

Minutes of LINDFORD PARISH COUNCIL meeting held
1st October 2019.

Agenda used dated 18/09/2019 (Rev 0)

Attendees: Cllrs G Biddiscombe (Chairman), D Barr (Vice Chair), D Garnade, S Bennett.

Present: Cllr A Carew, RFO T Hampshire, Clerk S Holden

113/19 Apologies Cllrs N Taylor, S Banks Van Zyl, G Watt, M Smith

114/19 Declaration of interests None declared

115/19 Planning

Proposal 1: Single storey rear extension, first floor side extension, dormer windows, alteration to existing dormer roofs and front porch (amended description) **Site Address:** 90 Liphook Road, Lindford, Bordon, GU35 0PG, **Case No:** 56462/002 **Case Officer:** Katherine Pang. **Responses by** 04/10/2019. Assigned to Cllr N Taylor. No objections raised.

Planning applications for tree works 50511/001 6 Azalea Avenue and 39262/004 16 Privet Road have been reviewed by appointed councillors, viewed and no objections raised.

116/19 Agree and sign minutes from LPC Meeting 03/09/2019
Proposed by Cllr S Bennett, seconded by Cllr D Barr, show of hands agreed unanimously as accurate record.

117/19 Public Discussions: No members of the public in attendance.

118/19 Updates from District & County Councillors:
Session held in camera RESOLVED.

The following summary has been received from Cllr N Taylor and reviewed as part of this section.

Last week I attended the full council meeting and to update you on that, I voted against the place making strategy. Whilst I am all for the strategy in its plan, it was the content that concerns me hence going against what was asked. Due to the political make up of the council, it was voted through.

My main concerns were that in the first section it states the online shopping demand increase and the need to review our high streets. In the section for Whitehill Bordon it then goes on to explain the need for a town centre with retail shops etc. It really cannot be both. It concerns me that no named company is forth coming, and it is ridiculous to say they cannot release this due to commercial sensitivity. Having spent the last 23

Initial and sign date final page once approved

Initials

Sign & Date

years in retail it is common for retailers to announce well in advance of their intentions and not left until the minute.

The report also concerns me that the creation of 5500 jobs is still being reported. Companies are being attracted to Whitehill Bordon with preferential terms and moving employees with them. This is moving resource within the district and not creating new jobs.

What is the biggest threat is the need to attract new businesses to the employment sites that are being develop whilst at the same time hiking up rents on the Woolmer Trading Estate? One business is effectively within a legal battle with EHDC claiming they have forced them to cease trading and another one has contacted me claiming their rent is set to increase by up to 60% in mid 2020.

The concern for us in Lindford is that the business owner is a resident and employs many local people including Lindford Residents. If the rents are forced through, he explains he will cease trading as it will be uncompetitive for him this leading to redundancies.

This absolutely disgusts me and I have written to EHDC officers seeking clarification and whether or not it is true the evidence I have been presented with. Whilst trying to attract new business on better terms, it would appear that EHDC are not giving two hoots to long established local businesses employing local people.

Part of me believes this may be to make up for the council tax not being increased for the last few years and Councillor Cowpers promise to have council tax set at zero.

It may be my brain thinking overtime, but it certainly begs the question as to why they feel the need to raise it by 60%.

I have received one grant application. This is for the drop-in centre held on a Thursday in the hall at Lindford Club. It is completely separate from the club and is held to allow people to get together and socialise, they organise trips out, they support with lifts to the shops etc and it really does support those that may otherwise be on their own.

The bins contract changed this week and it is clear that despite communication through people's doors and being plastered over social media, people still put their bins out Sunday evening. Should there be any bins uncollected by the end of the week, please do contact me so I can escalate to the contract's manager at EHDC.

Cllr A Carew has kindly agreed a grant for the costs associated with the siting of a post and socket in Mill Lane to permit the SLR sign to be positioned there in accordance with the schedule. Clerk advised confirmation of the payment

Initial and sign date final page once approved

Initials

Sign & Date

totalling £648-79. Members thanked Cllr A Carew for his support with this road safety issue.

