



COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER 2023

In this issue:

- Affordable Housing in the Parish - NFNPA Planning Committee
- Forestry England - Update on use of Public Space Protection Orders in the New Forest
- Barrow Hill Road - Street Sign Refurbishment
- Hampshire Hedge Project
- Environment Agency and Property Flood Resilience

Affordable Housing in the Parish, NFNPA Planning Committee

At its meeting on September 26th 2023, members of the NFNPA Planning Committee voted unanimously to defer a decision on the planning application for Land to the East of New Inn Road (22/00498).

The deferral was to seek additional detailed information on the applicant's proposals for surface water drainage.

All other possible grounds for refusal were considered by the Planning Committee to have been addressed by the applicant's submissions.

A deferral by the Planning Committee

of a decision on a planning application is a rare event and reflected the desire of its members to be able to satisfy their concerns as to the impact of the development on both existing residents of the local area and on the residents of the development with regard to surface water drainage and potential flooding if consent was to be granted.

The Parish Council has written to the NFNPA asking for details of what information they will be seeking from the applicant.



Forestry England, Update on use of Public Space Protection Orders in the New Forest



Newly granted powers were used in the New Forest this summer to intervene in over 150 incidents involving the petting/feeding of New Forest ponies or donkeys and the use of BBQs and fires on the open forest.

Staff from Forestry England, the New Forest National Park Authority and the Verderers of the New Forest were granted powers this summer to enforce two new Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) introduced by New Forest District Council.

The orders aim to protect the forest from wildfires by banning BBQs and fires and prohibit feeding and petting ponies or donkeys to improve public safety and animal welfare.

Failure to comply could result in a fixed penalty fine or prosecution.

Over the first three months of the new PSPOs, the New Forest team used the new powers to intervene in 152 incidents involving over 700 people.

More than 120 of the incidents involved petting and feeding ponies or donkeys.

Those involved were made aware of the rules and potential fine to prevent them approaching the animals and to intervene where people were getting too close. No fines were issued.

Only around a fifth of the overall number of PSPO related incidents involved using BBQs and fires on the Forest.

This may have been affected in part by this summer's mixed weather and reflects an overall downward trend in their use compared to during last year's heatwave.

Despite this, 30 engagements were recorded where staff intervened using the potential fine to stop the use of a number of BBQs, campfires and even a pizza oven set up on the Forest.



Forestry England

The Clerk to the Council, David Rigby may be contacted by
Post at: 9 The Cleaves, West Totton, Southampton SO40 8WL by Telephone 023 8112 0150
or via Email: parishclerk@copythorne.org.uk | Website: www.copythorne.org.uk



Barrow Hill Road - Street Sign Refurbishment

Following the outcome of a recent consultation with the residents of Barrow Hill Road, the street sign opposite the Empress of Blandings is to be temporarily removed for refurbishment.

Some 34 properties were contacted either directly

or by leaflet and of the 22 replies received over 75% wanted the sign refurbished rather than be replaced with a plastic version or left as it is.

Whilst the sign is away for refurbishment a temporary one will take its place.



Hampshire Hedge Project

In the May 2023 edition of this newsletter we brought you news of an exciting scheme being launched by the Hampshire Branch of CPRE (formerly known as the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England).

This project seeks to "join" the two National Parks in Hampshire (the New Forest and the South Downs) with a green corridor from Copythorne to Compton, near Winchester.

On October 10th 2023 Alison Talbot (Operations Manager for Hampshire CPRE) gave an update on the project

at the monthly Parish Council meeting.

Alison, advised that the project is gathering momentum.

Funding support has been obtained from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Hedgerow Foraging Walks to learn more about the importance of hedgerows have been taking place including one in Copythorne.

Links have been formed with various bodies and organisations including the NFNPA Trees Team; Forestry

England; Paultons Park; Greening Copythorne; and many of the parish councils along the proposed route.

CPRE is keen to involve local schools; scouts and guide groups; and local community groups. Locally, the Parish Council will be reaching out to these types of organisations.



A copy of Alison's update to the Parish Council can be found with the papers for the October 10th meeting at <https://www.copythorne.org.uk/council-meetings/> and more information on the project is available at <https://www.cprehampshire.org.uk/>



Environment Agency and Property Flood Resilience

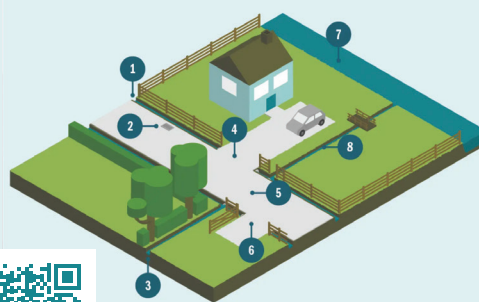
Back in June 2023 we reported that the Environment Agency (the "EA") along with HCC were offering property owners in Cadnam and Bartley (whose homes were alongside one of the main rivers that run through the Parish) a free survey to identify what preventative measures might be available to them to help protect them from flooding.

Several property owners took up the offer and the survey reports are now being issued to them.

It isn't too late for others in those areas yet to take up the offer to contact the EA/HCC team to see if they are eligible to participate in the scheme.

If you are interested then please contact the Parish Clerk using the details at the bottom of page 1.

Who is responsible for maintaining watercourses?



Report flooding and maintenance incidents to Hampshire County Council at: hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance/roadproblems/flooding



- Roadside ditch**
Responsibility of adjacent landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Remove silt and obstructions regularly.
- Road gully**
Responsibility of Highway Authority to maintain.
Maintenance: All gullies on adopted roads are on a regular cleaning schedule.
- Boundary ditch**
Responsibility of landowners each side to maintain up to the middle point.
Maintenance: Remove silt and obstructions regularly.
- Pipe under driveway**
Responsibility of adjacent landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Clear trash screens and rod pipe.
- Pipe running from one side of the road to the other**
Responsibility of Highway Authority to maintain.
Maintenance: Regularly rod or jet to remove blockages and build up.
- Pipe under field access**
Responsibility of adjacent landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Clear trash screens and rod pipe.
- Watercourse at boundary**
Responsibility of landowners each side to maintain up to the middle point.
Maintenance: Remove any obstructions.
- Watercourse within land**
Responsibility of landowner to maintain.
Maintenance: Remove silt and obstructions regularly.



The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled to be held on **Tuesday, November 14th 2023** in the Parish Hall.

Please check our website the week before to confirm the arrangements and view the agenda.

Details of individual Parish Councillors plus information on District and County Councillors may be found on the Parish Council website and on our community notice boards and information hubs. (the old red telephone boxes).



Printed copies are available from ♦ Forest Pharmacy ♦ Fourways Stores (Bartley Post Office) ♦ Budgens Woodington Feeds ♦ Coach and Horses, Compass Inn and The Empress of Blandings as well as the four information Hubs – the former red telephone boxes.