

THESE MINUTES ARE DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED AND AGREED AT THE NEXT MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of Buriton Parish Council held at Buriton Village Hall, at 7:00pm on Monday 27th September 2021.

Present: Cllr D Jones (Chair), Cllr L Ashcroft, Cllr A Bray, Cllr T Crew, Cllr M Johnston, Cllr L Lloyd, Cllr S Stevens, Cllr T Wheeler, County & District Cllr Mocatta and Mrs P Norris, Clerk

In attendance: There were two members of the public in attendance and also Chris Paterson (SDNPA) for item 7.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Coates.

2. Declarations of Interest

Declaration of interest from both Cllr Jones and Cllr Mocatta – as a Member of the South Downs National Park Authority, the Local Planning Authority for the area, I wish to make it clear that any views which I express today are based on information before me at this meeting and might change in the light of further information and/or debate at National Park meetings. This is to make it clear that I am keeping an open mind on the issues and cannot therefore be found to have predetermined any matter if it should come before me at the National Park for decision. Cllr Mocatta declared that he is a member of the South Downs National Park Authority's Planning Committee. Cllr Jones also declared that he is also a member of the South Downs Local Access Forum: a body which advises Hampshire County Council, SDNPA and others about their decisions in relation to Rights of Way and about making improvements to public access for outdoor recreation and sustainable travel. It is purely advisory and has no decision-making powers. Cllrs Jones and Johnston stated that they are member of Buriton Tennis Club. Cllr Lloyd stated that he is a committee member of Petersfield Junior Football. He also declared an interest in a matter in the planning section of the agenda as he is a neighbour.

3. To approve minutes from BPC meeting held on 26th July 2021.

The draft minutes of the meeting on 26th July 2021 were approved as a correct record and the Chairman will sign a copy for the Council's Minutes Books. **Action: Cllr Jones.**

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 26th July 2021.

- Pond Green Bridge Matt Marriott is still planning to finish this work.
- Bank signatories: Cllrs Coates and Stevens yet to be added.
- Monks Walk: Clirs Jones, Johnston and Lloyd still to meet to discuss the way forward.
- BT connection to the church: not yet installed.
- Finance Committee review of insurance values for Parish Council buildings and Asset Register: not yet undertaken.
- Staging stored in the village hall: not yet considered by the Hall Committee.
- Proposals from Buriton School for School Meadow further details still awaited.
- Halls Hill: Queen Elizabeth Country Park is waiting to hear from Cllr Bray about adjustments to positions of logs if required. Action: Cllr Bray
- Halls Hill area: all actions taken by HCC/QECP continue to work well. Parish Council monitoring continues. Capacity of car park appears adequate.
- Tree near Kiln Lane entrance to recreation ground yet to be removed.
- BT have now removed the phone equipment from the kiosk in the High Street and it has been acquired by the Parish Council, awaiting installation of the defibrillator by the defib team.

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- Following the inclusion of our Dark Night Skies work in an event for parish councils, enquiries received from other parts of the National Park / beyond and the BBC World Service visit to the village on 26th July to record an interview (broadcast here) the Parish Council has also been selected to be the feature of a 'Case Study' report for SDNPA
- Broken Slats on bench by the play park on the agenda
- Spring on the gate to the playground on the agenda
- CIL report submitted to SDNPA
- ROW issues re The Links reported to HCC and about the South Downs Way reported to SDNPA. No reply received from HCC. Action: Clerk to chase.
- HCC Highways had been asked again about response to Greenway Lane Development but with no reply. Cllr Mocatta agreed to look into this.
- Commemorative Bench Cllr Johnston informed the meeting that there were issues with the grass steps and that correspondence had been received about rusting of nails on the bench back. Due to the weather, the position of the grass steps and the use, these are now muddy. It is proposed to place wood chips down and to replace the screws. These proposals were agreed. Cllr Johnston also reported that the small wall around the War Memorial is deteriorating. It was agreed that the Lengthsman be asked to remove the vegetation which is contributing to the damage to the wall. It was agreed to include a budget for works for the next financial year and to look at a grant from the War Memorial Trust. Action: Cllr Johnston

5. Coronavirus and Chairman's Update

The Chairman reported that, for the first time in about 18 months, there were no particular updates or issues relating to coronavirus.

