

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Minutes 14th April 2015

Public Time:

Members of the Public attended the meeting and had the following comments:

- a. The hardcopy newsletter was delayed last month due to printing time/Easter. Renaming the newsletter in line with Overton News & Viejws to the following month will help longevity. All agreed next newsletter will be dated May i.e. skip April, Email timing will remain end of each month.
- b. It was raised that the last newsletter did not mention the actual length of the proposed pub accommodation building. It had referred instead to the fact that it was to be as long as the current building. The PC explained that they thought the comparative reference had been perhaps a better measure for people to understand the scale of the building.
- c. It was noted that there is a build-up of Earth by the fence at Manor Cottages. **Action:** Bob to look at this and instruct clerk to send letter to Sovereign if needed
- d. It was questioned whether VAT was to be levied on Tennis club rent. The PC responded that they had met with the Tennis Club who had explained that this would merely reduce the amount available from club funds to maintain the area and that it had never been mentioned in the original agreement.
- e. A resident asked whether anything further had been done re renting the Ref's room and that it should perhaps be offered out to everyone. They added that garage rents as a comparison were £7.04 on average per week in 2011. The PC discussed that the room may also be used for storage for playground contractors.
- f. It was also mentioned that in a national newspaper recently there was an article on funding being available for Millennium Greens and that locally grants are available from B&D

1. Apologies for Absence: Jim Marsh, Charlie Seligman

In attendance: Bob Hough, Clare Albert, David Ellis, Nixie Graham

As an uncontested election had taken place with 6 candidates nominated as Parish Councillors the attending Parish councillors signed their **Declarations of Office**. Nixie then proposed and Clare seconded that Bob Hough should be reinstated as Chairman. Bob proposed and Nixie seconded that Clare Albert should be reinstated as Vice Chairman. All in approval on both counts.

Bob then welcomed David Ellis onto the Parish Council and thanked Richard for his many years of service and local knowledge now that he had retired. **Action:** Post results in newsletter

2. Signed and approved minutes from full PC meeting on the 10th March 2015 & Planning meeting of 24th March

3. Bombay Sapphire

BS reported the following:

- Weeds on path beside 13 Marsden court have now been cleared. The fence will be done later
- A discussion about the fence behind Marsden Court ensued with confirmation that the land behind is owned by the Millennium Green. The fence is probably jointly Marsden Court /Millennium Green. **Action:** Clerk to post in newsletter for Marsden Court residents not to dump garden waste in Millennium Green, just beyond fence-line
- BS have provided a donation to Kingfisher – this was resulting from reparations from scrap cable that had previously been “taken without permission” from their site!

4. Dog stealing

There has recently been a bad spate of dog stealing (for dog fighting) in the surrounding area with dogs being taken whilst on walks and from gardens. The Police are not in a position to take action locally. Dog owners have been asked to keep eyes open and not to leave dogs in garden. **Action:** Include in newsletter

5. Maintenance Issues

5.3 **Drop kerb at Watch Lane and soakaway** – clerk meeting with Steve Goodall Mon 27th April. Add road markings onto discussion list

5.4 **Littering at end of Laverstoke Lane** – Clerk to make contact with Alan Tully, B&D Cleansing about the state of the lane sides at the Micheldever end.

5.5 **Lights** – The new lights are not being dimmed and have not been shielded yet: A Freefolk resident has asked why the lights opposite Manor Cottages were not Heritage style. Also one new light still not working at end of Laverstoke Lane **Action:** clerk to liaise with Julian Higgins in first instance and then SSE to request shielding and dimmable to c 30% at night

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5.6 **Grass cutting** – A quote has been received for £1612.80 ex VAT for grass cutting for the parish. All agreed to accept quote for this year. **Action:** consider getting area around Tennis Court cut. Approach BS re joining forces with Millennium Green and PC for maintenance quotes for next year.

6. **BT Broadband**

Our BT contact has made inroads into the BT Fibre Team where a team member is trying to understand our local connectivity history and infrastructure. Technology has evolved since BT Infinity. Also we have many connectivity issues locally possibly due to aluminium having been used in the past when copper was in short supply.

7. **PC Election, May PC AGM, Annual Parish assembly** – With 6 councillors nominated and elected, a place exists for a 7th Councillor to be co-opted. Also planning for a May 7th PC election had meant that due to required notice periods for meetings we had pushed the PC AGM and Parish Assembly back a week to 19th May. It was agreed by all to pull this forward to 12th again as Millennium Green have their AGM on 19th May. **Action:** post in newsletter and on Facebook

8. **Set Garage Site rent** – The Garage site rent at Manor Cottages hasn't been reviewed for many years. It was agreed that it should be looked at annually. A motion was passed that it would be increased to £30 for this year with all in agreement.

9. **Community Site**

1. Landscaping around LRH – Will be going ahead. However, the grass needs removing and heavy labouring required. **Action:** clerk to ask Gill if she knows of anyone we can contract, also consider Hardy's or other solution. Agreement given to using some funding towards this if needed.

