

Laverstoke and Freefolk Parish Council Meeting 7 February 2023 Minutes

Public Time:

- a) A resident raised the frequency of Bombay Sapphire attendance at PC meetings. They felt it should be monthly so they can raise any issues; they have trouble making contact otherwise. On Sun 29 Jan e.g. some nuisance visitors were abusive and unwell, causing a danger as they crossed the road and disturbing the community. This situation is not isolated. David explained that the PC had asked for BS to attend quarterly which maintains the licence requirement and balances the need for personnel to attend outside of their working day with the benefit of new information/updates. If there is something to be raised the PC can invite them to attend other PC meetings. BS have said a point of contact can be given. **Action:** agree plan of communication with Bombay Sapphire.
- b) The Men's Shed representative confirmed Bob Hough has resigned as Chairman. The trustees are willing to meet with the PC regarding licensing and to discuss maintenance.
- c) A member of the public raised ivy growth on Manor Cottages fence and requested letter to resident/housing association. A large tree branch has fallen by the Freefolk sign obscuring it. **Action:** Request cut back. They warned of a potential home insulation scam. They had made a Warmer Homes application in Nov and still hadn't heard back. With deadline for completion of work in March they don't hold much hope for the process. They also wondered if we could make a request in the newsletter for someone to run a Warm Hub on a Sat in the hall. (The Test Valley Men's Shed rep explained they are open on Sat morning and are happy to act as a warm hub.) They brought attention to the Overton Heritage Trail that includes a permissive path courtesy of James and Jackie Crosby Dawson. They would also like 20 copies of the Andover bus timetable to circulate. They also requested a phone number for contacting the National Women's Register.

Borough Cllr Update – none

County Cllr Update – circulated by email. Includes progress on making 20mph limits easier for villages to implement following last year's consultation and report. Looking for approval by cabinet in June. Also service demand across Highways remains extremely high - demand far exceeds capacity at the present time and consequently all work is having to be prioritised by risk posed.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Julia Chedgey, Diccon Harvey, Andrew White
In attendance: David Ellis, Jo Probut, Jayne Hudson, Jim Marsh
2. **Declarations of interest** - David: PCC, Millennium Green; Jim: Tennis club
3. **Signature and approval of minutes** of PC meeting of 3 January 2023
4. **Bombay Sapphire** – Helen Coles provided an update, firstly introducing Josh who has replaced Giada in Dec. She then addressed the comments made in public time explaining BS have to adhere to strict rules on inebriation. When someone looks inebriated they must stop serving them, their staff are trained and they implement Challenge 25 ID checks. She will investigate the particular incident reported including reviewing the CCTV record.
The Visitor Centre side is quiet after a busy Dec and is now closed to consumers on Mon and Tues. However private events are still taking place in the day. Linked to the economic downturn they foresee a decrease in future visitor numbers and are adjusting accordingly. They expect to see pick up from April but not to pre-Covid levels. Day time events are still doing well.
Josh reported that production has just had their biggest shutdown ever over the last 3 weeks to replace still parts and to maintain sprinkler systems. They are developing a lab for creating new speciality gins which is expected to be completed by June. It involves major internal building

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works. It means the only empty buildings remaining on site will be 21 and 22 (over the river).

David asked about use of the café by residents. Currently it is only open for guests. When BS were planning 100k visitors p.a. they couldn't open the café to the public because of car parking limitations. However, with reduced numbers now planned they are awaiting new planning permits. In meantime (walk in) residents may be able to use the café which is currently open 10-4pm.