6. County and District Councillor's Reports

County and District Cllr Mocatta presented his reports, attached to these minutes, the main points are:

EHDC:

- Cllr Mocatta has grants available: £3,000 from EHDC and more from HCC. Cllrs discussed ideas of small signs for the Pollinator Project and funding to help carry out the necessary works to the wall near the War Memorial. Any grant awarded must be used within a year.
- Green Waste Collection there is a delay in collection due to a shortage of drivers, it is about 2 weeks behind but crews are working weekends.
- Climate conference unfortunately Lord Deben is now unable to attend. EHDC is planning to provide small businesses with information on how they can help address climate change.

HCC:

- Fly tipping has increased, HCC are working with other authorities to catch the culprits.
- A query was raised about the grass cutting in residential areas which leaves large clumps of rotten grass which smells, looks bad and changes the soil adversely. Cllr Mocatta explained that this is being looked at with a possible cut and collect operation. Detailed maps are being produced to be given to the contractors as to what is cut and the frequency. It was agreed that as part of the Pollinator Project how often and what is cut in Buriton could be looked at. There is a pilot scheme in East Sussex where the grass is only cut twice a year but picked up. Parish Councillors asked if HCC had a cut and collect machine or would be obtaining one and hoped that this sort of machine could be used on occasions by parish councils for their own land (eg. the edges of the Recreation Ground). Setting a good example by responsible cutting could help with wider education and awareness. Cllr Mocatta said that he would also ask about these ideas. **Action: Cllr Mocatta**

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7. Health & Wellbeing Hub - Chris Paterson, SDNPA

Chris Paterson who is the Communities Lead at SDNPA attended the meeting to inform Cllrs about Health & Wellbeing Hubs that are being developed within the South Downs National Park. Use is being made of underused community buildings in parishes. The NPA are currently looking at what facilities exist and the transport links to those facilities.

A Health & Wellbeing Hub allows more people to access the South Downs by providing facilities and services for people. Doctors, pharmacists and other service providers socially prescribe access to the countryside for health and wellbeing. This could be walking groups, art therapy etc. There are several operating in East Sussex.

Chris is currently looking at raising funds through the South Downs Trust so that a parish council can apply for a grant to create a Health and Wellbeing Hub. If the facility was rented out to groups providing the hub, revenue could be received.

Parish councils will be able to target when their facilities can be used for the hub: for example not at weekends when there are already many visitors to the area. Chris agreed to provide details of the parish councils who already have Health & Wellbeing Hubs.

Cllr Mocatta left the meeting at 7.50pm.

Open Forum

A resident, who is a member of the Commemorative Bench Working Group, raised the issue of the condition of the steps leading to the bench as previously mentioned by Cllr Johnston. The group wish to recreate a base and shore up the steps and put down wood chippings. It is hoped that the community group will carry out the works in October. The resident asked that the Cllrs accept the proposals. Cllrs had already agreed to this work but would mention it in the community emails to ask for volunteers.

A resident asked what would happen if sports teams started up and needed the changing rooms, the resident was reassured that all this would be considered in the future of the changing rooms.

8. Finance and Accounts

- It was noted that the external audit has been completed and that all the relevant notices have been posted on the website and the noticeboard. The Chair thanked the Clerk and the internal auditor, Tim Light, for their hard work.
- Summary of reserves Cllrs approved the reserves, noted that money had been used for repairs to the playground and the Village Hall car park and that £61,494 was now available for work to the village hall.
- Approve receipts and payments up to 20th September 2021 for the Parish Council –
 Clirs approved 9 receipts totalling £19,190.71 and 8 payments totalling £6,765.86. Multiple
 payments (in and out) from Andrews Newby appeared on the list but the Clerk reassured
 the meeting that the correct payment had been received.
- Approve receipts and payments up to 20th September 2021 for the Village Hall Cllrs approved 13 receipts totalling £1,527.00 and 27 payments totalling £21,490.17.
- Budget against performance up to 20th September 2021 Cllrs clarified a small number of gueries and noted the budget against performance.
- Renewal of Insurance the renewal of the insurance had been received and it was noted that the valuations of assets had been increased. All Cllrs accepted the quote for renewal at a cost of £2,753.50. It was agreed that the duty of fair presentation of the risks to the insurers had been met.
- Budget Workshop Cllr agreed to hold a workshop late October/early November. Cllr Johnston agreed to host and arrange a date.

