

Boldre Parish Council (BPC) - Meeting held on 12th October 2020

These minutes are from a hybrid meeting held using on-line technology due to restrictions caused by Covid-19 pandemic, but three persons chose to attend in person at Boldre War Memorial Hall.

Invitees present: Oliver Moore Alison Bolton Peter Lock Michael White Sherwin Small
 Pamela Keen Patrick Kempe Jacqui England Jo Humphreys

Meeting minutes

A resident outlined his plans for a replacement hut (summer house) and replacement pool decking at Passford Farm - NPA Planning Applications 20/00559 and 20/00615 - explaining that his ideas may have been blighted by the actions of the previous owner. The existing summer house and linked sheds are dilapidated and would be replaced with facilities offering changing and showers. A compromise over the size might be possible. The decking and pool could be screened with vegetation/shrubbery and the decking stained to soften the appearance. Cllr Bolton agreed that the summer house needed replacing but the larger replacement was could not be recommended. BPC councillors explained that they could only comment on the applications that had been submitted, rather than amendments that had apparently since been discussed with the NPA Planning Officers.

| | | | Actions | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1 | Apologies | | Cllrs Mortimer and Duke | |
| 2 | Declarations of Interest | | Cllr Bolton – 20/00669 Post Office Cottage, Boldre Lane. Cllrs Small and Moore – Item 5.2, Pilley Hill Cottage | |
| 3 | Minutes of the last meeting | | The minutes of the meeting held on 7 th September 2020 were approved by Council for signature by Cllr Moore. | |
| 4 | Matters Arising | | | |
| 13 Aug 2018 | 9.1 | S.Baddesley | The School Travel Plan. Nothing received. Cllr White has asked HCC for further information with no result. Key HCC contacts are: Travel Planner Michelle Spellman and Portfolio Holder Cllr Rox Chadd. No progress. | Cllr England |
| 08 Apr 2019 | 8.1 | Bridleway B6 | Project to be Investigated further by a BPC sub-group. Awaiting news of possible change of land ownership. | C/Forward |
| 08 July 2019 | 7.2.8 | Parish Guide | Cllrs Keen & Humphreys due to develop with help from the Clerk. | Close for now |
| 09 Sept 2020 | 7.1.1 | Traffic & Speeding | An in-house investigation by BPC will be explored when traffic levels return to normal. | C/Forward |
| 09 Dec 2019 | 8.2.2 | 112 Bus on Saturdays | Meeting with East Boldre PC, Hampshire CC and Community First planned for early 2021. Budget implications will be discussed by the Finance sub-group | Finance |
| 09 Mar 2020 | 8.1.1 | Wild Play | Installation to be included with potential changes to the Play Area. | Amenities |
| 09 Mar 2020 | 15.1 | Corona Virus & Covid-19 | Councillors and the Clerk continue to help in conjunction with citizens to support residents in the parish. | Continue |
| 09 Mar 2020 | 15.2 | Campsite | Lisle Court Road Status on-hold pending easing of virus restrictions | C/Forward |

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| 11 May 2020 | 5.2 (2) | Passford Farm outbuildings | BPC awaits the result of three appeals submitted by the applicants to the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol. Results due after 5 th June 2020. No further news to date. | Monitor |
| 13 Jul 2020 | 5.2 | Whitelink - phone mast | The permission granted on appeal for the temporary siting of the monopole and equipment elapsed on 25 July 2020, but a NFDC Planning Officer has agreed to allow continued use due to alleged Covid-19 difficulties. Extension timescales are not clear. | Monitor |
| 10 Aug 2020 | 6.2 | Highway Issues | A revised listing of priority highway issues in the parish was sent to Cllr White on 19 August 2020 but no response yet received from HCC officers. However, one or more blocked gully grids in Warborne Lane, Portmore has now been covered by fresh bitumen. HCC have been asked to rectify this action as soon as possible. | HCC |
| 10 Aug 2020 | 7.3 | Drain cover - Norley Wood | Cllr Keen sent details to Cllr White. A crew has attended site and will return now that details are understood. | HCC |
| 10 Aug 2020 | 7.4 | Road Works signage | Clerk included a request for various large yellow signs to be removed in his email to Cllr White, which was passed to HCC officers. Still no action. | HCC |
| 10 Aug 2020 | 7.5 | Tanners Lane & Foreshore | Email sent to Cllrs White and Duke about an influx of vehicles and visitors to this location, asking about ownership and parking restrictions. Some 50+ cars have been noted parking on this lane. Cllr Duke is seeking information within NFDC. No further news. | Cllr Duke Cllr White |
| 10 Aug 2020 | 15.2 | Footpath Stiles and greenery | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stile on F502 requires attention by Pylewell Park. 2. Stile at N/Wood end of F17 has been repaired 3. Greenery on F19. Cllr Keen monitoring. | Clerk Cllr Keen |
| 10 Aug 2020 | 15.5 | Perkins Piece | The Lengthsman has been asked to fell/remove the Silver Birch and plant a replacement Acer Campestre nearby, as approved by the NPA. | On-going |
| 7 Sept 2020 | 5.3 | Communication to residents | Several Councillors met to consider how BPC might better communicate issues that may affect residents. Specific actions for Cllrs will be investigated for presentation to the next BPC meeting including: Planning feedback, Website information, The Bridge and Social Media. | Cllr Humphreys |
| 7 Sept 2020 | 8.1 | Lymington Sprites football | Lymington Sprites (LS) All paperwork has been received except a Risk Assessment. | Cllr Small |
| 7 Sept 2020 | 8.2 | Recreation Grd and Pavilion Litter | The provision of a suitable waste bin for discarded rubbish is being further investigated by Cllr Kempe. | Cllr Kempe |
| 7 Sept 2020 | 14.5 | Play Area damage | The climbing frame has been damaged by 'large' users after drinking alcohol. The Groundsman has made the apparatus safe. No replacement boarding will be purchased at the time. | Close |

