

EAST BOLDRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11th February 2014 at 7.30pm in the East Boldre Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Mr K Holmes Chairman
Cllr B Mulhall
Cllr C Gray

Cllr D Surplice
Cllr M Gaylard

In attendance – Cllr Vickers, District Councillor; Chloe Cozens, Lymington Times and Mrs K Penna, Parish Clerk.

1.0. To accept apologies for absence

Cllr M Ross.

2.0. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

None.

3.0. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2014

These were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

4.0. Public session

None.

5.0. Clerk's report

5.1. The clerk has been contacted by one of the allotment holders who received a 'Notice to Quit' letter. He explained that he had recently been in an accident which, due to injuries; he would be prevented from carrying on with the allotment. He understood that the rubbish must be removed from the allotment plot and he informed the clerk he would undertake this as soon as possible.

5.2. Notice has been given by an allotment holder on one of their plots at site 1. They will be retaining their other plot. Another tenant has contacted the clerk and asked to take over this relinquished plot from April.

5.3. A response to the 'Consultation on the review of existing VAT legislation on public bodies and tax exemptions in the public interest' was not made as it did not seem relevant once it had been looked at again.

5.4. The clerk will be receiving training and updating on the use of the GIS mapping system on the 19th February. If anyone has any question they would like raised, please let me know.

5.5. The 'Information received' list has been circulated to all councillors.

6.0. To receive a report by County Councillor for East Boldre

County Councillor not present.

7.0. To receive a report by District Councillor for East Boldre

Cllr Vickers reported that the organisers of the 'Wiggle' event in April which starts at Matchams have formerly applied to NFDC for speed reductions on the A35 and A337. This process will incur costs for the NFDC and they will be holding a meeting to discuss issues raised by events such as these, Cllr Vickers will update council on the outcome of this meeting. He also pointed out that historically there have been no issues with smaller cycling events in the area.

Chairman's signature:

Date:

8.0. Finance

8.1. To agree payments in accordance with the budget and to note bank reconciliation

Resolved: - Payments approved as shown on table below, income and bank reconciliation noted.

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Cheque No</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Payment</i>
Payments 11/02/14			
K Penna(Paid K Wright)	100390	Salary	£459.33
K Penna(Paid K Wright)	100391	Expenses	£57.63
Royal Mail	100392	PO Box	£303.60
ICO	100393	Data protection	£35.00
Total to pay			£855.56
Amount to be transferred to current account			£745.00
Receipts			
<i>Source</i>		<i>Detail</i>	<i>Amount</i>
HSBC		January interest	£0.71
Grant		CiLCA Bursary	£87.50
Total income			£88.21
Bank Reconciliation			
Balance as at 07/02/14			
HSBC Current	1114.26		
HSBC Savings	15028.16		
Total			16142.42
Net bank balance as at 07/02/14			
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows			
Opening balances	7,413.17		
Add receipts	17,558.04		
Less payments	8828.79		
Total			16142.42

8.2. To confirm appointment of Internal Auditor.

Resolved: Council agree appointment of Eleanor Greene at Do the Numbers Ltd. **ACTION KP**

8.3. To consider quotations received from the Community Payback Scheme.

Resolved: Community Payback team will be asked to dig the trench for the extra water taps at allotment site 1 and will be asked to strim vacant plots in May if the Lengthsman Scheme is not in place by then.

The clerk will make enquiries into the costs of ploughing the vacant plots once cleared. **ACTION KP**

8.4. To consider quotations received for hedge cutting at allotment sites.

Resolved: Council agreed to accept the quotation from Rob Turner. He will be asked to proceed with the work as soon as possible. **ACTION KP**

8.5. To consider costs of installing notice boards at allotment sites.

It was considered that the Allotment Association would be better placed to take on the responsibility of the notice boards. As the boards would be used for seed and plant exchange it may be possible for the Association to access funding through the NPA Sustainable Development Fund.

Resolved: The council will pass the responsibility to the Allotment Association along with information on the Sustainable Development Fund. **ACTION KP**

Chairman's signature:

Date:

9.0. Highways.

9.1. To receive a report on the parking bay.

Parking bay inspection conducted by Cllr Gray and the clerk on 8th January 2014. As expected, following the recent weather, the parking bay area was water filled. The area has become more eroded since the previous inspection and requires attention as soon as possible.

It was noted that the matter of the parking bay has been going on for over one year now. The clerk has been trying to arrange a meeting between Natural England, Forestry Commission and Highways to discuss the matter but no response has been received from FC and Highways.

Resolved: The clerk will raise the matter with Cllr Thornber and FC again.

ACTION KP

9.2. To discuss SLR insurance claim and further actions regarding speeding.

Beaulieu Parish Council is considering an insurance claim for the damaged SLR device and has asked if East Boldre PC still have an interest in the device. East Boldre PC stated that they do still have an interest and the clerk requested more information on the intended claim but as yet no reply has been received.

Boldre Parish are involved in a speed watch scheme with 3 other councils and the clerk has made enquiries into the possibilities of East Boldre joining the programme but again has had no response.

Resolved: This item will be added to next month's agenda when more information is available on the insurance claim and the speed watch programme.

