

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BROCKENHURST PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 16th March 2021 via ZOOM**

Present: Mr. P. Wales Chairman
Mr. A. Bartlett Mrs. R. Bowles
Mr. M. Croker Mr. M. Harris
Mr. R. Horne Mr. J. Korbey
Mrs. P. Mueller Mr. R. Wolstenholme
Mr. J. Wingham
HC Cllr. K. Mans
Mrs. M. Pattison Acting Parish Clerk (outgoing)
Mrs. H. Lawrence Parish Clerk
Mrs. M. Beckett Communications Officer
Lymington Times
and two members of the public

Public Presentments

A member of the public raised the continuing issue of the problem parking along Burley Road, between Brookley Road and The Rise. Drivers cannot see on exit due to the obstruction and this an acute problem for pedestrians and cyclists. There have been two known incidents, one involving a cyclist and one involving a pedestrian. It was suggested that to solve this problem the double yellow lines could be linked together again. and that a parking restriction could be imposed on The Rise. HCC has been contacted but the problem has not been resolved.

21/33 Apologies for absence: Cllr. Whittle

21/34 Declarations of Interest/Requests for Dispensation: None.

21/35 Minutes of the Meeting held 16th February 2021. These were proposed, seconded and signed as a correct record.

21/36 Matters Arising:

- i) ATF consultation - Brookley Road. The consultation is available online until 21st March. The Friends of Brockenhurst have written to object to the proposals, and C.Cllr. Mans' response to them was read out by the Chairman.
- ii) Happy to Chat benches - Signs have now been made and are in the office ready to be added to the agreed benches when covid-19 restrictions change.
- iii) Telephone box near Lloyds corner – Cllr. Bartlett was thanked for cleaning the telephone box.

21/37 County Councillor's Report

C.Cllr Mans firstly responded to the resident that has given the report about the problems at Burley Road. He advised that cones had been placed there as a temporary measure until a permanent solution could be implemented. He apologised for the delay in this being resolved and he would speak directly to the director of Highways in the next few days. It was agreed that the cones could be replaced as soon as possible.

C.Cllr Mans offered to arrange a meeting with HCC Highways and the chairman to look at the various issues in the parish. This would now be possible to arrange with the covid-19 restrictions changing.

Cllr Harris thanked C.Cllr Mans for dealing with the long-standing issue of the parking obstruction and thanked the member of the public for bringing the matter to this meeting.

Cllr Bowles asked if parking restrictions could also be considered at the other end of The Rise, up to Avenue Road.

C.Cllr Mans advised that the covid-19 rates are still coming down with the New Forest currently down to 20 cases per 100,000. The New Forest vaccination rates are 45% of the population and IOW 49%. The dates out of lockdown are on target and the return to schools has gone well. Cllr. Wales advised that Brockenhurst College are now testing all staff and pupils and so far there have been no cases of Covid-19. He expressed his thanks to residents who have been helping the college with carrying out the testing.

Cllr Wingham mentioned that residents have been having problems booking to use the Lymington tip and have been travelling further to use other tips in the area. Cllr Korbey reported he had not had any problems.

Action: JW to provide further details to Cllr. Mans.

21/38 District Councillor's Report

Cllr.Harris reported that NFDC staff have been very busy providing normal services and additional support. £15m has been provided in grants to support local businesses during the pandemic, which has created a lot of additional work to set up systems. Totton Health & Leisure has been set up as a non-symptomatic testing centre.

Health & Leisure centres will have the management of the centres outsourced to Freedom Leisure, who already look after 100+ centres around England on an 11 year contract with reviews. This should lead to an improvement in the service. NFDC will still own the buildings and the business.

NFDC Build and Acquire aim to have 600 homes by 2026.

Council tax has been set at £183.36 for a band D property.

Cllr Harris also wanted to thank C.Cllr. Mans and the resident who raised the Burley Road parking problems.

21/39 Annual Parish Meeting

Due to the uncertainty of remote meetings being allowed to continue after 7th May the following dates were proposed and seconded. Annual Parish meeting 27th April, Annual Council Meeting 4th May, Parish Council Meeting 15th June.

