

23 April 2019**ELLINGHAM, HARBRIDGE & IBSLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in Ibsley Village Hall on Tuesday 23 April 2019.

Members:

Cllr Burtenshaw (P) - Chairman	Cllr Errington (P)
Cllr Lane	Cllr Loader (P)
Cllr Sampson (P)	Cllr Stainton-Burrell (P)
Cllr Taylor (P)	Cllr Trebilco
Cllr Webster (P)	

(P) denotes present

Others present:

DCllr Dow, CCllr Thierry, Natasha Mackenzie (Clerk outgoing) Melissa Edmunds (Clerk incoming) Approx. 65 invited guests and residents

Cllr Burtenshaw warmly thanked everyone for attending

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – CLLR LINDSAY BURTENSHAW**Welcome**

A very warm welcome to you all, especially to our guest speaker this evening, Lyndsey Stride; to our invited guests and representatives of various organisations - CCllr Thierry, DCllr Dow, Mr Steve Avery; to our residents; to my fellow councillors and last but by no means least, our Clerk, Natasha for her last event associated with the PC. A special welcome to our new Clerk, Melissa Edmunds, who takes over at the end of this month. (She will take a little while to find her feet and get to know you all, and the parish, so please be kind to her and patient!)

I am particular grateful to the Ibsley Village Hall committee for the use of their facilities.

The Parish Council.

Our Parish Council is here to represent and balance all the interests of our residents (sometimes very conflicting!) and do our best to improve the quality of local community life and our environment. We work as a team to help resolve issues and to achieve objectives. The team comprises up to 10 (currently 8) dedicated councillors, the majority of whom have been co-opted over the years and who all contribute their time and efforts on a voluntary basis. I am very grateful for the amount of work they do on everyone's behalf.

Meetings.

Planning Committee meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month while the Council meets 10 times a year on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All meetings [start at 7.30pm](#) and are mostly held at Ellingham Church Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings and bring their thoughts, concerns and comments to the Public Forum.

Planning.

The planning committee is an integral part of Council duties. It looks at over 70 applications a year, from trees and dwellings to mineral and waste sites. While we do not issue planning consents, we do make a recommendation to the District Council or National Park Authority who make the final decisions and those authorities very much value the views of the parish in coming to their decision.

Governance.

The Parish is within the County of Hampshire of which our area representative is Cllr Michael Thierry. Our involvement with the County Council is mainly with the Highways department dealing with our roads and associated issues. HCC is also the Mineral Planning Authority; they authorise and monitor both the ongoing gravel extraction and landfill sites in the local area. At District level we have two authorities - the New Forest District Council for the west of the parish and the New Forest National Park Authority for the east. NFDC and NPA oversee the planning applications in their respective areas plus provide us with a wide range of services and help and guidance on numerous issues for which we are immensely grateful. Our District Councillor will be changing this year at the May election as Bill Dow is retiring from this, the Forest North West Ward. Bill has been our Councillor for 20 years which is a tremendous achievement of public service.

Finance.

The Parish Council remains in a fairly good financial position with expenditure last year broadly in line with budget. A summary of the accounts appear on the reverse of this report. Formal approval will be obtained at the next Council meeting prior to external adjudication. Please request a copy of payments and receipts from the Clerk, if you would like further details.

Communication.

The Parish Newsletter is circulated 3 times a year and the Parish website is regularly updated. We are particularly indebted to Cllr Richard Loader who manages the website and designs the Newsletter for us. It is a never ending workload for him and we would be much the poorer without it. Don't forget pay a visit to the site! ehipc.co.uk.

There are 5 Noticeboards around the parish, providing up to date information. We have also produced a Residents Welcome Pack for newcomers to the area so please let us know if you have a 'new neighbour'.

Current Issues/Projects.**Verge Protection Scheme:**

Broomy Plain – it was noted that there was a lack of communication in earlier stages of the design. A group of local residents were prepared to take action and carry out a traffic survey. Now have a signed petition requesting removal of dangerous wooden bollards. The works have been halted pending safety audit and hopefully a site meeting with HCC and FC to discuss concerns will take place.

Moyles Court to South Gorley – The significance of our verges and why they should be protected was explained: they provide grazing for livestock; they are home to rare plant species; they contribute to the landscape and aesthetic appearance of the area. Most are parish council owned and designated SSSI; the Parish Council has a management agreement with Natural England to maintain them.

Project proposals:-

Phase 1 - repair and replacement of dragon's teeth and ditch and bank at Moyles Court and Ibsley Service Station.

Phase 2 - ditch and bank and new dragon's teeth at Cross Lanes Green, Mockbeggar Lane East and along the Gorley Road.