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9. Village Hall and Recreation Report

The Chairman summarised points from a report which is attached to these minutes:

Village Hall

- There are no bad debtors.
- A discussion was held concerning on-line banking, it was agreed that this would be looked at. The VH manager is unable to see if a hirer has made a payment until the next bank statement. Action: Clerk to ask Internal Auditor if any audit implications. Cllr Jones to contact Stoughton Parish Council for their experience.
- Cllr Lloyd informed the meeting that Petersfield Football Club are looking for additional facilities. The club provide the goals and mark the pitches. Following a discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Crew would look at costs to consider for the next financial year / season: 2022/23. Action: Cllr Crew. Cllrs also stated that car sharing would have to be encouraged (because of car parking capacity at the village hall) and that the conduct of players and spectators (including bad language) could be a concern. Cllrs could consider if the changing rooms could be used as a Health & Wellbeing Hub during the week and the football club at weekends.
- The successful work to re-surface the pot-holed part of the car park was noted with thanks to Cllr Crew. The external financial contributions towards the total costs of the overall car parking project were noted with no funding being required from precept payers
- Cllrs suggested that at the budget workshop they could look at the possibility of charging for
 parking at the VH for those who park their cars permanently there. Following on from the
 works to the car park it was agreed that the Tennis Club would be written to and thanked
 for their contribution to the works and asked if they would consider putting money aside for
 works in future years. Action: Clerk
- It was noted that the edging around the tennis courts is being eroded and will need to be banked up.
- **Playground Inspection** The quarterly inspection report of the playground has been received. It was agreed that there are two repairs that were needed:
 - The hinge on the gate doesn't shut
 - It was also noted that the entrance to the playground has eroded and needed attention.

Action: Cllrs Crew and Wheeler to identify work needed and approximate costs. Funding of up to £500 was agreed so that work could be undertaken without further reference to the PC.

- It was agreed that the other items on the inspection report would be kept under consideration with Cllr Wheeler's regular inspections. **Action: Cllr Wheeler**
- Two benches on the recreation ground needed attention (one at Kiln Lane entrance and the 'double' seat between the playground and tennis courts). It was agreed to approach EHDC to quote for the work and to remove the old seat in the old play area. **Action: Cllr Jones**
- It was agreed to send a further letter to Network Rail about the damaged fencing caused by unauthorised access to the railway line by NR contractors as they were still expecting the parish council to spend time and money obtaining quotes for the work which they could still refuse to do. **Action: Clerk**
- Missing Bin the bin near the bench has gone missing. Cllr Crew agreed to obtain a
 quote for a replacement or try and source one. Action: Cllr Crew
- Ducklings Nursery are currently making dog bag dispensers to be put up around the village. The Chair thanked the nursery for this initative.

10. Planning

Cllr Johnston presented a report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

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SDNP/21/04250/HOUS – Replacement windows 1 Monks Walk - Cllrs agreed no objection to this application but wanted it noted that they were pleased that the replacement windows would be as close as possible to the original ones.

Cllrs agreed that a letter of support should be sent for Mr & Mrs Figgis' idea of extending the agreement that the Manor Barn could be used on occasions for community activities during the forthcoming winter period as the Friday morning coffee sessions in 2020/21 had been successful. **Action: Cllr Johnston.**

Cllrs noted the points in the report about the Village Inn and recalled that the owners had informed the PC in July that they had appointed a management couple who were due to start in August. As parishioners were wanting to know the latest situation, with the pub still being closed and the hotel not appearing to offer short stays for overnight visitors to the National Park, it was agreed that an enquiry should be sent to the owners asking for an update. **Action: Clerk**

An update about Huntley's scrapyard was provided with an improvement in the storage situation being noted.

