

## HYDE PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the virtual (ZOOM) meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Present:** Cllrs Dolphin, McKenzie, Mulcahy, Sevier (Chair), and Tully: County Councillor Edward Heron (left meeting at 20.25); District Councillor Emma Lane (left meeting at 20.10) Clerk (M Coatham) and 20+ members of public

- 1. Apologies:** Cllrs Burden and Woodley, plus Dai Morgan & Mr & Mrs Fenwick
- 2. Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Sevier will not contribute/comment on the planning applications as a member of the NFNPA and NFDC Planning Committees.
- 3. Minutes of meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020:** Notes from the virtual meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were approved by members, proposed by Cllr Mulcahy, seconded by Cllr Dolphin, all in favour.
- 4. Matters Arising**
  - School – pre-school confirmed on-going support to promote school and share information
  - Consultative Panel (3/9) minutes circulated after meeting – updates on pandemic impact on forest from NFNPA (initially the forest was very tranquil then significant increase in recreational use as lockdown was eased, resources stretched and byelaws inadequate to take appropriate action), NFDC (main complaints were relating to noise and bonfires, difficulty in continuing with refuse collection, increase in fly-tipping, estimated cost of pandemic to council was £1million per month) and FE (huge impact on forest – BBQs, wild camping, fires and litter)
  - North Gorley Green – Clerk to submit map to NE (outstanding)
  - Nil further on award (AS to update)
  - School land swap – nothing further to report at present
  - Harrys Field – taken in public session

### PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Sevier thanked Steve King for his written summary of concerns submitted on behalf of residents following the last meeting and noted that a summary of the information gathered by the Parish Council will be made available on the parish website, this will include responses from NFDC (Environmental Health) and NFNPA (Enforcement), and information regarding water pressure in the area and a summary of the meeting with the site owners. The points noted, in brief, were as follows:

- Water pressure – Parish Council to request a pressure test now and when the site is live
- Environmental Health - bonfires – only 3 complaints received by NFDC from residents, more evidence is required to enable the Council to take further action (keep a diary and let NFDC know).
- Enforcement (28/56 days permitted development) – the Chief Exec of the NFNPA has acknowledged that the pandemic did bring a large number of visitors to the forest and the impact would be reviewed. It is not known whether the Government will increase the number of days to 56 in 2021, but this will be a Government decision rather than a local one – the only course of action is to write to your MP to try to achieve a localised solution. The days DO NOT have to be continuous, the NPA have no control over the number of pitches. The only solution would be to use an Article 4 Direction – but this has other implications which must be considered so it will not be a quick solution (if at all) – it is being looked at jointly by NFNPA and NFDC. The 28 days does include all set-up and clearing – but one or two days over this for set up/clearing would be considered de minimus by NFNPA.

Cllr Sevier also noted that residents must not trespass and turn up, uninvited to peoples private property to complain – this could become a police matter.

Residents noted that water pipes had been replaced to property but this had not improved water pressure; the pipes were installed to serve the houses in the parish not for an additional large campsite and it was queried whether the notes/minutes of the meeting with the site owners would be made available. Cllr Sevier noted that it was not a parish (public) meeting and the information would be shared, not full minutes.

Cllr Dolphin confirmed that he had visited the site the previous day and the information provided by the site owners indicated that it was being run in accordance with the regulations: fires were kept at least 18/20m away from the eastern boundary, only smokeless fuel was allowed and that the site is manned 24/7 when operational. The owners have stated that if anyone is unable to sit outside/keep windows open that they should immediately inform them and they will try to rectify the problem. The site does have a curfew (quiet after 22.30 and silent after 11pm) and the owners say that they do enforce this. Within the site there is ample provision for waste and toilets, so the owners refute that the campsite users are responsible for the waste left outside the site and any inappropriate use of hedges as

toilets. Cllr Dolphin also noted that it was important to keep records to enable NFDC to take action (if appropriate) – a collective response from neighbours would have more impact. Legally the site owners are able to use the field for private family use over and above the 28 days, caravan rallies fall outside this as well, but any other non-agricultural use (such as Frogham Fair or use of the field for parking) would need to be included within the permitted development allocation.

Residents queried whether this was a work in progress or whether the owners considered this had happened during the current year as they had evidence that the 10m boundary from the fence was not happening, that no action was taken when tents were blown onto neighbouring properties and their mobile reports have been ignored until the following morning (so not 24/7 cover).

Queries were raised over whether the NFNPA had any legislation regarding fires – it was noted that as the campsite is a private field, any NFNPA or FE rules would not apply.

Cllr Sevier closed the discussion by noting that the Parish Council would continue to monitor the site and members would visit regularly when it was open, the Council would also ask for the water pressure to be tested in the village and reminded residents to keep records.