5. **Portals Closure Update** – Nothing further to report
6. **Maintenance items** – There is a manhole in the playground that needs urgent repair around the rim. It sits in the Millennium Green but serves the Pavilion. **Action:** Ask Phil Bond to quote. It was reported by the archers that the lower bracket on the gate from the Millennium Green by the flagpole has been kicked and damaged. A member had repaired it.
7. **Review of SID** – The PC had heard from BS that they also can't increase their SID contribution. The PC have budgeted £732. The new service will cost £2040. The PC needs to consider whether it pays out of LRH reserves, mothballs the device for a period or perhaps go back to Simone Surveys and ask what service we can get for our budget. David proposed the latter option, Jo seconded and all agreed.
8. **Climate change** – Lucy Arthur has emailed regarding reducing plastic bag usage by supporting the Morsbag initiative. Shops in Overton use these instead of plastic bags. Volunteers are needed to make the bags and this will be included in the next newsletter.
9. **Projects List**
 - 9.1. **Car Park** – We have not received a response to our last email to Sovereign. The project is dead. It was discussed we should invite people from Manor Cottages to a consultation on what we should do instead. It has been suggested we put a barrier around the area used for cars, plant shrubs on the green area and stop cutting it. **Action:** organise a consultation day.
 - 9.2. **Beech Hedge, Laverstoke** – The local farm are prepared to cut the hedge on Sat 9 Feb by tractor with hedge-cutting arm. They have quoted £500. Letters have been prepared for residents opposite to arrange removal of cars from the road and inside hedge areas. Jo will also speak to the residents. Jo proposed going ahead, Jayne seconded and all agreed.
 - 9.3. **Wall and steps repair beside Kingfisher** – B&D want confirmation of when spend will take place. Nicky meeting with Phil Bond on Sat. **Action:** confirm 2023/24
 - 9.4. **Garages at Freefolk** – the PC discussed reinstating garage licences. There are 2 remaining garages. Licensing was halted temporarily as car park works were expected. **Action:** Nicky to check usage and Jim to help review licence
10. **2023/24 Parish Council Plans** – David has produced an outline plan. It was discussed that it should be worked on by a wider group before being presented for review and approval by full council. **Action:** organise working party
11. **Community Site updates**
 - 11.1. Pavilion and latest on Licences – David proposed and Jo seconded moving this to confidential session
 - 11.2. Lady Rose Hall – During the damp weather in Jan, the wooden floor has blown again but in a different spot. Nicky has taped it to mitigate against the rough surface and agreed with the nursery to watch it for a month. It has still not completely flat. The PC discussed and agreed to keep a watching brief for another month. It may need to be repaired, as previously. The microwave has broken but it was felt it is not an integral part of hall hire and should not be replaced.
 - 11.3. Tennis and archery area – The tennis lights appeal has formally started on 7 Feb. It was discussed that a working party should draft a response. **Action:** confirm deadline for

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representations - B&D shows 28 Feb and Appeal Inspectorate 14 March. Plan for Public/PC meeting on 7 March or for an Extraordinary PC meeting, as appropriate.

12. Finance

12.1. Jan 2023 finance summaries - see table at end of minutes

12.2. Items over £100:

Laverstoke & Freefolk Parish Council		Items over £100	
Reporting Year:	Year to 31 March 2023 (10 of 12)		
Month:	January 2023		
Sum of Net			
Supplier	Description	Months	Total
Clerk	Clerk salary	Jan	£(399.00)
The little Yoga Company	Hall hire	Jan	£ 137.50
Watership Down Nursery	Hall hire	Jan	£ 758.63
	Nursery rent	Jan	£ 758.63
Shaun Douglas	Fencing	Jan	£(790.00)
Silviu Tudorache	Hall hire deposit	Jan	£ 100.00
Broxap	Jubilee goods	Jan	£(514.00)

12.3. Payments over £250 to approve: none

12.4. Changes to bank mandates. It was agreed that Bob should be replaced with Jayne. (David, Jo and Nicky to remain.) David proposed, Jo seconded and all agreed.

13. Correspondence

13.1. Feedback from B&D ref: 22/03114/FUL - Watership Down Inn. B&D have already visited site, are asking similar questions to L&FPC and are awaiting answers.

13.2. 9 Jan B&D final council tax base formalised at 166.5. It is expected therefore that the amount of L&F PC precept per house will be reduced even though total precept amount was increased slightly over the previous year.

13.3. 24 Jan Highways Update from HCC cabinet – many issues with potholes and flooding due to poor weather

13.4. 26 Jan B&D Voter ID introduction for 4 May polling & L&FPC election – David attending 15 Feb election training. Voter ID info was included in Feb newsletter

13.5. 27 Jan HCC Lengthsman scheme for 2023/24 – request to Juliet has been made for L&F participation

14. Planning

14.1. **Ref: 22/03408/LBC Location: Bombay** Sapphire Distillery, Laverstoke Mill. Proposal: the internal reconfiguration and refurbishment of the existing Visitor WCs to the Mill Bar, Building 4 and Building 18, each to provide a Unisex WC arrangement. Discussed and no comments to be made.

