

SANDLEHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Sandleheath Parish Council held on Monday 22nd February 2010 at St.Aldhelm's commencing at 7-30pm

PRESENT: Chairman - Mr S.Daykin
Vice-Chairman – Mr R.Fenn
Councillors – Mr D.Dean, Mr B.Martin & Mr G.Maynard
Clerk to the Council – Mr B.Shemmings

- 10.14 Apologies for absence
These were received from parish councillors Mrs Coyle & Mr Stockton and county & district councillors Mr E.Heron,Lt.Col M.Shand & Dr M.Whitehead All at the District Council monthly meeting.
- 10.15 Any declarations of interest by any councillor on any agenda item
The Chairman declared a non-financial interest on item 5(a) planning application no.10/95086.
- 10.16 Minutes of Previous Meeting
The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th January were read, approved & signed as a correct record of the business transacted.
- 10.17 Matters Arising
- a) Highways
The Clerk said that he had received an email from Nick Hunt (NFDC) that the whitelining work will be in the 2010 work programme and will be ordered either this month or in March.
The Clerk confirmed that there will be a walkround of the village roads on Friday 28th Feb with the Vice-Chairman & Bob Brown of Hampshire Highways (West). The Vice-Chairman said that two fairly large potholes had been filled in Alderholt Rd. He also confirmed that drains in both Main Rd & Alderholt Rd had been cleaned. He said that there were a couple of drain covers in Main Rd which needed attention as they had worked loose. He had reported these. He mentioned that there is a procedure for reporting loose drain covers rather than chasing individual utility companies. A village resident made a point about the mess left in Scats Lane after recent gas workings in the road. The Vice-Chairman said that this would be looked at during the village walkround.
- b) Speed Limits
The Vice-Chairman reported on the results emanating from the black boxes erected between the 6th & 13th October last year in Main Rd & Alderholt Rd. The results were in Main Rd (east of Elms Close) a mean of 30mph westbound & 32 mph eastbound. In Alderholt Rd south of Main Rd a mean of 33 mph westbound & 33 mph eastbound. The meeting felt that generally the figures for Main Rd & Alderholt Rd were acceptable. It was agreed that Cllr Heron be asked if black boxes can be positioned at the Damerham end of Main Rd & also near the 30mph zone in Rockbourne Rd.

The Clerk said that the Downton road works seemed to be going well with not too much additional traffic using the Rockbourne Rd route to Salisbury. The change of plan by Wiltshire Highways to use traffic lights on the A338 to control traffic rather than the actual closure of the road was an important factor.

- c) Village Entry Sign
The Clerk referred to the email from Martin Wiltshire, of HCC, to Cllr Heron, copy of which was sent to the Clerk. The suggestion from HCC was for the county council representative who originally advised the parish council to further discuss the construction of the feature to enable the parish council to resubmit their proposals & enable the matter to be reconsidered. The meeting after due consideration agreed that Cllr Stockton be requested to proceed to the next stage.
- d) Methodist Church at the crossroads
It was confirmed the sign had been erected but it was positioned halfway down the post. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary representations to NFDC to ask them to tidy up the signs on the post and ensure that the Methodist Church sign was pushed further up.
- e) Broken sign at crossroads
The Clerk said that NFDC had referred the request for the sign to be mended to Hampshire Highways as it was a matter for the county council. He would chase this up.
- f) Correspondence with Environment Agency re flooding
It was confirmed by the Environment Agency that the Flood Watch warning was intended for farmers to give them appropriate warning of heavy impending rainfall so that they can move cattle from low ground to high ground. It was not about danger to properties due to flooding. It was confirmed that there was no properties within Sandleheath what would be in any danger from flood water. The report was noted.
- g) New residents “welcome letter”
In a written note Cllr Mrs Coyle confirmed that the welcome letter was now ready to distribute to new village residents. The printing of the letter would be carried out with the co-operation of Cllr Stockton using his print facility with no cost to the council. Both Mrs Coyle & Cllr Stockton were thanked for their work.

