

FAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Fawley Parish Council held on Wednesday 09 September 2020 at 7pm in the Jubilee Hall, Fawley.

Members	Present	Apologies	Absent
Cllr A Alvey Chairman	√		
Cllr B Thorne Vice-Chairman	√		
Cllr A Carcas	√		
Cllr B Coyston	√		
Cllr A Glass	√		
Cllr B Hall		√	
Cllr T Matthews			√
Cllr McElhenny	√		
Cllr S Milgate	√		
Cllr D Poole		√	
Cllr J Poole		√	
Cllr S Read		√	
Cllr C Reece			√
Cllr A Sanders			√
Cllr K Smith	√		

In attendance:

Steve Postlethwaite, Clerk/RFO to the Council

Sue Markides, Deputy Clerk

Also present: District Cllr M Clark

20/35 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs B Hall, D Poole, J Poole and S Read for personal reasons. These were accepted. Cllrs T Matthews, C Reece and A Sanders were absent.

20/36 Declarations of Interest.

- a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
Cllrs Glass & Thorne declared a non-prejudicial interest in agenda item 20/40 Planning, as they are members of the New Forest District Council Planning Committee. They stated that they would consider the applications on the evidence in front of them at this point in time
- b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests
None
- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
None

20/37 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the virtual meeting held on 22 July 2020 and the virtual Extraordinary meeting held on 29 July 2020.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting on 22 July 2020 and the virtual Extraordinary meeting on 29 July 2020 be signed as a correct record - printed copies will be provided by the Clerk to the Chairman for signature after the meeting.

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20/38 Chairman's Announcements: The Chairman advised of the following:

I would like to congratulate Cllr Alexis McEvoy on her appointment to the New Forest National Park Authority

Following a complaint by a resident concerning litter in and around Fawley, and subsequent discussions, I have agreed that a supply of bags, high-viz vests and pickers will be kept at Jubilee Hall for issue to volunteers. We will keep a record of these volunteers and will recognise their efforts in some way yet to be agreed.

Funding for the litter packs will be either from NFDC (whose responsibility it is) or from my NFDC Councillor Grant, and the recognition from Cllr Alexis McEvoy.

I ask that Parish Councillors use whatever influence they have, to encourage residents not to drop litter in the first place, or to volunteer to pick up litter.

Suspension of standing orders

20/39 PUBLIC SESSION No members of the public were present

Reinstatement of Standing Orders

20/40 Planning: RESOLVED: To note any planning comments previously required during the lock down period have been submitted under the delegated authority of the Clerk following consultation with Councillors and to submit the following observations:

a) New Forest District Council

20/10686

Full Planning Permission

Unit 24, Glenmore Business Park, Lime Kiln Lane, Holbury, Fawley SO45 2AR

Proposal: Change of use from light industrial (B1c, 2, 8) to D1 or 2 for a canine hydrotherapy centre

(No 3) We recommend permission

b) New Forest National Park Authority

20/00556

Fowey House, Lepe Road, Langley, Southampton SO45 1XR

Proposal: 1No new cottage dwelling; extension and alterations to Fowey House; demolition of 1No existing cottage dwelling

(No 5) We are happy to accept the decision reached by the New Forest National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers

20/00579

Sunderland Hanger, Calshot Activities Centre, Jack Maynard Road, Calshot, Southampton SO45 1BR

Proposal: Replacement glazing to West elevation; demolition of temporary supports (Application for Listed Building Consent)

(No 3) We recommend permission

20/41 To receive updates from District Councillors & County Councillor: Updates from Cllr Alvey and Cllr Glass were noted (see attached Appendix A & B). Cllr Clark on this occasion, had nothing to report.

20/42 To receive an update report from the Youth Worker: Members noted the report (see attached Appendix C) and wished to congratulate the Youth Worker and her team for their efforts.

20/43 Updates from Representatives and Nominees on Local Bodies:

- a) **New Forest Consultative Panel** Cllr A Carcus had not been able to attend the latest meeting, however she advised that it had been recorded and is available to view online.
- b) **New Forest Environmental Liaison Committee** Cllrs J Poole & B Thorne: No meeting
- c) **Waterside Heritage:** Cllr C Reece - not present
- d) **Police Liaison:** Cllr Glass & Cllr Coyston - No meeting
- e) **Age Concern NFE:** Cllr D Poole - not present
- f) **Dibden Allotment Fund:** Cllr A Alvey had attended via Zoom, meetings of the DAF. A funding request for floodlights for a training pitch at the Waterside Sports and Social Club has recently been granted. The three local senior schools have received monies which will be used to provide uniforms for children of families who are struggling. The Handy Trust has received funding to provide snacks to the young people they meet as part of the evening outreach work they complete (in conjunction with the parish council's youth worker).
- g) **New Forest Association of Local Council:** Cllr A Sanders and Clerk/RFO No meeting. It was noted that Cllr Sanders no longer wished to be the representative of FPC to NFALC. Anyone interested in becoming the representative to contact the Clerk to see what is involved.