Parishioners had asked about the removal, earlier in the day, of approximately 15 metres of the hedge along Petersfield Road (along the gardens of Sumner Road). It was recalled that planning permission had been sought by a resident in May 2021 to remove this hedge and to replace it with fencing. The Parish Council and EHDC Property Team (who own the hedge) had objected and EHDC had said that they would not consent to its removal. The planners had decided that the hedgerow did not meet the criteria of a historic hedgerow and so its retention was not subject to planning control. They had advised the applicant that the determination of the planning application did not render the removal of the hedge lawful without the permission of the landowner. It was noted that it was possible that there might have been further discussions with the EHDC property team before the hedge had been removed. It was agreed that the Chairman should contact Cllr Mocatta to explore this matter. **Action: Cllr Jones to contact Cllr Mocatta.**

11. Work for Lengthsman

Cllrs have agreed earlier in the meeting to ask the Lengthsman to clear the vegetation from the small wall around the War Memorial. It was also agreed to ask him clear the gravel that has been deposited at the bottom of Kiln Lane which is causing flooding. **Action: Clerk**. An issue has been identified with brambles overhanging the High Street pavement from the school to Kiln Lane. Cllr Ashcroft has cut back some of this but it needs to be done. As the brambles are on HCC land it will be HCC responsibility and may already be in their cutting programme. **Action: Cllr Jones to contact Cllr Mocatta.**

12. Rights of Way

Cllr Jones informed Cllrs that there was nothing new to report on rights of way. It had already been agreed earlier in the meeting that the Clerk would chase HCC about a response about The Links.

The meeting was informed that the stile on the footpath between Bolinge Farm to The Causeway, near the cow shed, was loose and needed repair. It was agreed to contact the landowner. **Action: Clerk.**

13. Update on Trees, Pollinators, Biodiversity and Climate Change Initiatives

The Chairman highlighted points from a report which is attached to these minutes, including:

- A good focus about pollinators at the village show
- An HCC film team visit to record the innovative Hay-Day activities on the recreation ground
- The need to discuss verge cutting arrangements with both HCC and EHDC

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- Comments received from parishioners during the consultation period on the draft Climate and Nature Charter
- Forthcoming replacement of young tree on Pond Green.

Cllrs considered the comments received on the draft Climate and Nature Charter, agreed that changes could be made in the future and adopted the Charter for use in PC activities and decisions.

14. Post Covid Tea Party and Queen's Platinum Jubilee (June 2022)

Cllrs agreed to plan this event at future meetings.

16. Correspondence

The list of correspondence received is attached to these minutes.

A reply would be sent to Mr Webb (Parishes of North West Hampshire) and to Mr Mitford about his three separate concerns. **Action: Clerk**

All other matters have been covered within the meeting.

17. Date of next meeting

 The next meeting of Buriton Parish Council is on 29th November 2021 (subject to any legislative changes)

At the conclusion of business the meeting ended at 10.00pm.

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Update from East Hampshire District Council September 2021

EHDC COP 26 Along with local MP Damian Hinds, EHDC is helping organise a local COP26 event. We have confirmed Lord Deben as the keynote speaker, and will present the conclusions of three local panels. These have represented a range of local residents, interest groups and businesses. The three areas have been: transport, buildings and land use & agriculture. The event will take place at The Maltings, Alton on 8th October. Full links to the programme are here: COP26 East Hampshire | East Hampshire District Council (easthants.gov.uk)

There is also complementary information on the HCC website:

Responding to climate change | Hampshire County Council (hants.gov.uk)

And the SDNP website:

Climate Change Adaptation Plan and Strategy - South Downs National Park Authority

EHDC grants Each District Councillor gets a grant allocation of £4500, of which £1000 must be for environmental schemes. I have over £3,000 still to award, so am looking for schemes to help with

from local groups and/or parish councils.

