

MINUTES
10.12.2024
GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7.30 pm at Godshill Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Fell – Chairman

Cllr Cakebread

Cllr Stammers

Cllr Woodward

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Six members of the public

Prior to the start of the meeting the Chairman, Cllr Fell, advised that he had received a resignation letter from John Sanger due to personal reasons. He said he wanted his thanks to be recorded to Mr Sanger for the valuable contribution he has made to the Council and particularly for his planning expertise, pragmatism and wider knowledge of the National Park.

Public Question Time

96.24 Business Raised During Public Question Time

A member of the public advised of two blocked footpaths and whether a footpath officer had paid a visit.

97.24 Apologies

The Clerk asked that the member of the public send her photographs so that she can take the matter he has raised with the Countryside Access Team.

98.24 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 no dispensation requests had been received.

99.24 Minutes

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th November 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the meeting be opened for members of the public to comment on the planning applications.

A member of the public gave a brief report on the location and their concern that the application was very much a commercial operation and not a hobby and there was nothing remotely commercial in that location which has a minor track leading to it. As far as the building is

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concerned, it looks like the size of the proposed building is around 40 percent longer than the previous one.

100.24 Planning and Tree Work Applications

Application No 24/01207FULL

Land Opposite The Cottage, Godshill Wood - Use of building and land for agricultural bee keeping; extension to building:

Following a brief discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Cakebread seconded and it was RESOLVED that this application be deferred to the January meeting when the Officer's Briefing Note and Ecologist's report may be available.

Application No 24/01269FULL

The Cottage, Road Through Godshill Wood Hamlet, Godshill Wood - Single storey side and rear extensions; alteration to fenestration:

Following a lengthy discussion, Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED to recommend REFUSAL due to the negative impact on neighbourhood amenity, negative impact on the 'street scene' across the valley and the extensive amount of glazing on the conservatory which would impact on the dark skies in one of the darkest areas of the National Park for which no mitigation has been provided.

Cllr Fell closed the meeting to the public.

101.24 Clerk's Report

Replacement Noticeboard: The noticeboard has been paid for and will be collected in the New Year.

Councillor Vacancy: NFDC has been informed of the vacancy following John Sanger's resignation.

Southampton Road: Awaiting a response from the officer.

Meeting with Steve Avery: The Clerk has written and is awaiting a response.

NFNPA Planning Committee: The application for Sandy Balls is not on the planning committee agenda again.

Talk on Sandleheath highway measures: Mr Mike Richardson is able to attend either the January or February meetings. The Clerk was asked to invite him to the February meeting.

102.24 Consultations

To consider a response to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's consultation on 'Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings':

Following a broad discussion, Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair that the Council submits a response confirming that it does not support remote meeting attendance and proxy voting, except in exceptional circumstances, due to the prohibitive cost for small councils to provide the necessary equipment and the reliant on poor broadband connectivity.

103.24 NFNPA Planning Committee Statement

To consider a statement to be made at the forthcoming meeting of the NPA Planning Committee which will consider the following application:

Application No. 23/00496FULL

Touring Park, Sandy Balls Holiday Centre, Sandy Balls Estate, Godshill - Conversion of 3no. single storey amenity buildings to 6no. holiday accommodation units:

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Following a report from the Clerk that the application was again not on the December NPA Planning Committee Agenda, it was agreed that the Council would await notification and the latest information before agreeing a statement.

104.24 Finance and Policy:

a. Payments

Cllr Fell proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

£81.89 - The Laptop Power Supply Shop – for laptop battery

£68.40 - Ionos Cloud Ltd – For webhosting

£921.96 - Greenbarnes - Noticeboard

b. To resolve to approve the sum of £1,640.42 as the Accounts for payment for December:

		£
The Laptop Power Supply Shop	Laptop battery	81.89
Ionos Cloud Ltd	Webhosting	68.40
Greenbarnes	Noticeboard	921.96
B Cornish	December salary inc backpay	568.17

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Accounts for payment for December be approved.

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

Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 10.12.24

Current Account: £7,794.58.00 Deposit Account: £10,722.40

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the bank balances be approved.

d. To resolve to note the Budget to Actual Report to 31st December 2024:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Budget to Actual Report be approved.

e. Budget 2025-26 - To consider and resolve to approve the draft 3-year budget submitted by the Clerk:

Following a detailed discussion, Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Fell seconded and it was RESOLVED that a budget of £13,778 be set for 2025-26.

f. Precept 2025-26 - To resolve to agree a precept demand for submission to New Forest District Council:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that a Precept of £13,778 be approved which was an increase of 0.53% on 2024-25 and a Band D figure of £59.85.

g. To consider and resolve to approve the Earmarked Reserves of the Parish Council:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Woodward seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Earmarked Reserves be confirmed at the March 2025 meeting and that a reserve be built up for regular maintenance.

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h. To give consideration and resolve to agree on the organisations to which a grant may be awarded:

Cllr Fell proposed, Cllr Stammers seconded and it was RESOLVED to await applications but also to consider in March the key organisations providing a service to the community which require support.

105.24 Correspondence

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

1. An email from a resident regarding the use and banning of leafblowers across the national park.
2. Fordingbridge Town Council – a list of the lengthsman's dates for 2025.

106.24 Any Other Business.

No matters were raised.

107.24 Next Meeting

Cllr Fell confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 14th January 2025 to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm unless an earlier meeting is required to consider a planning application.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 8.55 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.