20/44 Councillor Attendance: RESOLVED: That, having regard to the current circumstances arising from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and in accordance with Section 85 (1) of the Local Government Act 1972, the requirement for all Fawley Parish Councillors to attend any meeting of the Council throughout a period of six consecutive months, be waived for a six month period retrospectively commencing 22 July 2020, therefore expiring on 22 January 2021.

20/45 Monthly Schedule of Accounts including up to date bank reconciliation for July 2020.

RESOLVED: To accept the Monthly Schedules of Accounts including up to date bank reconciliation for July 2020 (see attached appendix D).

20/46 To note Graphic User Interface Summary for the Income & Expenditure of the Council. Members noted the Summary Income Information for QEII was omitted from the agenda papers although this did not affect the overall figures shown. The current lack of income for Gang Warily was also noted. The Clerk to provide to the October meeting as much information as possible to give an early indication of where we are budget wise, with a more detailed report to be available to the November meeting. (GUI attached as Appendix E).

20/47 To consider request from Fawley Events Committee for permission to decorate the outside of the Jubilee Hall building week commencing 30 November 2020 and to agree permission to use ChurchFields for car parking for the much smaller event currently being planned for 05 December 2020. Members noted the request and the uncertainty surrounding the event.

RESOLVED: To allow Fawley Events Committee to decorate the outside of the Jubilee Hall building week commencing 30 November 2020.

RESOLVED: To allow ChurchFields to be used for car parking if the smaller Christmas event currently being planned by Fawley Events Committee for 05 December 2020 goes ahead.

20/48 To agree Christmas opening/closing times for Parish Facilities and allocation of Statutory Days:

RESOLVED: To agree Christmas opening/closing times for Parish Facilities and allocation of Statutory Days as presented (see attached Appendix F).

20/49 Update report on Fawley Parish Council Play Areas: Cllr Alvey advised that contrary to what was said at the last parish council meeting significant sums of money have been spent on play areas in Holbury. This totals over £50,000 since 2013 on Renda Road, Harrier Green, Mary Drake Close and The Warren. He further advised that in November 2016 it was agreed by council to proceed with efforts to sell Renda Road with planning permission. This was subsequently superseded by a proposal from a developer to purchase the land adjacent to Gang Warily which is now on hold, due to Brexit. He proposed that we re-instigate this idea of selling the Renda Road site.

Discussion took place, Cllr Alvey wished to make the point that the council should not give the impression it is doing nothing for the children in Holbury and that no decisions will be made today – it is just to accept the recommendation of the Clerk – that all current expenditure on non-essential work related to play areas is placed on hold until the financial impact of Covid - 19 on the council's budget can be fully assessed - any further discussions on Renda Road will be for a future meeting.

RESOLVED: To accept the recommendation of the Clerk – that all current expenditure on non-essential work related to play areas is placed on hold until the financial impact of Covid - 19 on the council's budget can be fully assessed.

20/50 To consider adoption of revised Standing Orders & Financial Regulations:

Cllr Glass raised queries around the processes currently used, in particular decisions delegated to officers such as the increase in pitch rent for the Fawley Rugby Football Club. Cllr Alvey advised no decision had been made on the rent for the rugby field, it was an agenda item for tonight. Planning is the only item for which the Council has given delegated power to the Clerk, there are no other delegations and with any financial approvals the Clerk has followed existing financial regulations.

Cllr McElhenny queried 4.11 and suggested clarification was required - In circumstances where normal council business cannot be conducted (i.e. COVID-19 lockdown) the Clerk shall have delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Council where such decisions cannot reasonably be deferred, and must be made in order to comply with a commercial or

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statutory deadline. Any decisions made under this delegation will be done in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, recorded in writing and will be published in accordance with the relevant regulations.

It was agreed that an addition should be made to 4.11, Financial Regulations.

This delegated authority will be reviewed at every meeting of the council whilst it is in place.

It was noted that it had previously been agreed that full council meetings would take place on the scheduled meeting dates for the council year i.e. full council meetings will supercede committee meetings for the time being. Reports usually received by the committee will be presented to each full council meeting.