Phase 3 - South Gorley Green and Road to Furzehill

Consultation with residents and site meetings are proposed.

Community Funded Initiative.

Highways works not deemed to be a priority for HCC funding, but relating to safety issues of community concern. Proposals would be funded by the Parish Council but carried out by highways contractors.

These may include:-

Ellingham Drove - traffic calming and pedestrian awareness.

Linwood - animal awareness and village name, plus SLOW road markings and carriageway edge lines.

Alderholt Road - road markings to be highlighted.

Possible Future Development within the Parish.

Both the proposed development in Snails Lane and 'Call for Sites' at Alderholt will have a huge impact on the infrastructure of the area, particularly our roads. The planning application for Land at Snails Lane will be considered by our planning committee on 28 May, now that the EIA has been submitted. We are also supporting other local parish councils in their concerns for the proposed additional housing schemes in Alderholt.

Defibrillator Project.

The telephone kiosk at New Road now houses a defibrillator supplied by Community Heartbeat Trust via SSE. We need volunteers to help run the project and improve awareness of how to operate this important asset. Come and support us on 17th May!

Dodington Trust.

The Council is indebted to the generosity of Away Resorts who have given financial support to this charity that encourages children and young adults across the parish with their education and studies. If you know of anyone who might qualify for some grant assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the clerk.

Final Word of Thanks

To fellow Cllrs for their contribution to Parish Life; Roly Errington, Vice Chairman, for his immeasurable support and advice; Richard Loader for tirelessly producing the newsletter and updating the website to provide effective communication; Jim Sparks for his work on the planning committee; DCllr Dow for his dedication to public life with 36 years service as a councillor, and 31 years coming to the Parish Council, and helping to keep us up to date with local matters; Terry Mason Parish Handyman for all his hard work. Thank you to the residents for their support and appreciation and constructive comments. Thanks to the outgoing Clerk Natasha Mackenzie for 8 years hard work, for the smooth running of the Parish council and wishing her all the best for the future.

2. Brief Presentations by:

Steve Avery Executive Director (Strategy & Planning) – confirmed that the NFNPA now has an up to date local plan which conforms to National Government Guidelines, having successfully cleared the public examination stage which accepted all policies proposed for local development control, including the key principles of affordable and limited new development. The last part of the plan is currently out for public consultation which can be viewed on the NFNPA website.

Alison Talbot – Citizens Advice New Forest – outlined the work of the Citizens Advice offering free independent, impartial and confidential advice on a range of topics such as benefits, debt, housing, relationship break down. They work closely with the library service in Ringwood and Fordingbridge to

encourage working in rural communities, open Wednesdays 10am to 2pm. They also provide services via web chat, telephone advice and email.

PCSO Lauran Willder confirmed that the Police Report is available on the display board or via email, and indicated that she was available for questions after the meeting. She outlined a community project they are doing whereby teddies are used to comfort children and the vulnerable and requested that if anyone can make knitted teddy bears could they forward to the Parish Council. All non-urgent enquiries can be emailed to lauran.willder@hampshire.pnn.police.uk or call 101. Any urgent matters call 999. Please can residents report any issues encountered when using the 101 service to PCSO Willder.

3. Talk by Lyndsey Stride - Commoner

Lyndsay gave a lively talk and showed a short film on Commoning, its culture and consequences. She outlined the Coming Voices Project in which she is opening up the story of the Forest by tweeting daily photos and uses social media to get the message out. She urged that people drive slowly, think about their personal impact on the New Forest by keeping dogs on leads at certain times and encourage us all to 'learn to look' at the New Forest. The Parish Council can assist by encouraging others to do their bit to look after the Forest while enjoying it. She held a question and answer session covering overgrazing, breeds of horses and ponies and deer.

4. INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Concerns were noted on:-

Ellingham Drove – The Community Funded Initiative would be really helpful with speed limits where we need them, but we don't meet the criteria due to lack of residents, accidents or schools.

Snails Lane – question raised on whether HCC is looking to conduct a traffic survey - Cllr Thierry confirmed one would be put in if it meets the criteria. The Chair confirmed that in other areas, such as Broomy Plain, local residents had done their own traffic surveys and petition and encouraged residents to count lorries and cars and to join in and take action themselves.

The meeting was concluded to allow time for refreshments and informal networking. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, inviting them to enjoy the refreshments.

The Chair also mentioned there are two vacancies on the Parish Council, if anyone is interested please contact the clerk.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Dates of forthcoming meetings to be held at Ellingham Church Hall at 7.30pm:-

Annual Meeting
Tuesday 21st May 2019

Planning Committee
Tuesday 28th May 2019