2. Hire of old Referee Room under LRH **Action:** clerk to liaise with Charlie re how this could work as storage only. Playground works will also require an area for storage. In the meantime re-board the area.

3. Usage of Pavilion – Feedback from couple of residents was that they do not want it used for noisy industrial type activity. One further resident has expressed an interest for storage. PC discussed this and agreed that we should widen net for interested parties to Overton and Whitchurch. It was agreed that it would ideally be for quite arts and craft type activities. Bob has contacted Philip Denee, the De La Rue agent, to explain that we may wish to hire out the Pavilion. He would need a proposal including how the building will be renovated and maintained before he could go to DLR. **Action:** research interest on Whitchurch Web and Test newsletter. Ask Jim to review De La Rue lease to check if/how we could structure a sublease.

4. Rough Area by tennis Courts – The contractor has gone to ground and so it was proposed to seek an alternative, possibly to be combined with the LRH grass removal/levelling work needed.

5. Playground update – 5 quotes have been received to replace multiplay equipment and ground surface. Sovereign was deemed best provider. Shorter term work can be done to get rid of spare rings on swings and other items posing safety risk. New multiplay equipment should ensure 100% risk free. Sovereign attending 19th May MG AGM. **Action:** questionnaire from MG to be included in newsletter, surveying usage. Gathered data will help support funding requests

6. Clear Up Day: thanks had been received from WTC and OBA for very successful Good Friday village clear up. It was proposed that whenever possible Millennium Green and PC Village clear ups would be combined. Clare had received £42 for the scrap metal that had been removed from the site which will be used towards digging/grass seeding of rough area beside courts. **Action:** It was agreed that in Sept there would be a Freefolk clear up day. This would be focussed around taking down and burning the old dilapidated garages. Clerk to ask Gill if she can get quote from Penwood for fast growing clematis/roses for remaining fencing around old court. Clerk to organise digger to level rough ground and scrape old tennis court.

10. **Parish Website** www.laverstokeandfreefolk.org.uk. **Action:** include in Newsletter that businesses who want to be referenced should send us: Jpeg logo, couple of lines as to what they do, link to website and contact details.

11. **Grants** – a grant request was made by St Mary's Church for churchyard maintenance. **Action:** Clerk to send required forms for completion by Church and also to Senior citizens. Millennium Green to be considered for grant in July

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12. Financial Summary March 7th - April 13th 2015

Balances on 13.04.15:

1. Parish Council Accounts **£6600.43**

Paid In

31.03.15 VAT repay from CC a/c £639.93

Paid Out

18.3.15 Clerk Salary (Jan) £387
18.3.15 Ink £48.58
18.3.15 Bus shelter clean £9.71
20.3.15 Mill Green Grant £723
20.3.15 Expenses(tel, post, park etc.) £31.28
22.3.15 Expenses (mileage) £18.90
23.3.15 Clerk Salary (Feb) £373.68
23.3.15 HMRC PAYE £13.32
31.3.15 Expenses (tel) £20
31.3.15 Clerk Salary (March) £275.36
23.3.15 HMRC PAYE £111.64

2. Community Centre Account **£28209.10**

Paid in

12.03.15 Hampshire Farm Women £50
12.03.15 T. Boyd (party) £50
12.03.15 WTC (Race Night) £85
13.03.15 VAT repayment £132.62
13.03.15 G Jennings (Yoga with Gloria) £22.50
21.03.15 S. Brown (Party) £75
23.03.15 LRH Landscaping Donation £250
26.03.15 J. Ruffell (Kettlebells) £90
03.04.15 S Lee (Yogamaniac) £30

Paid Out

22.03.15 Wilko Cleaning Materials £19.90
31.03.15 VAT repay to PC a/c £639.93
07.04.15 EON Gas £247.13
10.04.15 EON Elect £39.84
10.04.15 HMRC VAT £25.04

A discussion ensued about having a reserves policy, given we have potential projects that we may wish to address in the coming months and years. On the projects list currently are Freefolk car park, playground, pavilion demolition (if not renovated) **Action:** PC to create a Reserves Policy. Clerk to create budget doc on google docs.

13. **Correspondence** – no major items outside of election information that has been forwarded to Parish Councillors

14. Planning

Update on Wind Farm Planning Appeal - Land At Bullington Cross , Upper Norton Farm, Sutton Scotney. The appellant, EDF, have submitted a number of amendments to the Planning Departments. They have prepared an assessment of the revised indicative grid connection route, updated access and swept path drawings, a detailed residential visual amenity study, an ecological Update Phase 1 survey and related desk-based assessments. The visualisations have been updated to reflect the latest best practice guidance, which are to be read alongside the Environmental Statement (including the November 2013 SEI) which accompanied the planning application. This information has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and the Councils for consideration.

The PC looked at some of the new visualisations relating to the most local sites. Most were undertaken with Summer foliage in view. **Action:** The PC to review all docs and submit response to Planning Depts. Bob to circulate response.

Date of next full PC meeting: 12th May 2015 at 7.30pm at Lady Rose Hall

Sign.....Date.....

