

EAST BOLDRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8th April 2014 at 7.30pm in the East Boldre Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Mr K Holmes Chairman
Cllr B Mulhall
Cllr Ross

Cllr D Surplice
Cllr M Gaylard
Cllr C Gray

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

1.0. To accept apologies for absence

None.

2.0. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

Cllr Gray declared an interest in item 9.1. 19 Warton Close.

3.0. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 2014

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

4.0. Public session

Two residents of Sweyns Lease had received letters along with all other residents from the NFDC asking them not to park on the grass area opposite their housing. The residents explained that not all properties have driveways and many householders own two or more cars. They explained that there is insufficient parking in the area for the number of cars and that is why some residents are using the grass to park on. Cllr Vickers explained that there is a growth in car ownership and nationally there are issues with parking areas. The council properties in Sweyns Lease may soon have dropped curbs put in to create more parking but Cllr Vickers pointed out that approximately half the properties are privately owned and therefore cannot be made to pay for dropped curbs. He went on to say, it is illegal to block vehicle access or pathways and difficulty arises as the green area is a protected one which cannot be used to create more parking. Cllr Vickers is waiting for a definitive decision on dropped curbs and will report any further progression on this at the soonest meeting.

The Chairman confirmed he would allow public participation with two other items at the appropriate point in the agenda.

The possibility of a youth club being started in East Boldre will be added to a future agenda.

Comment [MSOffice1]:

5.0. Clerk's report

5.1. Council post was again delivered to the previous clerk's address even after complaints to Royal Mail by the clerk and Cllr Gaylard. An official complaint has been made by the clerk to Royal Mail. They have responded with apologies and confirming that the mistake leading to the incorrect deliveries has been corrected, there should be no further problems with deliveries.

5.2. HALC has offered a one to one training session of the CiLCA course which had to be previously cancelled. The clerk will be attending this training on May 14th.

5.3. One of the offending allotment plot holders has contacted the clerk to say he has been unable to remove his belongings from the plot as his vehicle got stuck whilst trying to do so. He informed the clerk that he will take the items as soon as the ground has hardened up.

Chairman's signature: K Holmes

Date: 13-05-14

-247-

5.4. The village hall committee are in support of the village show on 20th July. They are having a meeting at the end of April but in meantime, the PC representatives will get together to look at the details further and report to Council/Village Hall in May with final plan.

5.5. Community Payback has scheduled the digging of the allotment ditch for the extra water pipe for May 23rd.

5.6. A notice with the names of Councillors and the contact details for the council have been put up on the PC notice board and the village hall notice board.

5.7. Allotment leases and invoices have been sent out for 2014/15.

5.8. Navitus Bay has sent 2 copies of their newsletter.

5.9. The clerk has been sent the spring newsletter for the Basics Bank.

5.10. The Forestry Commission have advised that the allotment rent will be increased to £595.00 per annum for the next three years from April 2014.

5.11. Sample contracts for the Lengthsman Scheme have been received from Brockenhurst PC. This item will be added to next month's agenda for conclusion.

5.12. 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 had information which he asked to defer to item 10.0.

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 31/03/14			
K Penna(Paid K Wright)	100398	Salary	£459.33
K Penna(Paid K Wright)	100399	Expenses	£41.92
Payment 08/04/14			
HALC	100400	Affiliation fees	£273.00
HALC	100401	HR Service	£120.00
Advertiser&Times	100402	APM advert	£36.00
NSALG	100403	Allotment membership renewal	£67.50
Total to pay			£997.75
Amount to be transferred to current account			£1000.00
Receipts			
<i>Source</i>	<i>Detail</i>		<i>Amount</i>
HSBC	March interest		£0.55
Total income			£0.55
Bank Reconciliation			
Balance as at 06/03/14			
HSBC Current	1007.20		
HSBC Savings	12,124.37		
Total			13131.57
Net bank balance as at 06/03/14			
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows			
Opening balances	7,413.17		
Add receipts	17,559.25		
Less payments	12342.10		
Minus un-cleared cheques	501.25		
Total			13131.57

8.2. To approve the annual accounts.

Resolved: Approved.

9.0.Planning

9.1. To consider current planning applications

Resolved – Planning application resolved as shown on schedule below.