Several residents were present to discuss the mast. Concerns were raised about the proximity to residential properties and that the proposal appeared to be fast-tracked rather than appropriate consideration being given to the location. It was noted that although the mast is for EE and H3G (Three), it is available to all networks for emergency numbers/use. It was noted that a request had been made to HCC regarding the location of other masts in the area but this information had not been made available – was it not possible to mast share? Despite the temporary mast, one resident (with EE) had signal from Fordingbridge rather than the local mast. Cllr Heron noted that Waldon had been asked this question but had stated that there was not a local mast that met their needs – and as 5G will require a lot more masts, any solution using another mast would likely only be temporary. He also noted that as the Government guidance was that there are no health implications, planning authorities were unable to turn down mast applications on health grounds. Another resident raised the issue of interference with TV signals, the lack of screening/height of the mast and questioned why the information was not sent out to all residents over such an important issue.

*Public Session was closed at 19.55 and the majority of public left the meeting.*

## **5. Planning**

### **a. Applications**

Cllr Woodley had visited the sites prior to the meeting.

#### 20/00683 Land adj.to Hyde Garden Shop – mast and ancillary development (GDPO)

Much discussion took place about the proposal and it was agreed that comments could only be made on the siting and appearance of the mast. There is a Joint Accord between the Government and National Parks to facilitate the roll out of telecommunication equipment but in appropriate locations. It was agreed that the location was not appropriate – the proposal will be visually intrusive (twice the height of the adjacent trees) and these trees/screening is not permanent – they are in very poor condition, so unlikely to provide screening in the future. The design of the mast (a standalone plastic tree) would not be appropriate at 18m high, without adjacent screening – the previous permanent location had trees immediately behind the site and so was not so obvious. The site and design are not appropriate for a conservation area and will be visible from two roads and a public bridleway. It is inappropriate for the mast to be this close to residents (visually intrusive) and in this instance people should come first, not the SSSI. Members felt more time was needed by all parties to establish whether mast sharing was possible and how many more masts would be required within the parish to achieve 5G coverage, it would be more appropriate for the temporary mast to remain in situ until these questions had been answered. All members were in favour of this response.

20/00590 Rose Cottage, Blissford Hill – repl.septic tank & rainwater harvesting tank (demo of existing) - following discussion it was agreed to leave the decision to the officers (PAR 5) – proposed by Cllr McKenzie, seconded by Cllr Tully, all in favour.

20/00645 Honeysuckle Cottage, Hungerford Hill – first floor extension - Cllr McKenzie noted that there was insufficient information on the application and within the parish briefing note to enable members to make a decision regarding the application. It was agreed to write to the NPA stating this, without a recommendation from the Parish, all members agreed to this proposal.

**Results:** 20/00176 Land adj.Newtown Honey Fm –single storey building (Hyde Band)- GRANT

**Not yet decided:** 20/10829 (NFDC) Land at Hern Lane, Hyde – agricultural dwelling & detached garage

**b. Tree applications:** 20/0477 Fir Tree Farm, Frogham Hill – land management over 10 year period, coppice or pollard trees either side of Ditch End Brook and prune trees throughout farm; 20/0514 Uplands, Stuckton Hill – prune 1 Magnolia and 1 Laurel; 20/0526 Highwinds, Hern Lane – prune 2 Oaks, 1 Silver Birch and 1 Holly, pollard 1 Beech; 20/0527 Hyperion, Stuckton Hill – prune 1 Tulip & 1 Tree of Heaven, fell 1 Chesnut and 1 Cedar; 20/0530 The Glen, Frogham – re-pollard 2 Oaks, prune 1 Willow, 1 Plum, fell 1 Sycamore; 20/0532 3 The

Cottages, North Gorley – fell 1 Ash; 20/0545 Little Mere, North Gorley – fell 1 Ash; 20/0557 Greenway, Hungerford Hill – fell 1 Douglas Fir; 20/0568 Hydeway, Hern Lane – prune 1 Oak (TPO)

*Cllr Woodley had reviewed the tree applications prior to the meeting and had proposed that the decisions are left to the officer (no loss of amenity value). Members agreed with this proposal. It was noted that there was a lot of applications but this was as it was now the appropriate season to fell and prune trees.*

**Tree Results:** 20/0407 Rose Cottage, Hungerford Hill – prune 1 Oak and 1 Beech; 20/0408 The Knapp, North Gorley – fell, prune & pollard mixed tree species; 20/0426 Meadow View, Stuckton Hill – fell 1 Silver Birch/prune 4 Willow; 20/0431 Dove Cottage, Chilly Hill – fell and prune various trees; 20/0454 Pippins, Blissford Hill – prune 1 Oak: – all raise no objections.

c. **Other planning matters**

- **TEN** – none received
- **Enforcement/Appeals** – for information: the property which was under enforcement at Kenchingtons appears to be being taken down.
- **Stuckton Chapel** – discussions are ongoing between EFCC and Alderholt Chapel regarding the future of the building: Clerk to send short report to Cllr McKenzie.
- **VDS Update** – Cllr McKenzie reported that the revised document will need approval at a public session of the NFNPA before it can be adopted as a SPD. More photographs are still required.