	Grants awarded	General £3500	Environmental £1000
Cllr	East Meon PC (Nature Group noticeboard)		398.62
Robert	Petersfield Shakespeare Festival (Marquee		
Mocatta	hire)	500	
	East Meon PC (Playground matting)	525	
	Butser Ancient Farm (Teen project)	150	
	Remaining:	2325	601.38

Waste collection The ongoing difficulties in crewing refuse collection vehicles continue nationally and locally and it seems unlikely there will be a quick solution to them. EHDC is continuing to operate Garden Waste collections, although because of the statutory and public health need to focus on refuse and recycling it is the first to be affected when there are staffing shortages. Garden Waste collections are currently running behind schedule in East Hampshire. Norse are providing short term additional resources, including weekend working, wherever possible to catch up with the delayed collections and are medium term resourcing improvements. EHDC has provided some additional resource to assist Norse with the catch up on outstanding bin delivery numbers and we are hoping to see these numbers fall over the coming weeks. Residents are encouraged to continue to leave their bins in their usual collection place and to only log their missed bins via EHDC's website where only their bin has been missed after a collection has taken place: https://www.easthants.gov.uk/bin-collections and sign up to https://my.easthants.gov.uk/bin-collections and sign up to https:/

Planning: EHDC is responsible for planning in its area outside the SDNP. All of the East Meon and Buriton ward is within the SDNP, so the relevant plan is he South Downs Local Plan. EHDC has announced that the site at Chawton Park Farm is the preferred large development site in the District. There is still considerable work to be done on the Local Plan and on getting it through the planning policy process. If any residents are interested in this site, and the alternatives, EHDC's website is full of information: The Draft Local Plan | East Hampshire District Council (easthants.gov.uk)

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Update from Hampshire County Council September 2021

Helping Afghan evacuees Hampshire County Council is working with local partners including all District and Borough councils to assist Afghan families re-settle as part of the Government's Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy programme.

Several families have now been welcomed to the county and we want to ensure they have all the local information they need and are made to feel welcome.

If you wish to donate or help, please visit the website of the registered local charity: <u>Donating to help Afghan Evacuees - Community First (cfirst.org.uk)</u> who are co-ordinating support across the county.

Back to School As pupils across the county return to school, plans are in place to keep COVID-19 risks to the absolute minimum. Good hygiene, frequent hand washing, and using twice weekly Lateral Flow tests for eligible pupils is encouraged.

- Parents or carer of 16 -17-year-olds, are encouraged to them to take up the vaccine
- Bubbles in schools and the requirement for wearing face coverings in school are no longer in place (though they are still recommended on public transport to school)
- Activities such as singing and brass bands are back
- Under-18s no longer have to isolate if in contact with a Covid positive individual but anyone
 who is unwell, with or without Covid symptoms, should stay at home
- 12-15-year-olds 15 with underlying <u>health</u> conditions or who live with someone that is clinically vulnerable can also be vaccinated.

Pilot to begin for Active 'School Streets' A trial scheme is underway in the county to create a healthier and safer environment for young people walking and cycling to school. It will create low traffic areas at the start and end of the school day by closing selected roads close to schools to all non-essential traffic.

Residents, businesses, and the school community will be surveyed, and traffic volumes monitored. This will inform the decisions about potential future permanent School Streets schemes in Hampshire.

Tougher legal action on fly-tippers Hampshire County Council and their local authority partners have joined over 150 other local authorities and 10 professional bodies to call for the Sentencing Council to consider **tougher fines and sentences** for fly-tipping offenders.

More information about fly-tipping, including advice on how to report it, can be found on Hampshire County Council waste and recycling webpages.

