, or is he going to pursue this off his own back? Cllr. Norris said this is why its on the table, which way do we want to go with it? Said my view is there will not be enough people that would volunteer. Mr. Norman may come back and say he has 15 volunteers, or may say there is only me. Is the council willed to take the project on? Do you feel it is a good idea? Said easier to do now, but have not spoken to the police officer, but I can. Said word will soon get around there is a group of people doing this when they come through Beaulieu. Cllr. Shanks asked what power do they have, what can they actually do stood by the road with high-vis jackets on taking readings. What happens after that? Cllr. Norris said the owner of the car will get a letter from the police, saying they were detected speeding, but will not get prosecuted – a warning letter. Said he had one from Dorset police. Cllr. Fairweather said I thought if you got three letters, then there was another level of follow up. Cllr. Norris said he does not know. Said shall I ask the police officer to come and talk to us. All agreed. Cllr. Blastock said can I ask about these types of vehicles coming through, they do speed down Palace Lane and from Hatchet. What is the weight limit on the bridge? Cllr. Steele said they bridge was strengthened in the war to take tanks. Cllr. Blastock asked how heavy were the tanks? Cllr. Steele said it was strengthened by the military to take some serious kit. Cllr. Norris said I was given this photograph, which illustrates what is happening. Cllr. Grindrod says they speed and slow down for that corner, they go pass my house and it shakes. Cllr. Knight said 100 like that come through every day. Cllr. Norris asked if anyone would do the course. Cllrs. Blastock, Knight and Grindrod agreed. Cllr. Knight said would HCC come and talk to us as cannot believe the figures sent are correct. Cllr. Norris said when I have Mr. Norman's letter from Cllr. Humby I will draft a reply on that. Cllr. Knight said no way has

the traffic got less. Cllr. Shanks said I think this gentleman should come and talk to us before we commit to anything. Cllr. Steele asked the Chairman of the Residents Association if speeding comes up regularly at their meetings. Chairman confirmed it did, not number one issue, as other roads in the parish ie Buckler's Hard Road is an issue. Cllr. Fairweather said I think the PC want ownership of this. Cllr. Knight said if members of the public use the device they will not be covered by PC Public Liability insurance. Cllr. Norris said that is another point and also the insurance. Cllr. Steele said if we use the police kit, is it not covered by their public liability? Cllr. Shanks feels this is a council matter and only councillors should be present. Cllr. Blastock said we are representing Mr. Norman and other people and sounds a little one sided. Cllr. Norris said it is and it isn't. Cllr. Grindrod said Mr. Norman came in about what happened on his walks along Palace Lane with his dogs, and no dogs and being nudged by cars, if that was me I would have called the police and also report stones through the window and insurance company. Has he gone down those routes? Cllr. Shanks said surely if you had the dogs and were walking down that narrow path, you would cross over the road. Cllr. Grindrod said he saw Mr. Norman walking along Palace Lane and waving his arm about asking the traffic to go round him, as had one dog in the road. He was waving me to move over into oncoming traffic.

1564. **FUTURE FOREST CONSULTATION**

Cllr. Norris said on 5th May I sent you all documents on the Future Forest Consultation. Last year we did not respond and feel we should. Said the 2010 strategy has to be updated, because when done certain things like Wiggle did not happen and did not anticipate the number of day visitors who would come to the forest. Did consultation last year at the NF Show and also on website, asking what people felt was important regarding recreation. Mission statement is 'protecting the spectacular, yet fragile wildlife and cope with the people who come to see it. Managing recreation, local people and our visitors and also need to use limited resources wisely'. Feels limited resources probably means they will start to charge for all car parks in the forest. Identified 15 topics people are most interested in and what people do in the forest. Most popular is walking, 2nd watching wildlife, 3rd enjoying the views and a picnic, then exercising dogs, going out for car rides, then cycling. One which is surprisingly low down is horse riding. Concerns of people were awareness and understanding of the forest, people should be made more aware of that through education. Sustainable transport is next big topic and this as far as I am concerned is buses. On and off road cycling is almost equal to that as an issue. Walking was probably next. These are some of the issues they hope to address. They have a steering group which are NFDC, HCC, Verderers, FC and NE. Each is allocated one of these 15 topics. Going to be a recreational management steering group report, giving guidelines to 2030, from feedback received during the Future Forest Call for Views consultation, which will continue to be used. They will refine the findings and we will be asked to comment on at the end of the year. Focus on actions in three keys areas identified – raising awareness and understanding, managing recreational activities and finding resources. They are proposing to have a recreation map for the NF. They will decide where certain activities can take