14.2. **Any plans received after 2 Feb 2023** – Notification of start of tennis lights appeal starting today 7 Feb. **BDBC Appeal Ref: 22/00052/REF & Inspectorate Appeal Ref: APP/H1705/W/22/3311213.** As briefly discussed under 11.3 above

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Laverstoke & Freefolk Parish Council

Reporting Year: Year to 31 March 2023 (10 of 12)

Income and Expenditure Statement (Cash basis)

Month: January 2023

All £	Parish Council				Community Site				Total		
	Month	YTD	Full year Budget	Budget Remaining	Month	YTD	Full year Budget	Budget Remaining	Month	YTD	Full year Budget
Precept	-	9,945	9,945	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,945	9,945
Grants	-	2,390	337	(2,053)	-	-	-	-	-	2,390	337
Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hall Hire - Nursery	-	-	-	-	1,517	7,353	8,500	1,147	1,517	7,353	8,500
Hall Hire - Other	-	-	-	-	220	1,450	1,200	(250)	220	1,450	1,200
Hall Hire deposit	-	-	-	-	100	1,100	-	(1,100)	100	1,100	-
Cost Recoveries	-	-	-	-	-	2,016	3,504	1,488	-	2,016	3,504
Site Rent	-	-	-	-	-	1,943	1,943	-	-	1,943	1,943
Other Income	4	15	1	(14)	-	67	-	(67)	4	82	1
Total Income	4	12,351	10,283	(2,068)	1,837	13,929	15,147	1,218	1,841	26,280	25,430
Contribution	-	-	1,750	1,750	-	-	(1,750)	(1,750)	-	-	-
PC/CC cost charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers	-	-	1,750	1,750	-	-	(1,750)	(1,750)	-	-	-
Salary/Newsletter	(399)	(3,880)	(4,716)	(837)	(44)	(430)	(524)	(94)	(443)	(4,309)	(5,240)
Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insurance	-	-	(557)	(557)	-	(2,833)	(1,924)	909	-	(2,833)	(2,481)
Professional fees	-	(662)	(689)	(27)	-	(763)	-	763	-	(1,425)	(689)
IT costs	(2)	(511)	(443)	69	-	(42)	(58)	(16)	(2)	(553)	(501)
Grounds Maint.	-	(1,623)	(1,277)	346	-	(43)	(560)	(517)	-	(1,666)	(1,837)
Street Lighting & Furniture	-	(473)	(544)	(71)	-	-	-	-	-	(473)	(544)
SID Management	-	(690)	(732)	(42)	-	-	-	-	-	(690)	(732)
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-	(1,924)	(3,761)	(1,837)	-	(1,924)	(3,761)
Bldgs Repair/Maint.	-	-	-	-	(790)	(2,234)	(3,000)	(766)	(790)	(2,234)	(3,000)
Bldgs Planned Maint.	-	-	-	-	(19)	(378)	(761)	(383)	(19)	(378)	(761)
Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	(407)	-	407	-	(407)	-
Cleaning	-	-	-	-	-	(41)	(104)	(63)	-	(41)	(104)
Other expenses	(536)	(2,372)	(296)	2,076	(5)	(750)	(60)	690	(541)	(3,122)	(356)
Total Expenses	(937)	(10,211)	(9,254)	957	(859)	(9,845)	(10,752)	(907)	(1,795)	(20,056)	(20,006)
Grants Made	-	(958)	(1,200)	(242)	-	-	-	-	-	(958)	(1,200)
Project costs	-	-	(1,500)	(1,500)	-	-	(1,500)	(1,500)	-	-	(3,000)
Net Vat	(106)	(814)	-	814	344	1,020	-	(1,020)	238	206	-
Net cash Movement	(1,039)	368	79	(290)	1,322	5,104	1,146	(3,959)	284	5,473	1,224
Cash b/f	5,935	5,172	5,247	75	65,182	60,755	5,247	(55,508)	71,116	65,927	10,494
Cash c/f	4,896	5,540	5,326	(215)	66,504	65,860	6,393	(59,467)	71,400	71,400	11,718

Next PC meeting: 7 March at 7.30pm in Lady Rose Hall.

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