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Village Hall and Recreation Report for PC Meeting: 27 September 2021

This report provides updates on a number of matters since the last meeting of the Council and seeks views from Councillors on a number of matters:

- Our Hall Manager, Steve Franks, has continued to do an excellent job in the unusual Covid circumstances but has given advance warning that he will be away from 5th to 17th October (and over Xmas & New Year) and so full cover needs to be arranged. In addition he will be unable to drive for 2-3 weeks in November and, whilst he will still be able to take bookings, do the accounts etc he will not be able to visit the hall, collect post, deliver keys to hirers etc. The Council needs to confirm alternative arrangements
- There are no bad debtors
- The hall continues to see a small deficit of costs over income each month but the Hall Manager reports that we are starting to receive more weekend bookings and Art History will be resuming soon, as will the film club. Income from the Ducklings Childcare service is sporadic but the group appear to be working hard to attract more clients and operating hours. The group has requested to put a banner poster on the village hall and near the play area
- The Hall Manager reports that not having access to online banking is inconvenient as when a
 booking is received and a request made to pay on line by BACS, Steve has no idea whether
 they have actually paid until the monthly statement arrives. He sometimes has to give them a
 key and let them use the hall without knowing for sure. He is always careful not to return
 deposits until he knows they have paid.
- Andy van den Broeke continues to pursue quotations from prospective contractors for replacing
 of windows, doors, soffits etc (and also potential work to the roof and rear stairs) in line with
 documents agreed at PC Meetings. An up-to-date summary has been circulated to all
 Councillors recently and more information is expected in time for the next PC Meeting. It is
 noted that there is a total of almost £61,500 available to spend on the hall in the CIL and
 Village Hall Reserves
- The Changing Rooms are due to be used by the Tennis Club for the remainder of 2021/22 but
 the Council still needs to encourage the consideration of alternatives ideas for the use of the
 building in the future. No further interest or ideas have been received from any source but Chris
 Paterson (SDNPA) is due to describe the concept of Health & Wellbeing hubs at this PC
 Meeting.
- The remaining work on the pot-holed part of the village hall car park have been undertaken and thanks are due to Cllr Crew for making all the arrangements
- Observations suggest that usage of the playground continues satisfactorily. In addition to Cllr Wheeler's regular inspections, a quarterly report has recently been received which Councillors are asked to consider and discuss
- In spite of letters from our MP, Damian Hinds, Network Rail have refused to pay for damage caused by their contractors in the southernmost corner of the Recreation Ground (creating paths through the wild area of vegetation towards the trackside and damaging the Council's supplementary fencing so as to leave it potentially ineffective) unless a number of quotes are obtained and, even then, NR are retaining the right to refuse to pay. Attempts to get quotes from contractors in the current post-Covid situation (for such a relatively small project when there is no guarantee of payment) have been unsuccessful. Councillors are asked to consider any next steps

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The swathes of longer grass at the edges of the Recreation Ground were cut earlier in the month (with thanks to Cllr Johnston for making all the arrangements) and a very successful 'Community Hay-Day' held on Saturday 18th September with almost 50 parishioners bringing rakes and wheelbarrows to remove the cuttings. Advice received confirms that in order to encourage wildflower species diversity suitable for pollinators and other wildlife the cut material (arisings) need to be removed after cutting to keep the soil nutrients low (and the area should be left to flower for the entire flowering season until seeding is complete: usually between April and August). As recommended, the arisings have been piled into a compost heap to create habitat for other species. In future it may be beneficial to arrange a 'cut and collect' mowing in March and Councillors are asked to agree whether this should be explored.

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Planning Report 27th September 2021

To be read in conjunction with the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of the 25th July 2021

Update on current planning matters.

SDNP/21/00956/FUL. Construction and part retention of farm track access from Horsechestnut Farm onto the Causeway (B2070), Petersfield. Application in Progress

SDNP/20/05618/FUL Installation of a 30m lattice telecommunications tower (and compound) at Head Down Hanger, New Barn Lane, Buriton. Application Approved

SDNP/21/02014/FUL 10 residential houses at Greenway lane. Application in Progress

00017/003 Removal of Payphone Kiosk. The Payphone Kiosk is now the responsibility of the Parish Council. BT will pay for the electricity for the Defibrillator for 7 years after which the liability will rest with the Parish Council. Arrangements for the siting of the defibrillator are being made by Chris Stagg and the defibrillator group.