*It was agreed that Cllrs Tully and Burden would consider the applications for November prior to the meeting.*

**6. Report from County Councillor Edward Heron (HCC) – nil further to report.**

*Cllrs Heron and Lane left the meeting and all remaining members of public.*

**7. Report from District Councillor Emma Lane (NFDC) – Cllr Lane noted that NFDC will be undertaking an environmental consultation about the introduction of wheelie bins in appropriate locations across the forest.**

**8. Highways/Lengthsman**

- North Gorley culvert – confirmation that proposed works will take place in early 2021, over the winter period the team will carry out further clearance and the local depot will provide pumping as necessary.
- Surface dressing – road sweeper noted discharging water within parish - confirmation from HCC that this should not have happened and the sub-contractor risk assessment (RMS) has now been updated.
- Clerk to report (again) water at Stuckton and request reflector posts on the new ditch. It was agreed to thank HCC for the recent works to the cattle grids.
- Next lengthsman visit due Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November – works to Clerk please.

**9. Forest/Footpaths/Commons**

- NPA Ambassador Scheme: It was agreed to hold a litter pick in the new year.
- To note the car park at Ogdens is now open.
- Fireworks – complaint from resident – it was agreed that this was a police matter.
- Concern raised by HCC Ranger regarding lack of cohesion/positive messages with NFNPA recreation management strategy – Cllr Sevier to review.
- Complaints had been received regarding external lighting and dogs barking – it was agreed to note “being neighbourly” in the parish newsletter.
- Complaint received about the debris build up at the streams/bridge at Ogdens – resident offered to help with a volunteer task. Clerk has contacted FE and HCC but FE have agreed this should be undertaken by appropriate staff rather than volunteers.
- Cycle event – New Forest Rattler will be passing through the village on 24<sup>th</sup> October.
- Running event – will take place in 2021 (23/5 provisional date)
- Rights of Way team have requested support to repair footpath in North Gorley – Clerk to circulate information to members for review.

**10. Finance**

Balances in the accounts

Lloyds/TSB Treasurer's a/c	£15821.41 (following current months expenditure)
Lloyds/TSB BIA a/c	£247.56
Post Office/NS&I	£2771.10

Cheques: M Coatham (Sept 20 Clerks Salary, £405.41), HMRC (tax & NI, Sept 20, £7.00), Hampshire Pension Fund (Sep 20, £106.48), ICO (data protection fee, £40), M Coatham (refund annual domain fee, freeparking, £21.59, office use April to Sept, £90 and stamps £8.46), Royal British Legion (poppy wreath, £30 donation)

#### Other financial matters

- Second half of precept received £5900.00
- CIL – we received £1626.24 on 11/4/2019 – it was agreed to review the use of CIL at an informal meeting in the New Year. Clerk to confirm what CIL can be spent on.

#### **Members approved the cheques and noted the financial report.**

**11. Budget proposals and half year review** – a financial report was circulate to members to assist with financial planning and setting the precept in January 2021.

#### **12. Coronavirus and Parish Response**

There have been no further requests for help – status quo. Main concern about the mental health of our elderly residents over the winter period without support of the local clubs and visits. There has been no positive feedback to the team about the elderly not able to use the internet to access surgery appointments, Clerk to write on behalf of Parish Council.

#### **13. Consultations (responses will be posted on the parish website)**

- Planning for the future (29/10/20) – Cllr Sevier to prepare a response for members to approve
- NFDC Local Planning Application Requirements (Local 1APP Consultation) 28/10 – Cllr McKenzie to prepare a response for members to approve.
- Safer New Forest Partnership Survey – response agreed (as last year)

**14. To receive an update on the Ward/ Boundary proposals:** Acknowledgement received from LGBCE for our comments on the review

**15. November Newsletter** - articles requested for newsletter – to include a regular environmental/green report from Cllr Mulcahy.

**16. Correspondence:** NFNPA Annual Review and CPRE reports to be circulated.

#### **17. Reports of Representatives**

Cllr McKenzie had attended the Quadrant (5/10/20) and circulated a report to members: this included an update from NFNPA on the planning white paper, recreation management, virtual planning meetings, pop up campsites and ward boundaries.

**All other meetings (NPA and NFDC) are cancelled for time being so nothing to report**

The meeting closed at 21.20

**It is likely that the November meeting will also be a virtual (Zoom) meeting. This will take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November – further details will be available online nearer to the time.**