

SANDLEHEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Sandleheath Parish Council held on Thursday 12th September 2013 at 7-30pm in St.Aldhelm's

PRESENT: Chairman - Mr S.Daykin
Vice-Chairman - Mr R.Fenn
Councillors - Mr D.Dean, Mr B.Martin, Mr G.Maynard,
Mr J.P.Stockton & Mr D.Wright
Clerk to the Council - Mrs V.Eden

Also in attendance was outgoing Clerk, Mr B.Shemmings, county councillor Mr E.Heron and district councillors Ms R.Bellows and Ms A.Sevier. There were 10 village residents in attendance

13.72 Apologies for absence
No apologies for absence

13.73 Any declarations of interest by any councillor on any agenda item
No declarations of interest recorded

13.74 Minutes of Previous Meeting (1st Aug 13)
The minutes of the previous meeting were read & after a small correction under 13.65(a) "Dee Faulkner instead of PC Corinne Irving" were signed as a correct record.

13.75 Matters Arising

a) Community Speedwatch

Cllr Stockton said that the team were out during the week of the 26th Aug. They registered 21 motorists who were exceeding the 30mph & they would be receiving a letter from the police.

b) Highways

Cllr Fenn said that the patching gang had been around but certain places which had been recorded as needing attention had been missed. He said that he would be contacting Bob Brown, the Highways Superintendent.

c) The Common

It was reported that the parish lengthsmen, Robert Heron, was recovering from an appendix operation & would be back at work during the next week. The Clerk had spoken to Robert & he would be mending the hinge on the Common gate on the 24th September.

d) Village Design Statement

Cllr Stockton reported that the VDS had been received by NFDC but they wanted to receive the document through the email system. Cllr Stockton said that he would be informing NFDC that this was not possible as the document was some 40 pages long & would not be appropriate for the system. He said that he hoped NFDC would endorse the VDS without any further amendments as he had followed the advice of the previous NFDC official, Edward Gerry, in preparing the document.

- e) Future of St.Aldhelm's
The Chairman gave a full report on the two recent meetings of the community. A formal proposal had been tabled by the Community Association supported by the Parish Council and District Councillors. A meeting has now been set-up with the Church Management group towards the end of the month. The document makes the point that the Community Association would take on the church building and would run it. He outlined the various options open to the Community Association in respect of their taking on the building. He thanked all those who had supported the Community Association in their efforts to date.
- f) Qinetiq
Cllr Stockton reported on his telephone conversation with the surveyor working for QinetiQ in respect of the ex-MoD land on the Sandleheath/Damerham boundary. Two offers for the land were currently under consideration. The surveyor gave the impression that both persons making the offers didn't want to do anything with the land but keep it as it is – however this was only an impression. The cost of the land would be around £175,000. Cllr Stockton was thanked for his report.
- g) Developers Contributions
The Clerk & Brian Shemmings gave a report on their meeting on Tuesday last with the owner of the land behind the industrial estate through which the pathway runs. They had discussed the possibility of a cycleway being established to link up with the existing bridlepath/cyclepath that runs from Brick Hill. They said that the discussions were only initial talks but were useful. They also made the point that as there is already an existing cyclepath from Brick Hill this could be used as the new cycleway though it was acknowledged that a certain amount of work would be required to bring it up to scratch. The council members felt that this was improbable as the path comes out into the Rockbourne Rd & heavy traffic during rush hours. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the landowner concerned of the land behind the industrial estate regarding the pathway that runs through his land being utilised as an approved cycleway. The Clerk also reported that Dean Brunton, of the Policy & Plans team at NFDC had been emailed in respect of him attending the Parish Council meeting on the 24th October when the matter of developers' contributions can be discussed more fully. A reply was awaited.
- h) Travellers' Site at Marl Lane
District Councillor Ann Sevier said that the District Council had rejected the planning application from the owners of the piece of land concerned. They would now be appealing against that rejection so it is a waiting game at the moment. She said that she was of the view that there are no caravans on the site at the moment but that may only be a temporary situation.

13.76 Planning

- i) Planning applications
The Clerk reported that there were no new applications for this meeting but 3 new applications had been submitted within the past 4 days & these would be the subject of a special meeting on the 26th Sept. The applications were from Hurley Farm, Sandlewood (in Main Rd) and Fairview (Alderholt Rd)
- ii) Decisions taken by NFDC Planning Authority
13/10764 Mr S.Palmer House; demolition of existing ; Braemere, Alderholt Rd, Sandleheath
Planning permission granted with conditions

iii) Other planning matters

The meeting noted the report that the tree work at Hilltop, Main Rd had been left to the New Forest National Park Tree Team/Tree Officer to determine whether the work should go ahead on the 3 trees concerned bearing in mind there are TPOs involved

13.77 Finance.

a) Current situation

Current account £4336.67 Deposit account 1307.01

It was confirmed that the Treasurer Trust account of £499.35 would now be cashed by the outgoing Clerk as this had been agreed when it was established that this was in lieu of any pension scheme.

b) Other financial matters

The Clerk said there was one invoice & that was from the Church Office to cover the booking of St.Aldhelm's for the 26th Sept. The amount was for £6.30. This was agreed & is to cheque drawn accordingly.

Additionally the meeting agreed to countersign a letter to HSBC to confirm that there was now a change of Clerk at Sandleheath PC.

13.78 Village Entry Sign

The Chairman reported that Mrs Coyle was now in a position to proceed with the village entry sign plans. It was hoped that something would be ready for consideration at the next meeting in October.

13.79 Correspondence

There were no additional items of correspondence over and above the material already sent out electronically.

13.80 Any Other Business

After a short discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Catherine Kirkham, of HARAHA, and point out to her that:

- a) the plot of land and house mentioned in her presentation is, in fact, now for sale on the market.
- b) That the police station in Fordingbridge is now vacant and because it was previously public property should be considered for affordable/social housing.
- c) It would also be helpful if Catherine would respond to the points she made at the August meeting, bearing in mind the inaccuracies in some of her statement.

After a short debate on car parking in the lay-by just past the village store it was agreed to note the points made by the resident who raised the matter.

A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman for all his work to date on the matter of the St.Aldhelm's.

13.81 Date of next meeting

Thursday 24th October 2013 in St.Aldhelm's at 7-30pm

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8-12pm & then proceeded to go to the next item which was to wish the outgoing Clerk, Brian Shemmings, every good wish for his retirement after 20 years. The Chairman paid many complements to Brian for the work he had done on behalf of the Parish Council over the two decades as Clerk. A village resident who was at the original interview in Sept 1993 when Brian was interviewed for the job made the point that Brian, as Clerk, had worked under all the Chairmen of the Council during his years in the office. Other members made complementary remarks about Brian & his work for the Council.

The Chairman then made a presentation to Brian on behalf of the Council for all his many years of service as Clerk. The presentation included a gift of a digital camera and a Salisbury City FC shirt autographed by the first team squad.

Brian in his reply said that he had enjoyed all his years with the Council during which time he had made many friends. He said that his wife's sad passing in the early part of the year had convinced him it was time to go. He said he had made many friends amongst the residents as well. He thanked the Council for their kindness over the years and also their lovely gifts which will be treasured for ever.

The Chairman then asked the meeting to join the Council in a glass of champagne to wish Brian "bon voyage".