SDNP/21/02169/CND Substitution of plans for new dwelling at Cobwebs, North Lane. Application in Progress.

SDNP/21/01479/REM Reserved matters persuant to application SDNP/17/05563/OUT for one detached family dwelling at High Banks North Lane Buriton GU31 5RS. Application in Progress

SDNP/21/02983/TCA 04a - Portuguese Laurel -remove decayed stem, 11 - Horse Chestnut - Fell, 21 Sycamore - Fell, 23 Sycamore - Fell, 40 Honey Locust - cut back southern spread to clear trampoline, 41 Beech - reduce height to 2m, 46 Handkerchief Tree - prune to remove subdominant developing leader, 54 Field Maple - reduce height to 4m and spread to 2.5m, 61 Monterey Cypress - remove northern low branches to 4m The Old Rectory High Street Buriton Petersfield GU31 5RX. No Objection

SDNP/21/02979/HOUS Front and rear dormers to existing loft conversion. 35 Glebe Road Buriton Petersfield GU31 5SD. Application withdrawn

SDNP/21/03220/DCOND Discharge of Conditions 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24 and 27 of Planning Approval SDNP/20/01535/FUL.

Butser Hill Lime Works Ltd Butser Hill Buriton Petersfield Hampshire GU31 5BQ. Application in progress

Other items for discussion at this meeting:

SDNP/21/04250/HOUS 1 Monks Walk. Replacement windows.

We have been approached by the architects working for the new owners of Haven Barn (the old cartshed building) and subsequently have held a brief meeting with them (and with the PCC) to provide relevant background.

Patrick Figgis is to ask Tim Slaney for an extension to the agreement to allow the Manor Barn to be used for village gatherings even if covid restrictions are re-introduced. The planning use for the barn currently restricts it to the 'rules' for domestic property. So if a new 'rule of 6' (for example) was brought in for this winter this would prohibit any possible use of the barn for village activities such as the very successful Friday morning coffee sessions run last year. The Parish Council is being asked to write in support of this idea to Tim Slaney at SDNP planning.

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EHDC drew our attention to the fact that there has been a Freedom of Information request about correspondence between the Parish Council and EHDC relating to the Village Inn. No further information has been received.

We understand that at least one parishioner has contacted EHDC Licensing and Planning Enforcement Departments about current usage of the Village Inn, enquiring whether it is all authorised.

Maggie Johnston

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Trees, Pollinators, Biodiversity and Climate Change Report to Parish Council meeting (September 2021)

The Pollinator Project

With a strong presence at the village show in August and with the appointment of Andy Davidson as Nature Recovery Officer in the Countryside Service at HCC to coordinate the County Council's Pollinator Project (for which this parish has been selected as one of six Pilot Parishes) the community's initial work on pollinators and biodiversity has been given a helpful boost over recent weeks – culminating in the popular Hay-Day on the Recreation Ground on September 18th.

The County Council sent a small film team from their Communications Department to capture all the activity on the Hay-Day and to interview participants. The film should showcase the good work we have started this year and may be used as part of the County Council's first Annual Climate Change Report, on their social media sites and on their webpages relating to Climate Change.

There were lots of 'pollinator-related' entries in the horticultural and craft sections of the village show and some excellent artwork by children from the school promoting the message "Save the Pollinators". Stalls on the recreation ground with information about bees, butterflies and other vital creatures were very popular – and the wildlife safaris in the long grass proved how useful this change of habitat can be. Detailed maps of the parish also attracted lots of interest and, by the end of the show, there were plenty of red and green blobs showing individual gardens and areas of communal open spaces that might be able to provide more help for pollinators. People also used the maps to suggest potential 'corridors' that might help creatures travel between larger habitat spaces.

These maps could help to identify a network of sites as stepping stones through the village offering food, shelter and safety for bees, birds, bats and other types of wildlife.

Further meetings of the small steering group have been held and another four-page (centre-pages) insert was included in the most recent edition of the Parish Magazine providing background information and opportunities to take part. It is also hoped to generate interest via new social media sites and to encourage greater interest and participation by the school.