14/00147 K Pearce	19 Warton Close, East Boldre. SO42 7WW	Conservatory	Comment 1
14/00179 K Pearce	Hatchet Mill, Main Road, East Boldre. SO42 7WD	Swimming pool	Comment 5 Council felt the quality of the information supplied made it difficult to understand application fully.
14/00177 L Young	Woburne Lodge, Masseys Lane, East Boldre SO42 7WE	Replacement outbuilding	Comment 1

10.0. To discuss the proposed Palm Sunday cycle event.

There was public discussion on this item as agreed by Chairman. A resident of East Boldre raised concerns on the frequency and regularity of the organised commercial cycle events in the New Forest. She pointed out that the Wiggle Event organisers had refused to sign the Cycling Charter. They would not sign up to limiting the numbers and frequency of events, the withdrawal of timing devices and to larger identification numbers for riders. The resident stated that the previous reports of bad behaviour by cyclists and that 3000 riders along some very narrow roads is evidence of a public nuisance.

Cllr Vickers, Alison Barnes and a solicitor representing the police recently met with the Minister for Transport to discuss the problems arising from large scale organised cycle events. The minister was sympathetic to the issues and said the Ministry would be sending representatives to observe the weekend's events along with willing New Forest District Councillors. The group came away with the feeling that the minister has the facts and that he understands that a method of licensing is needed.

11.0. To discuss public accessibility to Councillors

There was public discussion on this item as agreed by Chairman. An East Boldre resident had produced a document on communications which was sent to the councillors. The resident was calling on the councillors to display their personal telephone numbers as he felt it would make them more accessible to the residents. Council noted that there is no legal requirement for councillors to display their personal telephone numbers. A discussion followed and it was felt that for continuity purposes, the Council mobile telephone number would be continued to be used for anyone wishing to contact the council. Council felt it was a good idea to publish councillor's names and the council's contact details on the notice boards. It was outlined that if any resident wishes to speak to a councillor they can do this by contacting the clerk through email, phone or letter who will then ask the appropriate councillor to contact them. Although clearly no councillor can make decisions on their own, they can offer advice and offer to take the matter back to the Council. East Boldre Parish Council is keen to raise its profile in the parish and the steps below will be taken.

Resolved: Councillor's names and the Council's contact details will be advertised on notice boards.

The above details will also be added to the footer of each month's PC meeting agenda.

Councillor's pictures and names together with a small biography will be placed on the new website.

ACTION KP

12.0. To consider a response to the review of subsidised bus, community transport and discretionary elements of Hampshire concessionary travel scheme

It was noted that Cllr Thornber will be responding on behalf of the council.

13.0. To consider a response to the Consultation on a Draft Transparency Code for Parish Councils (England) with a turnover not exceeding £25,000

Resolved: No response needed.

14.0. To confirm recent policy reviews

Standing Orders are still being reviewed in line with the Model Standing Orders issued by NALC. The Finance Regulations will need reviewing again to bring them in line with the new advice received from Came&Co.

Resolved: The Retention of Documents Policy has been reviewed with no changes.

15.0. To receive reports from external meetings

15.1. New Forest Passenger Transport Forum. Lyndhurst, 19th March 2014. Attended by Cllr Mulhall.

The audience at the forum comprised ~~of~~ mainly local Councillors, plus other interested parties such as the Hythe Ferry Users Group. The main item of the agenda was a presentation by Kevin Ings.

The background is a County Council Tax freeze for the 5th year running, yet a further reduction in Central Government funding of £93million next year. The implications of this are a need to find savings in all budgets and, specifically, £1.25- £1.3 million in the Passenger Transport budget. A question was asked but not really answered, about whether the proposed cuts will be uniformly distributed across the Council's budget.

A list of subsidised services (though not the subsidy per service) was provided. Excluding transport which must be provided by law (school and social care transport) the expenditure in Hampshire was mainly Concessionary Travel (£13.25 million) followed by Support for Local Services (£4.7million). There was a further £1.5million on Community Transport, Infrastructure and Information (for example, by reducing staff numbers in the appropriate parts of the County Council and by (unspecified) 'efficiency' savings.

Workshop Groups were asked to complete a questionnaire; clearly the proposals for savings centre on (1) removing the discretionary subsidy for Concessionary Travel before 09.30, (2) reducing subsidies on bus services, mainly on Sundays or in the evenings and (3) making more use of taxi or Community Transport to replace bus services. The group I was ~~in was most~~ concerned with points (1) and (2); our service is so poor that neither affects us, so I could make little contribution.

16.0. To confirm the date of the Annual Parish Council meeting

Confirmed as 7.00pm on 13th May 2014 in East Boldre Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.