21/40 Potential purchase of Church Lane land

The landowners have enquired whether the Parish Council would be interested in buying the triangle of land at Church Lane. There is no commercial value to the land but it could be a community asset. It is a prominent entry point for the village, containing two Jubilee Oaks. It was agreed that options would be explored. **Action: Clerk.**

21/41 Village Sign

Cllr Wingham is currently putting the information together. It was agreed that the design would stay as the original design, but with the badger removed from the tree trunk due to production difficulty, and the badger logo incorporated onto the post below the sign.

21/42 Reports and response to Consultations - to include ratification of recommendations

i) Planning Committee – 22nd February

Cllr Korbey confirmed that fourteen planning applications were considered at the February meeting. The bus parking at Brockenhurst college was discussed, a five-year bus operator's licence was issued to South Coast Ltd. in December 2019. This has caused noise disturbance to residents and emissions from the parked vehicles. It was agreed that Cllr Korbey will raise this at the next SW Quadrant meeting and the parish council would subscribe to the Traffic Commissioner website notifications. The electrical charging points at the Huntsman were also considered, and it was confirmed that the Cloud Hotel application was passed by the NPA at this morning's Development Control meeting.

Cllr Horne gave an update on the appeal by NF Activity Centre.

ii) Personnel and Resources Committee – 2nd March

The following items were proposed, seconded and agreed.

- i) £500 additional expenditure for security enhancement of TV display screen
- ii) Publication of newsletter in April, to include survey
- iii) Grant applications – NFDIS £100 and Food Rescue Kitchen via WI £250.
- iv) Cancellation of closure of Nationwide 95-day account and withdrawal of half the balance of PSDF, in light of recent information regarding negative interest rates
- v) Further to the Internal Auditor's report, consideration of addition to policy of Cyber insurance
- vi) Outsourcing of payroll system
- vii) Increase in cemetery fees of 2%
- viii) Request suspension of exit charge from Hampshire Pension Fund to 31.3.22
- ix) Amendment of Financial Regs/Internal Control system to permit councillors to authorise remote payments from their own computers
- x) Salary increase for the Groundsman, backdated to 31.1.21.

iii) Greener Brockenhurst meeting - 3rd March

Cllr. Bowles reported that a new location needs to be found for the recycling shed; a wildlife-friendly project, tree planting and a GreenFest day in July were all discussed.

iv) Consultative Panel - 4th March

Cllr Korbey gave a brief outline of points discussed, including superfast broadband across the forest. Disposable BBQ's are banned from use to reduce wildfires. Steve Avery had advised that the tourist levels were high in 2020 and will be higher in 2021. Freeports, the desalination plant at Fawley and Lyndhurst Park Hotel site were also mentioned.

21/43 Correspondence

A letter was received from a resident complimenting the War Memorial Garden. RBL have recently helped with the weeding.

A membership enquiry has been received from Rural Market Towns Network, this is to be passed to the Village Centre Strategy Group.

LCWIP workshop on 19th March. Cllr. Mueller will attend and report back to councillors.

HALC March update was noted, including training opportunities.

Network Rail information about closure of the level crossing on various dates was noted.

21/44 Accounts for payment. Proposed, seconded and agreed.

- i) Viking - Stationery - £58.72
- ii) Fair Account - Interim Internal Audit - £715
- iii) Mint Gardens Ltd. - Lengthsman - E. Boldre - £319.92
Brockenhurst - £241.12
Sway - £938.40
- iv) BT phone bill - £53.56
- v) Forestry England - Allotment rent - £265
- vi) Numed - Clinell anti-bac wipes - £40.10
- vii) Lym/Brock Community Rail P'ship - subscription - £100
- ix) Edge IT Systems - Accounting Software -£432.00.

21/45 Items to note - to include items raised by members of the public

Cllr. Wingham raised concern about the NF Classic Sportive in April. Should the event go ahead there will be large number of people who will need to be in groups. With covid-19 restrictions this would be difficult as well as the increased visitor numbers to the area. It was agreed that should the event go ahead that concerns would be raised with SAG and Gang Warily. **Action: Clerk/JW to liaise.**

21/46 Date of Next Meeting

20th April 2021. The meeting closed at 8.40pm.