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GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman

Cllr Cakebread

Cllr O'Brien

Cllr Williams

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Four members of the public

County Councillor Edward Heron: Cllr Heron gave a brief update on the highways works in Woodgreen Road. He responded to a resident stating that their knowledge of the drains was important local information which the engineers would find useful.

Cllr Heron also gave a brief update on the County Council's finances and the budgets for next year. He said that he had never been through such a difficult period and the Council would need to make another £80 million in savings in addition to the £720 million saved over the last 11 years.

The Chairman and resident expressed concerns about the delays in getting the work finished in Woodgreen Road and the lack of advanced information provided to residents before the work started. Cllr Fell said that a simple and quick email to the Clerk to inform the Council of the proposed closure would have ensured that residents were kept informed.

Following a question from a resident about speeding and the potential for the B3078 to be closed altogether, Cllr Heron said that this would not be possible. However, he said he was more confident that there was the will to install average speed cameras by Hampshire Police. He said he had recently noticed a step change in their responses to the requests for action to be taken.

District Councillor Emma Lane: Cllr Lane gave a brief report on New Forest District Council matters. She said that the Council had appointed a new Chief Executive, Kate Ryan, who has been the Chief Operating Officer at BCP Council. She also said that the Council had restarted garden waste collections on a monthly basis.

Litter Warden:

Mrs Boyd said that there was not very much to report.

Public Session:

A member of the public raised the issue of the continued use of power tools at Sandy Balls and the noise from a recent festival which could be heard some distance from the holiday centre.

Cllr Heron said that all of NFDC's grounds staff use electric power tools and he would be happy to share contact details with the General Manager at Sandy Balls so that he could obtain more information on the equipment used.

76.21 Business Raised During Public Question Time

Cllr Fell advised that he and Cllr Woodward would be meeting with the General Manager at Sandy Balls and would raise the power tools issue again as well as the concerns about how far the noise projects across the village when loud music is played in the main square.

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77.21 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman made a brief announcement on the matter of overgrown hedges which was raised at the previous meeting. He said that he wished to confirm that the information initially received by a councillor from a long standing resident about the history of the particular hedges by the eastern pinch point in the Southampton Road was factually incorrect. It had been proven through information from other long standing residents that there never was a verge between the hedges and the pavement, daffodils were planted into the hedge itself and therefore there has been no encroachment of the hedges over the pavement. He asked that the correct information be relayed to those who both provided it or are in possession of the factually incorrect information to avoid any future confusion. He also said that he regretted any distress caused and he was aware that the Clerk had included an item on hedge cutting in the Council's recent Newsletter.

78.21 Apologies

The Clerk reported that apologies had been received from Cllrs Woodward due to holiday and Cllrs Pomphrey and Phillips due to personal commitments. Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the apologies and the reasons for them be accepted.

79.21 Declarations of Interest:

- a. **To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers:**

No declarations of interest were received.

- b. **To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered.**

The Clerk confirmed that she had received no dispensation requests.

80.21 Minutes

Cllr Cakebread proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes dated 10th August 2021 be approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

81.21 Clerk's Report

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk's Report be noted as follows:

Litter Warden: Feb 20 Mtg: Cricket Pitch Bin: No further progress on this.

25.20: Parking at Entrance to Newgrounds: The Clerk has chased Sean Marsh again.

36.20: Footpath 772: A further response has been sent to the Countryside Access Team on the Footpath repair.

#58.20: British Telecommunications plc EIR Request: No response has been received from BT regarding the number of visits for repairs to DSLAM Cabinet outside Godshill Village Hall, SP6 2LH.

41.21 Change of Banking Arrangements: Unity Bank had confirmed that both the current and deposit accounts are now open. The Clerk was awaiting receipt of the second tranche of the precept to be received from NFDC and then she will arrange for the Co-op account to be closed and all monies transferred to Unity Bank.

38.21 Parish Lengthsman: The Clerk had for the Lengthsman, subject to approval at this meeting, to install 2 kissing gates on footpaths within the boundaries of St Giles Community Farm on Friday 17th September and she was awaiting confirmation from Fordingbridge Town Council

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that the unallocated lengthsman day on 28th October could be used by Godshill for the Lengthsman to install the remaining kissing gate and stile.

67.21 Police & Crime Commissioner: Before the Clerk was able to write, the Chairman received the following response to his email on illegal encampments as follows:

'I am sorry to hear that you have had issues with travellers camping on Godshill Cricket Pitch. Please be assured this is a matter the Police and Crime Commissioner takes very seriously and tackling illegal encampments will be a priority in the Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner will be challenging the Constabulary to take swift and appropriate response, and also wants to see firm action taken, not only by the Police but also by Councils, Partners and the Courts. The PCC believes that tackling illegal encampments needs a more coordinated approach to solving difficult and complex community problems that cannot be solved by the Police alone.