10.18 Planning

- a) Applications
10/95086 (Extn of time limit of planning permission 07/89560) Mr M.Roach 1st floor side extn Silvertrees, Main Rd, Sandleheath
10/95151 (Extn of time limit of planning permission 07/89842) Mrs L.Bailey 1st floor extn; roof alterations; detached replacement garage. Rose Cottage, Alderholt Rd, Sandleheath
The meeting unanimously agreed that both applications be supported bearing in mind that there are no changes at all to the original planning requests which the parish council previously supported in 2007.
- b) Decisions taken by NFDC Planning Authority
09/94687 Mr R.Streatfeild Single-storey extn Old Court Wood, Main Rd, Sandleheath.
Planning permission was granted by the planning authority

c) Other Planning matters

The Chairman referred to a letter he had received from NFDC's senior planning policy planner. The letter highlighted the NFDC Core Strategy for the District outside of the National Park & the fact the strategy addressed the need for affordable housing in the area & for up to 10 dwellings being a mix of homes which would include social rented, shared ownership & low-cost starter homes. All sites put forward would be appraised. To date some 7 sites had been put forward for consideration. The NFDC confirmed they would work closely with the parish council. The Chairman said that at the moment this is a technical exercise evaluating potential sites in preparation for public consultation. After debate it was agreed that the Chairman be requested to confirm with NFDC that the parish council would want to be closely involved at all stages. In the meantime there was nothing preventing councillors looking at the sites listed in the map attached to NFDC's letter.

10.19 Finance

a) Current situation

Current account £636.31 Deposit account £1304.47 Treasurer Trust account £306.10

b) Parish Council insurance

The Clerk reported that it had been confirmed by Came & Co. acting for Aviva insurance have quoted an annual premium of £282.22 from the 1st June 10. This compares with the current premium of £323 from Zurich effective from 1st June 09. The policy from Came & Co would include cover for volunteer workers who do work on the Common or grass verges for the council. It also included cover for the annual bonfire provided a risk assessment & other strict safety precautions were carried out. After a short debate it was agreed that the Came & Co policy would be ideal but the Clerk was asked to check with the existing Zurich policy to ascertain whether or not their risk assessment/safety precautions for the annual bonfire are similar to those of Came & Co & a need to understand how it would impact on our parish events.

c) Other finance matters

There were 2 invoices for payment – from New Forest Tree & Gdn Services the sum of £34 to cover the work involved in cutting the sumac tree near Elms Road and the sum of £50 to cover tools for the Community Service workers, the cheque made out to Carters of Swanwick with whom the Hampshire Probation Service have an arrangement for the supply of tools.

It was agreed that a request from Chloe Hinton for financial assistance towards a trip in 2011 to the World Scout Jamboree be rejected. Whilst Chloe is a member of Sandleheath Sea Scouts she is a resident of Fordingbridge.

10.20 The Common

The Clerk said that it was confirmed by the Fordingbridge Town Council Clerk that they were not prepared to sub-contract their groundsmen to cut the Sandleheath Common. He then confirmed the two quotes he had received regarding cutting the Common:

Mr Cliff Dibben (existing cutter) a charge of £100 per cut & the hedge around the allotments £60. Extra hedge cutting £30 per hour
NFDC £30.75 per hour at a fixed cost of two hours. Hedge cutting would be the same rate provided it is tied into one of the autumn grass cuts.
The meeting agreed that the quote from NFDC be accepted and Steve Jones be asked whether as an extra they could cut the Common paths, bearing in mind the two previous cutters had now finished.
Mrs Coyle in a note about the Common suggested clearing up the existing ditches, cleaning up the bench, cleaning the signs on the Common & gate and a general tidying up at the base of trees & shrubs. This was agreed.
An email from a new resident who lives at Ashburn House requested that he be allowed to erect a sign on the approach track to his property which is set back from the Common. The meeting unanimously agreed that the policy of the Council is to have minimal signage on the Common & therefore they could not accede to his request.

10.21 Refreshing the Village Plan

Cllr Maynard presented his draft letter to residents in respect of the refresh of the Village Plan. The meeting gave full consideration to the ideas/action points highlighted in the draft letter and felt that Cllr Maynard had covered the key points adequately. They agreed with the draft letter & members were asked to forward comments on the detailed contents.

10.22 Village Design Statement

Cllr Coyle's re-design of the Statement was considered by the meeting & they were unanimous in their approval. Cllr Coyle was thanked for her efforts.

10.23 NFDC Standards Committee

The Clerk confirmed that a member of the NFDC Standards Cttee together with Rosemary Rutins, the NFDC Democratic Services Manager, would be attending the 29th March meeting as observers. The idea is to raise the profile of the Standards Cttee amongst town & parish councils & to promote the need for all councillors to comply with the code of conduct.

10.24 Correspondence

- a) New Forest Spring Clean 2010 – volunteers required during period 6th to 14th March
- b) Rotary Club of Fordingbridge – Citizen of the Year 2010
The Clerk asked for any names of nominees should be notified to him.

10.25 Any other business

- a) It was agreed to field a team of 4 for the Methodist Church quiz evening on 16th April – team to be booked in by end of March.
- b) It was agreed that the question of the laptop be an agenda item for a future meeting.

10.26 Date of next meeting – Mon 29th March 10

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8-45pm