ACTION KP

9.3. To receive an update on reported pothole.

After the report of the pothole in Main Road, East Boldre by a resident, Cllr Mulhall attempted to report it to HCC but noted it had already been reported. The pothole is due to be mended within the next month.

Resolved : Item will be referred to Cllr Thornber as dangerous and has been outstanding for over a month.

10.0. To consider an earlier start time for meetings.

Resolved: From April, the PC meetings will start at 7.00pm.

ACTION KP

11.0. To consider inviting the New Forest Land Advice Service to do a presentation at the APM.

Resolved: The New Forest Land Advice Service will be invited to do a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

ACTION KP

12.0. To receive reports from external meetings.

12.1. South East Quadrant Meeting.

South East Parish Council Quadrant Meeting on Wednesday 15th January 2014 at Exbury Social Club, attended by the clerk.

- Sarah Kelly gave a brief presentation on a leaflet which has been produced by The Higher Level Stewardship Scheme. The leaflet gives advice and guidance for owners of properties adjoining the open Forest. The leaflet that was handed out is only a mock up. Sarah would like comments on the leaflet from parish councils within the next four weeks. Once comments have been received, the final leaflet will be produced and distributed to the relevant householders.
- Nigel Matthews from the NPA gave an update on the Code of Conduct for cyclists and the Charter for cycle event organisers. He has been working closely with the Cycling Liaison Group and the update was similar to that given at the NFALC meeting by Neal Martin.

- Nick Evans from NPA discussed the review of the NPA's Management plan which is due to be updated in 2015. Rather than completely re-write the plan, the NPA are going to update it where needed and look at the targets which were previously set.
- Georgianna Watson from the New Forest Land Advisory service gave a fantastic presentation on woodland management. She explained the many ways the NFLAS could help those responsible for woodland to maximise the potential for production of wood fuel and the conservation of our native species.
- There was no update on the relaxation of planning controls and how these would affect the New Forest as the Government has yet to comment.
- The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

12.2. New Forest Consultative Panel.

New forest Consultative Panel held on the 16th January at Brockenhurst Village Hall attended by Cllr Holmes.

Nigel Matthews from NFNPA gave an update on the Cycling Code.

Attendees were made aware of 'lovetheforest', a charity working to secure the wellbeing of the forest for those who live in it and for those who love it. They are supported by the NFNPA, NFDC, FC and the New Forest Tourism Association.

12.3. New Forest Wildlife Forum.

The New Forest Wildlife Forum – 'Growing the Forest – bigger, better, more joined up' 8th February 2014 at Lyndhurst Community Centre, attended by the clerk.

The forum had been arranged by the NPA to update interested parties on current and future actions being taken to help improve the extent and quality of New Forest habitats, provide linkages to the surrounding area, enhance our understanding and improve public engagement with its wildlife. The day had been broken up into four areas of interest.

Growing habitat area and connection

- Julie Melin-Stubbs spoke from the New Forest National Park and the New Forest Land Advice Service. She did a presentation on the delivery of habitat enhancement and restoration surrounding the New Forest.
- Laura Baker and Lee Hulin gave an impassioned presentation on the restoration of Foxbury plantation.
- The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust was represented by Bob Chapman who gave an interesting talk on the 'Living Landscapes Approach' in and around the New Forest.

Growing habitat quality

- Dr Naomi Ewald gave a brilliant presentation on behalf of the Freshwater Habitats Trust. She talked about improving the New Forest freshwater habitats through the 'Catchment based approach'.
- Professor Nick Sotherton gave updates on the forest based research carried out by the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust.

Growing awareness and understanding

- Dr Manuel Hinge representing the New Forest Woodcock Group gave updates on the ongoing project so far.
- Dr Katie Medcalf explained how the system of Mapping of Ecosystems in and around the New Forest works.

- Marianne Bergin from the Forestry Commission gave an update on the species and habitat monitoring which has and is being undertaken by FC.
- Angela Peters from NPA and New Forest Land Advice Service outlined the Community Wildlife Plans Project which is 'Working with Wildlife Champions at a Parish level'.

Growing the Green Economy

- Georgina Watson from the new Forest Land Advice Service talked about projects they had been involved in and future plans to encourage the growth of the green economy in the area.

At the end of the day there were opportunities for the attendees to give their opinions on the event and to ask questions to the speakers. There was a lively and impassioned debate and all attendees agreed that the forum had been a success and they would encourage it to become a regular event.

It was considered that although it is great to hear about all the work and research which is being done in and around the forest, if nobody gets to hear the outcomes of the research or the actions which are taken because of it, then what is the point. It was agreed that some form of collation from all the groups was needed and NPA agreed to look at a way of undertaking this.

I felt the day was exceptionally interesting and came away feeling very privileged to live in the New Forest. I have taken lots of notes on each presentation and am happy to send out copies of those if you are interested. I will also be emailing the various organisations for details of any research within the parish as this may be of interest for the website.

13.0. To confirm the date of next meeting

Confirmed as **6.45 pm** on 11th March 2014 in East Boldre Village Hall to be followed by Annual Parish Assembly at 7.30 pm.

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.