RESOLVED: To adopt revised Standing Orders & Financial Regulations with the following addition made to Financial Regulations 4.11 In circumstances where normal council business cannot be conducted (i.e. COVID-19 lockdown) the Clerk shall have delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Council where such decisions cannot reasonably be deferred, and must be made in order to comply with a commercial or statutory deadline. Any decisions made under this delegation will be done in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, recorded in writing and will be published in accordance with the relevant regulations. This delegated authority will be reviewed at every meeting of the council whilst it is in place (see appendices G&H).

20/51 Dog Walking Area - The Old Golf Course, Gang Warily. Members noted the update report provided. Members of the subcommittee have now been invited to attend the meeting to discuss the future maintenance of the site. Consultation on the proposal is underway until 21 September 2020 using social media, parish notice boards and hard copies available from Gang Warily. It was suggested that the subcommittee members could also attempt to meet face to face with the dog walkers that currently use Gang Warily and QEII. The Clerk to liaise with the subcommittee and perhaps they could where possible carry out a face to face consultation using the agreed on-line questions that are currently being used.

20/52 Expression of Interest – Independent Community Library: It was suggested that County Cllr McEvoy could be contacted and asked to approach the authors of the petition to save Blackfield Library to see whether they would be interested in taking this forward.

RESOLVED: To decline to express an interest in operating an Independent Community Library.

20/53 Meeting Resolution Update: Noted

20/20 Repairs to Service Road at GW booked in for October.

20/23 Play areas/centre facilities now open with appropriate controls

20/29 Cherryton Gardens - The Clerk informed the resident of the council's decision to charge a single payment of £360 pa. He indicated he is not happy with this decision and will be contacting his solicitor - to date no further communications have been received.

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20/54 Councillor's News and Comments. Cllrs are reminded that this agenda item involves no more than an exchange of information.

Cllr Carcas had a query on ownership of a local footpath – she will contact the Clerk to follow this up.

Cllr Glass advised he had received complaints regarding the pavements in Holbury; since they have been re-skimmed the weeds appear to have flourished.

Cllr Coyston advised that the Fawley Mens Shed will be closing due to Covid, for four weeks from Monday 14 September 2020.

20/55 Correspondence:

a) For response:

i) NFDC Planning: Formal notice of TPO/0009/20, Land adjacent to The Ruffs, Chapel Lane, Langley. Any comments to be submitted by 15 September 2020. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to write in support of TPO/0009/20, Land adjacent to The Ruffs, Chapel Lane, Langley.

b) For information:

i) Planning Inspectorate: Notification of Appeal: Planning application 20/10167, 1, May Crescent, Holbury, Proposal: Replace wooden fence with brick wall (Retrospective).Noted.

ii) Planning Inspectorate: Notification of Appeal: Planning application 20/10474, Nutmeg Cottage, Mopley, Proposal: Detached oak framed garage/carport. Noted.

iii) Hampshire County Council: Strategic Planning. Notification that Planning application 20/10282, Variation of conditions 16 of planning permission 18/11586 to allow additional mobile kit (Excavator, Dumper truck and cell engineering equipment) on site to improve operation efficiency at Forest Lodge Home Farm, Fawley Road, Hythe, SO45 3NJ will be considered by the Regulatory Committee on Wednesday 16 September 2020 at 10am. The meeting is virtual and will be broadcast live. You will be able to observe the meeting via the link: <https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=191&MId=6430> Noted

20/56 Date of next meeting: RESOLVED: To continue with full council meetings only in place of committees, (the same scheduled meeting dates as previously agreed) to be more efficient in decision making until current restrictions are lifted i.e. next meeting will be Full Council, Wednesday 14 October 2020.

Exclusion of public and press: RESOLVED: That, considering the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public, including the press, be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

20/57 Staffing Matters:

a) Local Government Services: Pay agreement 2020 – 21. Noted.

20/58 To note – Lease for rental of area of the Groundsman's Compound has been signed. Noted.

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20/59 Fawley Rugby Football Club lease costs: Discussion took place. Members noted that this was a review of the existing lease at the end of the initial 5 year fixed period; the Clerk advised he has a legal duty to get the best rent / fees possible for the residents of the parish. It was noted that the club provide the same service to the community as many other local clubs.

RESOLVED: The Clerk to enter into discussions with Fawley Rugby Football Club - with a proposal that supports a pricing structure that is above “cost neutral” and will provide a reasonable return. This to be brought back to the next Parish Council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.18pm.

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Chairman