

MINUTES

09.08.2016

GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, Godshill on Tuesday 9th August 2016 starting at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr Draper - Chairman
Cllr Lintonbon
Cllr Pomphrey
Cllr Thomas
Cllr Williams

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk
Four members of the public.

59.16 To consider an application from Mr Bob Pomphrey for the vacancy of Parish Councillor and to resolve to approve his co-option to the Parish Council: Cllr Thomas proposed, Cllr Draper seconded and it was RESOLVED that Mr Pomphrey be co-opted to the Parish Council.

60.16 To receive apologies from Councillors: The Chairman advised that apologies had been received from Cllrs Cakebread and Fell.

61.16 To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011: No declarations were received.

62.16 To resolve to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2016: Cllr Draper proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2016 be approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

63.16 Public Forum - 15 minutes to receive any questions or statements from members of the public: No questions or statements were received.

64.16 Planning and Tree Works Applications:

Application No. 16/00571

Part of the Catchment Area of the Latchmore Brook including Studley Wood, Islands Thorn Inclosure, Amberwood Inclosure, Alderhill, Inclosure, Slodens Inclosure and Latchmore Bottom, Central Grid Reference SU 2121113830: Cllr Draper gave a lengthy report with further information being given by Cllr Lintonbon, both of whom had attended a meeting earlier that day at the invitation of Hyde Parish Council with the Forestry Commission's consultants.

Following a lengthy discussion, Cllr Draper proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that Godshill Parish Council objected to the planning application and recommended refusal on the following grounds:

- The catastrophic impact of the 'restoration' on the existing habitats, ecology and landscape which vastly outweighs the alleged benefits.

- The claims of the EIA, and the experts who contributed to it, contradict the views of other ecologists and conservationists which have identified that the Latchmore Wetland Restoration Programme will cause tremendous damage to the ecology and landscape of the catchment area.
- With regard in particular to the section alongside the Latchmore Shade, this is possibly the most loved and scenic area in the New Forest. Although there is some evidence that the stream was slightly deepened in places in the past, there is no evidence that it followed a different channel. The existing stream follows a meandering route, regularly overflowing its banks in shallow sections, and has become completely naturalised. It teems with 10 species of fish, including migratory Sea Trout (which spawn and rely on the stream as a nursery for their parr), Brown Trout, Millers Thumb, the European Eel and 6 other species – all these are likely to be lost. The EIA identifies this as a residual significant effect which ‘will remain significant as a result of the loss of habitat suitable for fish’.
- Up to 80 different bird species have been recorded in this area, which is also a refuge of the endangered Southern Damselfly. It has been assessed by Natural England as ‘favourable’ for flora and fauna. Above this area the stream has also naturalised creating a valuable habitat in its banks.
- The Parish Council’s experience of other ‘restoration’ projects has been extremely disappointing with the ‘restored’ channels, often packed with stones, creating ugly scars on the Forest – lasting evidence of man-made intervention. Furthermore, most of these smaller projects have required very significant levels of further intervention – causing yet more damage to the environment.
- The enormous scale of this project with the importation of more than 96,000 tons of clay and hoggins has the potential for significant detrimental impact on the Forest. The 96,000 tonnes of infill will result in 5,000 truck excursions over the 4 years of the project which will cause major disruption to residents as well as damage to the road surfaces.

65.16 To consider a response to the NFNPA Safety Advisory Group consultation on the New Forest Rattler on 14th August 2016 and the New Forest 100 Cycle Event on 24th/25th September 2016: Cllr Draper proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded and it was RESOLVED that a response be delegated to Cllr Cakebread and the Clerk.

66.16 To resolve to approve the following payments:

£72.69 – For the Parish Lengthsman’s work to the Bus Shelter
£902.80 – Wybone Limited – For two wooden Litter Bins
£76.49 – Viking Limited – For Printer Cartridges and stationery

Cllr Draper proposed, Cllr Lintonbon seconded and it was RESOLVED that they be approved.

67.16 Finance and Policy:

To resolve to approve the payment of the Accounts for August and to approve the Bank balances – Cheque and Reserve Accounts:

Fordingbridge Town Council – For Lengthsman	72.69	100480
Wybone Limited - For two wooden Litter Bins	902.80	100481
Viking Limited - For Printer Cartridges and stationery	76.49	100482
B Cornish - July Salary	313.40	100483

Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 09.08.16:

Current Account: £14,359.11 Deposit Account: £579.35

Cllr Draper proposed, Cllr Lintonbon seconded and it was RESOLVED that they be approved.

68.16 Any Other Business:

Garage Doors: Cllr Williams advised that the Village Hall Committee had considered the possibility of displaying the late Mr Peter Trim's painted garage doors but had decided that the Hall did not have sufficient room to accommodate them.

Hedge beside Arniss Riding Stables: The Clerk was asked to contact Arniss to ask them to cut the overgrown hedge which bordered their stables.

Footpath beside Sandy Balls: The Clerk was asked to contact Sandy Balls to ask them to cut back their hedge from their entrance down to Crystal Hollow which was obstructing the pavement for pedestrians.

69.16 Next Meeting: Cllr Draper confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 13th September 2016 at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.