

**COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Copythorne Parish Hall – 27 February 2007**  
**(7.00 p.m. – 8.40 p.m.)**

**PRESENT:** Cllr G James (Chairman); Cllr Lady Kara Hawks, Cllr A Nisbet, Cllr J Samways, Cllr G Stenson and Cllr R Wray

District Councillor L Puttock	- by invitation
District Councillor D Tipp	- by invitation

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs G Hollands and Mrs K Heron

**113. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on 23 January and 13 February 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**114. MATTERS ARISING**

*(a) Claimed byway, Cadnam Common (99(c)/1/07):* A local resident had suggested that Newbridge residents should be alerted to the claim to record public rights of way with vehicles over Cadnam Common. Agreed, Clerk to prepare a letter for circulation – Councillor Stenson to deliver.

*(b) Highway site visit (111/2/07):* Site meeting to be attended by Councillors Lady Hara Hawks and Samways, plus the Chairman if available.

**115. DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

The following reports were received from District Councillors:

*Councillor Tipp:*

NFDC Council tax increased by 1.9% for 2007/08, one of the lowest increases in Hampshire.

*Councillor Puttock:*

- HCC claimed that the recent signage trials for Lyndhurst traffic on the M27 had eased the Lyndhurst situation without any material effect on Ashurst. The exercise may be repeated at peak periods
- concern about outstanding enforcement notices in the New Forest area, including 46 in Copythorne. A process was needed to reduce the backlog and, in particular, resolve some of the minor cases.

**116. CORRESPONDENCE**

*(a) Rural buses:* Following withdrawal of the no 31 bus from Brook, Bramshaw and Fritham, Bramshaw Parish Council were considering a weekly bus service to Waitrose in Romsey, to be operated by the Lower Test Valley Volunteer transport service. Copythorne were invited to contribute to the cost of a 3 months trial, which would be partly grant-aided by HCC.

Members queried the value of the initiative to Copythorne, particularly as there were regular buses to Totton and Southampton. It was agreed not to participate at present but to reconsider the position following the proposed trial.

*(b) Other matters:* Members noted the following additional correspondence:

- January crime figures from PC Bemand
- an e-mail from NFDC concerning enforcement of traffic regulation orders (yellow lines), following the transfer of responsibility from the Police to district councils (noted, no yellow lines in Copythorne)

- a consultation paper on a revised model code of conduct for local authority members (agreed, Chairman and Clerk authorised to respond following receipt of any comments from members)
- a letter from NFDC advising that, following advice from Counsel, Parish and Town Councils could be regarded as “interested parties” for the purposes of making representations on applications for liquor and public entertainment licences
- notice of the next NFDC/parish councils liaison meeting on 22 March 2007
- notice of the next NFALC meeting on 5 April 2007
- notice of a meeting of the New Forest Transport Forum on 15 March 2007
- a letter from Hampshire Highways dealing with outstanding highways matters (agreed, add the issue of a possible highway encroachment outside the Empress of Blandings to the list of items for the proposed highway tour)
- other correspondence as shown in the list accompanying the agenda

### **117. MATTERS PENDING**

Members reviewed the outstanding items list and agreed actions as shown:

- 459 (*Verge reinstatement, Pollards Moor Road*): Item to include verges outside Warawee Farm and Copperfield
- 468 (*Parish web site*): Clerk to discuss site management issues with Ashurst & Colbury PC
- 471 (*Potholes near Newbridge cattle grid*): Gravel being washed down to bridge and limiting road width
- 473 (*Condition of footpath 16*): Clerk to supply Councillor Stenson with contact details for Rights of Way Officer

### **118. FINANCE MATTERS**

(a) *Appointment of External Auditor*: A letter from the Audit Commission advised the appointment of Alun Williams as auditor to the Parish Council for the year 2006/07. This was an extension of the previous appointment to 2005/06, pending a further competitive tendering process.

Members also considered internal audit arrangements for 2006/07 and agreed to appoint John Murray for this purpose.

(b) *Current balances*:                      Deposit A/c £6,598.44                      Current A/c £648.90

(c) *Payments*: The following expenditure was approved:

<i>Cheque</i>		
596	British Telecommunications plc (Telephone line rental, February to April)	£35.99
597	M Derrick (Clerk's salary and expenses – February)	£445.07

### **119. MEMBERS' REPORTS**

*Councillor Nisbet*: Concern regarding damage to footpaths from horse riders

*Councillor Samways*: Width of Barrow Hill Road outside The Empress of Blandings still an issue. Agreed, raise at proposed site visit.

*Councillor James*: Loose concrete edging over ditch at war memorial. Agreed, investigate possible contractor or alternatively, Chairman and Councillor Wray to repair.

*Councillor Stenson*: Issue concerning liquor licences for use by Copythorne Amateur Theatrical Society at Copythorne Parish Hall. Licences for the hall limited to twelve a year, with CATS being allocated 4 plus any still unallocated by the middle of the year. However, the Society would like to have a minimum of six to cover all productions.

*Councillor Lady Kara Hawks:* Damaged hedge and half-demolished hut at the rear of Bluebeckers. Chairman to inspect.

Brambles etc on land opposite Whitegates in Old Romsey Road which are masking the river height.

Councillor Lady Kara Hawks to investigate land ownership.

## **120. PLANNING MATTERS**

*(a) Current planning application:* Members agreed to comment as follows on current applications:

07/91209      Chantry Cottage, Old Lyndhurst Road (Two-storey rear extension; replacement garage). Support (3)

07/91224      The Briars, Winsor Road, Winsor (Retention of rear conservatory). Support (3)

*(b) Decisions etc:* Members noted details of recent planning decisions, as shown in the paper tabled at the meeting (appendix 1 in the minute book).

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

Mr Moriarty raised the following matters during the public participation period:

Flooding, Chinham Road and Shepherds Road (Council to pursue again with Surveyor)

Absence of Parish newsletter (Chairman explained the cost implications and referred to the

Council's use of Stanleys Own (available to residents for an annual subscription). Councillor Lady Kara Hawks to supply Mr Moriarty with copy of latest edition)

Parish Plan (Council has agreed to discuss further after the May elections)

Footpaths map (Council will advise Mr Moriarty of cost for supplying a map of parish footpaths)