place. So perhaps the left hand side of the B3054 will be designated to dog walking, the right hand side where maybe nesting lapwings, you will not be able to go there. They are going to try and join up more bridleways and have designated path, which I think will mean horse riding will go onto designated bridleways and paths along with cyclists and get cyclists off the roads. Want to shut caravan sites. Want to resurrect the railway line. Said the things I support are to have a 30mph speed limit throughout the whole of the forest and 20mph through all forest villages, reintroduction of the rail services in the Waterside. Do we want to comment on recreation map? Cllr. Fairweather said probably want to discourage them from bringing in new recreation activities anywhere near Beaulieu, as we cannot accommodate them. Buses are not viable and no parking. Cllr. Blastock said were they not talking about taking bikes off forest and taking them to Moors Valley? Cllr. Norris said if you view the forest as a conservation area, then basically shut the whole place down, take camp sites off, close car parks and not let people walk on the open forest. If they charge for car parks I think there will be displacement parking and will park on verges. Cllr. Blastock said they have a Verge Officer now. Cllr. Norris said the problem is nothing gets enforced, these rules are passed, but no one enforces them. Cllr. Blastock said she contacted the Verderers as there was another BBQ at Hatchet Pond, when went back they had thrown the coals in the water. They took two days to reply and said they can have a BBQ on green as long as certain distance up off the grass and take rubbish home. Cllr. Norris said their attitude is to do everything by education so educate people not to do it and tell them why. Cllr. Shanks said it is everyone's forest, people who live in Totton, Dibden etc, they are people who need to come and enjoy the forest. We are lucky we are here every day and should encourage people from inner cities to come to the forest. Cllr. Norris said in the report it is very important for people's health and mental health in particular. Cllr. Steele asked who is behind this? Cllr. Norris said NP. This is their project and the steering group will be given particular issues i.e dog walking maybe given to the Verderers. Said we can influence what they are doing, so important to look at it and give our views. Cllr. Fairweather said we must respond on the impact to our parish. Mr. Mills said there is the impact in the increase of cattle grazing. Cllr. Norris said it is in the report, very hot topic. Said a lot of the cattle on the forest are not native breeds, think they should bring back old native breeds. Cllr. Knight said we have all had a letter from FC/Verderers saying the SSI's are in an unfavorable position, cattle poaching the forest. Said why should they write to me when my cattle do not go out in the winter. Should write to the culprits who are abusing the forest. Cllr. Norris said are these people who do not live in the forest. Cllr. Knight agreed, said the government are paying them, that's why they are doing it. Cllr. Steele said big herds of cows like they have are dangerous and at some stage a dog walker will be trampled, then huge outcry. Cllr. Knight said the heather is disappearing and in 10 years time there will not be any. Cllr. Steele said is that because of the cows? Cllr. Knight confirmed, said they have nothing else to eat in the winter. Cllr. Norris said we need to get a few people together and write down our views, asked if we want a sub-committee on that. Agreed to do on email and put our ideas together and send them in.

1565. **CORRESPONDENCE**

NFDC – Precept in £4,000, Forward Plan of Key Decisions

BHIB – Insurance re our policy. Cllr. Norris to read

Hags – Play equipment brochure

Lloyds Bank 30th April Balance £17,330.21, Updating Business Account

NFNPA – Park Life

1566. **CHEQUE SIGNING**

BVHT - £36.00

Mark Young - £75.00

Proposed : Cllr. Blastock

Seconded: Cllr. Knight

1567. **QUESTION TIME**

Cllr. Blastock said Cllr. Knight and I attended the Verderer's Open Day meeting and have leaflets on Heritage Management and then attended the Quadrant meeting. Said she spotted NF Fruits van driving their heavy vehicle over the bridge by the cemetery, which they are not supposed to do, thought they were told they could not go that way because of the condition of the road. Cllr. Norris asked the Clerk to report the road again, but feels not a priority as a C road. Cllr. Steele said she will put flag up for Royal wedding.

Cllr. Shanks mentioned the Twinning Garden, said know the French visit is not happening, but wonder if possible for the money that is set aside to be used to do the gravel. The garden is in a pretty bad way. Mark has worked really hard in there today, the weeds, grass and ground elder were bad and I am worried about it. Feel we should dig out the plants that we can and mass kill with chemicals or dig out the ground elder. Cllr. Fairweather said if you use chemicals you can replant in 3 weeks. Cllr. Fairweather said you need to get him to do a set time each week from now. Discussion took place regarding the management of the Twinning Garden with a request that Cllr. Shanks takes charge. Cllr. Shanks agreed to try provided there were not too many man management problems.

Cllr. Fairweather said can we arrange a meeting with the Highways man re road works in October. Can we have a High Street site meeting to understand if it will work and options on the road closures, night works, access to the school etc. Cllr. Steele said that Cllr. Shanks has before suggested cannot they just temporarily patch the top section. Cllr. Fairweather said they claim they cannot do that while cars are parked on the High Street, as he spoke to them. Reported that the police used the CCTV last week. Said we have mentioned a new marque, said I have spoken to Mr. Melhuish and Mr. Jackson, who have not had a conversation with Cllr. Gibbs. They are of the opinion that the proposal is not going to meet the Fete's needs, would prefer small modular pop up gazebo's and think we need to make sure the project goes back to the drawing board, as not enough consultation. Said the number of occasions we are going to use it, it would be better to rent one, no storage, health & safety, ownership and insurance issues. Need a better proposal. Could we ask the Estate to look at the garden outside Queensmeade. Cllr. Steele said the builders doing the Cooke-Hurle's wall have done a good job, but left mortar and rubbish at the base of the wall. Clerk to write.

Meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 21st June at 6.30p.m. in the Main Hall of the Village Hall.