The intention is still to gradually extend the initiative beyond pollinators into something to promote greater awareness and understanding of nature more widely (biodiversity loss etc) and to connect with other important issues such as climate change, health & wellbeing and changing other behaviours such as reducing littering, dog fouling etc.

Liaison with HCC and EHDC officers about their verge-cutting regimes has yet to take place but it is hoped that the parish can be included in a pilot project with Petersfield. Cllr Mocatta is trying to ensure that this happens.

The Climate Change Initiative

The focus on Climate Change at the Annual Parish Meeting has led to a small group of volunteers beginning to explore ideas and actions - with a focus on domestic measures and transport. Work reported to the last meeting of the Parish Council is still in progress but, in the meantime, consultation has taken place on the Parish Council's draft 'Climate & Nature Charter' which was considered at the PC Meeting in July. The draft was promoted on the community website, in the Parish Magazine and by email circulations with comments sought by 25th September.

The draft charter explains that whilst the Parish Council itself is a relatively low contributor to greenhouse gases, it wants to ensure that its own activities appropriately consider the environment and encourage activities being taken by others within the parish, and by the council's partners, to

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move towards carbon neutrality and improve biodiversity and climate change resilience. The document sets out actions which the Council can take to improve the environmental performance of its own activities as well as how it can use its limited powers and its influence.

Comments received from parishioners were as follows:

- The content of the Parish charter is good and importantly achievable
- We think this is a good starting point as a charter of intent
- Should a parish councillor be given specific responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the charter and actions?
- Will the parish council develop strategies, where it can, with specific deadlines and targets to meet the charter commitments?

Councillors are asked to consider these comments (and any other thoughts or contributions) before deciding whether or not to formally adopt the Climate & Nature Charter.

Trees

Our Tree Warden, Matt Marriott, has confirmed that the new tree that he had planted on Pond Green is dead although the reason is unclear. He is arranging to get a replacement.

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Initial first pages	Sign & date final page as "approved"	



Correspondence

Date	Details	Sender
28.7.21	Request to meet about Dark Night Skies	Mrs Holmes, Steep PC
30.7.21	Invite to Ditcham School's Design Plan	Ditcham School
2.8.21	Use of South Downs Way as a cut through	Andy Gattiker, SDNPA
2.8.21	Letter of introduction	Donna Jones, Police &
		Crime Commissioner
2.8.21	Comments on the draft Green Charter	Bernie & Mary Saunders
5.8.21	Praise for draft Green Charter	Michael Beckett
11.8.21	Ongoing issues with Network Rail	Damian Hinds
12.8.21	Reply re Huntley's Scrapyard	Luke Galloway, EHDC
12.8.21	Damage and repairs to bench on Recreation Ground	Peter Nixon
16.8.21	QECP obtained initial quote for work to Chalk Pits	Tim Speller
	pond	
16.8.21	Response from Network Rail	Damian Hinds
18.8.21	Mowing of Rec: clods turning brown	Tim Mitford
21.8.21	More mis-use of BOATs / Byways	Wendy Wolfe
26.8.21	Response to claim of damage to Pond Car Park	Network Rail
26.8.21	Response to dangerous parking on South Lane bridleway	Network Rail
26.8.21	Response to waste left in South Lane	Network Rail
2.9.21	Complaint about Network Rail closing Kiln Lane for a day without any prior notification	Kelly Barrow
3.9.21	Copy of email to HCC re condition of footpath	Jonathan Jones
	through Oakham, nr Ditcham	
6.9.21	Skateboarders using the village hall car park	Tim Mitford
9.9.21	Copy of response re condition of Oakham footpath	HCC
12.9.21	Street light in High Street on all through the night	Tim Mitford
14.9.21	Copy of the English Village Pond book	lan Thompson
16.9.21	Planning policies in rural areas – PCs working together	Tony Webb (Parishes of Northwest Hampshire)
17.9.21	Further request about Dark Skies: dimming	Mrs Holmes, Steep PC
	programme	
21.9.21	Screws rusting on new bench next to the War	Sue Grant
	Memorial	