Cllr A Carew reported that he would investigate the issues raised by Cllr N Taylor in regards the reported increase in the business rates increases reported on Woolmer Trading Estate.

A summary on the status of the new town centre and health hub were provided. County Council budgets have been significantly cut in recent years and it was reported an additional £43m pounds worth of cuts are in the pipeline which could impact upon Libraries, Cllr A Carew had voted against these cuts but aware if Hampshire County Council were to fail to make such cuts the status of the council could be adversely impacted. Requests for updates on the future of Bordon Library have yet to be responded to. Cllr S Bennett asked what the total amount of cuts to the budget there had been to date. Cllr A Carew shall confirm precise figures.

Details on grants available for environmental initiatives were provided in advance by Cllr A Carew. Details had been passed to members by the Clerk.

Cllr G Biddiscombe enquired if anyone had any knowledge of the reason why surveyors had been seen working on the Headley Road. Cllr A Carew to enquire from Highways and report back.

119/19 Village Hall Risk Assessment:

Members adopted the Risk Assessment presented by the Clerk. The associated Policy Statement was signed and dated by the Chairman.

120/19 Finance and Accounts (RFO)

- a. To receive and approve Receipts & Payments report to 30th September 2019, **previously circulated.**
- b. To receive and sign as approved, a list of payments made during September 2019, **previously circulated.**
- c. To receive and approve the bank statements and corresponding bank reconciliations at 31st August 2019, **previously circulated.**

A, b & c considered together. Proposed by Cllr S Bennett and seconded by Cllr D Barr. Show of hands unanimous.

- d. S.214 Grant application for £350-00 received from Headley All Saints Church.

D, Members reviewed application. Cllrs confirmed grant would be for upkeep of the graveyard which is open to the public. £200-00 grant proposed, show of hand 3 in agreement 1 abstention. RESOLVED to award £200-00.

- e. Approve updated Lloyds Bank mandate to add two new signatories.

RFO requested this be deferred until November meeting.

Initial and sign date final page once approved

Initials

Sign & Date

121/19 S.106 grant for hedge.

Clerk advised the grant shall be reviewed middle of October when the executive committee next meet.

122/19 Christmas lights

Members failed to identify an appropriate location for a permanent tree. Cllr S Bennett proposed the green space outside the Spar. This location would not be suitable for a growing tree due to land ownership issues. Members were also concerned that a real tree could grow to a significant size and require yearly pruning with associated costs. Clerk reminded members that the costs associated with the yearly hire of the solar lighted post mounted trees would far exceed this.

Members resolved to erect a 'cut' Christmas Tree outside the Spar. Clerk to source a tree.

123/19 Parish Clerk Update

Moles continue to be removed from the garden area. The recent rainfall seems to have increased activity.

The Perry Room (Main Hall) has now been refreshed with a new coat of magnolia emulsion and the radiator covers gloss white. Other areas have been improved and a Perspex sheet wall mounted outside the toilets where the Beehive barrier has been rubbing against the wall.

A water leak in the disabled toilet has been repaired and now serviceable.

The Caretaker has now signed and returned a copy of their 'Contract of Employment' which is filed in the employment folder.

Clerk confirmed receipt of grant from Cllr A Carew for socket and post installation in Mill Lane to enable the SLR to be used at that location in either direction.

Storeroom extension to be reviewed by building contractors to get estimate of costs involved.

124/19 Update on Five Acres / Land Registry

Planning enforcement have responded to LPC as previously circulated. LPC to monitor.

125/19 Correspondence

Victim Support sent a thank you letter following receipt of their grant.

Meeting closed 8-00pm

Next meeting Tuesday 5th November 2019. Meeting to be chaired by Cllr D Barr
Cllr G Biddiscombe and Clerk S Holden shall be away for this meeting.

Initial and sign date final page once approved

Initials

Sign & Date