I can also advise that the new Police Crime Courts Sentencing Bill (currently going through Parliament) is due to strengthen the law about illegal encampments meaning that anyone residing in a vehicle overnight on land they don't have a legal right to be, can be moved on within 24 hours'.

179.20 Broadband: The Clerk had written to BT Openreach to see if there is any update on the broadband upgrade. Chris Priestley has agreed to obtain a revised quote since it is now one year on from when the previous quote was received. This would take about two weeks.

66.21: Tree Works Applications: In response to a request from the Clerk to make tree works applications more visible for residents to comment, the Tree Team responded by explaining how Tree Works applications can be viewed online

68.21: Winter Preparations The Clerk has received confirmation from one resident advising that he is happy to be part of the volunteer team during bad weather.

69.21 Newsletter This was printed by Sandy Balls and circulated by the Village Hall team in late August.

82.21 New Forest National Park Authority Consultation on its Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document

Following a discussion, Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the Guide be circulated to councillors and that Cllrs Cakebread and O'Brien submit a draft response to the next meeting for consideration.

83.21 Footpath Project

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Cakebread seconded and it was RESOLVED that the payment of £1,227.00 be approved to St Giles Community Farm for the purchase of 3 kissing gates and one wooden stile with dog entry point from Centrewire for footpaths 752 and 754 as part of the Council's Footpath Project. The gates to be installed by the Parish Lengthsman with the funds being taken from Earmarked Reserves.

84.21 Blissford Cross Dragons Teeth Works

Following a briefing from the Clerk, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that a quote of £580.00 from the Grounds Management Company Ltd be approved for the completion of the works using a tractor and auger with banksman to install 24 dragons teeth at Blissford Cross in light of the unsuccessful attempt to install them by the Parish Lengthsman due to the compaction and make-up of the ground.

85.21 Planning Protocol

Cllr O'Brien proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk would produce a draft Planning Protocol for consideration at the next meeting which provides guidance

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to councillors and officers on how planning applications and matters relating to planning will be processed and determined by the Council.

86.21 Finance and Policy:

a. To resolve to approve the sum of £1,566.36 as the Accounts for payment for September:

	£	Cheque No.
St Giles Community Farm	1,227.00	Transfer
B Cornish – September salary	339.36	Transfer

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the accounts for payment be approved.

b. To resolve to approve the Bank balances - Cheque and Reserve Accounts.

Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 14.09.21

Current Account: £8,490.37 Deposit Account: £684.62

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the balances be approved and noted.

87.21 Outside Bodies and Representation:

Godshill Village Hall: Cllr Williams gave a brief report on the recent very successful re-launch of the Village Hall which was attended by over 100 people. She said it had involved a lot of work by the Committee but the positive feedback received had made it all worth it.

She also reported that the Hearing Loop had recently been installed in the Hall and the work to refurbish the toilets would start on 4th October. The contractors would be starting work on the accessible toilet first and then move on the others thereafter.

Cllr Williams said the Committee was also exploring the use of a Dongle to enable Wifi in the Hall. This was going to be tried out at the forthcoming Quiz Night and the Committee would then be taking a view on any further action to be taken.

88.21 Correspondence

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted:

1. NPA
 - Email confirming a meeting of the Consultative Panel will take place face to face on Thursday 7 October at 7.30pm in the Linden Room, Lyndhurst Community Centre.
2. NFDC
 - Safer New Forest Partnership annual Town and Parish survey – Comments can be submitted on a survey regarding crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour. It would like to hear from Town & Parish Councils with their views and thoughts on their local area which will help support and inform our annual strategic assessment. There is an interactive survey to complete which can be sent to NFDC by 30th September.

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- Press Release as NFDC announces restart date for garden waste collections collecting every four weeks. The bulky waste service for large household items will not take any new bookings until further notice, as the staff shortages continue.
- Press Release confirming the appointment of Kate Ryan as chief executive. She is currently chief operations officer at Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (BCP).
- 3. PKF Littlejohn – The Annual Governance & Accountability Return to 31st March 2021 which will be noted at the next meeting. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit will be published on the website and noticeboards by 30th September. No matters were raised.
- 4. Emails from residents in Woodgreen Road regarding the resurfacing and other works to the road and also an article in the Forest Journal.
- 5. Email from a resident regarding the Speed Indicator Devices.
- 6. Wimborne Orienteering Club – An email from a resident advising that on 18th and 19th September 2021 the South West Regional Orienteering Championship will take place in Godshill and the surrounding forest areas (Godshill Wood and Hampton Ridge).

89.21 Any Other Business

Signage: Cllr O'Brien raised the matter of signs advertising electric scooters which had been posted near the western pinch point. It was agreed that this would be monitored and further consideration given about the action to be taken at the next meeting.

90.21 Next Meeting

Cllr Fell confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12th October 2021 to be held on at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.41 pm.

Members of the Council considered the foregoing in the matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities, (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, and Human Rights.