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| 5 | Planning | | | |
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| 5.1 | | BPC Planning | <p>The full agreed Planning recommendations to the NPA and NFDC are attached at the bottom of these minutes, to be sent to their Development Control sections.</p> <p><i>In summary, the following recommendations were made:</i></p> | Clerk |
| | NPA | 20/00599 | <p>Passford Farm Cottage, Southampton Road, Boldre</p> <p>This application for a replacement pool hut was discussed again at this meeting. BPC confirmed Comment 4 - agreed unanimously</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Kempe</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00608 | <p>Ramsley, Southampton Road, Boldre - Comment 2</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Small. Agreed unanimously.</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00615 | <p>Passford Farm Cottage, Southampton Road, Boldre</p> <p>Jacuzzi & Decking – Comment 4</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Kempe, seconded by Cllr Small</p> <p>Cllr Moore voted against. Remaining Councillors agreed.</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00625 | <p>Myrtle Cottage, Royden Lane, Boldre</p> <p>Application for Certificate of Lawful Development</p> <p>No comment can be made</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00626 | <p>Lymington Golf Centre, South Baddesley Road, Walhampton</p> <p>Comment 5.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Kempe. Agreed unanimously.</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00639 | <p>7 Royden Lane, Boldre - Single storey extensions</p> <p>Comment 2</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Kempe. Agreed unanimously.</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00669 | <p>Post Office Cottage, Boldre Lane, Boldre</p> <p>Comment 3</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Kempe.</p> <p>Cllr Bolton abstained. Remaining Cllrs agreed unanimously.</p> | |
| | NPA | 20/00692 | <p>Horseshoes, Brook Hill, Norley Wood</p> <p>Comment 5.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Small. Agreed unanimously.</p> | |
| 5.2 | Pilley Hill Cottages | | <p>An Enforcement Notice has been served by the NPA to remove the conservatory extension at No.5. Cllr Humphreys made a passionate case that BPC should contact the NPA again recommending that the conservatory could be retained.</p> <p>However, whilst there was a full understanding about a 6 inch gap issue, the main problem was the overall size of the extensions that have been made. The Parish Council has always been firm about the rule that only allows 30% increase to properties.</p> | |
| 5.3 | NFDC 20/10628 | | <p>Haven Marine Park, Undershore Road, Boldre, Lymington.</p> <p>Cllr Moore will attend the remote NFDC Planning Committee on 14th October to explain BPC's recommend refusal for this application.</p> | Cllr Moore |

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| 6 | County & District | | |
| 6.1 | Hampshire County Council and NFDC | <p>Cllr White reported that at least three cases of Covid-19 were being treated in Southampton hospital.</p> <p>William Gilpin and South Baddesley schools were both recently rated as “good” in a recent survey.</p> <p>Not entirely clear who works for who in H.Highways, but it appears both Andy Harding and Richard Bastow now report to Paula Edwards following a recent reorganisation. Pothole are expected to start reappearing as winter approaches. Funding from HMG is not yet clear.</p> <p>The following two HH incidents were discussed:</p> <p>21518917 Encroaching hedging and broken fence along Bridge Road, on the B3054</p> <p>21522726 A new incident raised at the request of HH for the gully grid(s) covered by bitumen/tarmac in Warborne Lane, Portmore.</p> <p>Cllr Duke has submitted a written report (attached below).</p> | |
| 7 | Highways | | |
| 7.1 | Safety Mirror Boldre Lane/Rope Hill junction | <p>A convex safety mirror has been installed by residents on a utility company telegraph pole at the junction. The improved road view has generally been welcomed by the community.</p> <p>The independent Risk Assessment resulted in a report indicating that significant visibility improvement would be achieved using a mirror. The Chairman and Treasurer of the Lymington & District NHW will be informed to provide the committed funds for these improvements.</p> | Clerk |
| 7.2 | Hedge/Tree Encroachment | <p>Letters to householders were sent to some Sandy Down residents, followed by further explanation. Most residents have now completed some clearance. Cllr England to check screenshots taken before the cutting-back.</p> <p>Cllr Moore will include this item in the submission for The Bridge.</p> | Cllr England Cllr Moore |
| 7.3 | HGV Restrictions | <p>Clerk to contact Hampshire Highways requesting appropriate “Unsuitable for HGVs” signs at the junctions of Sandy Down and Lower Sandy Down with the Southampton road. Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Humphreys. Agreed by BPC with two against (Cllrs Bolton and England).</p> <p>Clerk will also write two local building supply companies requesting that smaller delivery vehicles are used as routine in Boldre Parish. Proposed by Cllr Moore, seconded by Cllr Humphreys, with all in favour.</p> | Clerk Clerk |
| 8 | Amenities | | |
| 8.1 | Community Shop BWMH Play Area | <p>BPC has received a letter from BWMH requesting the council take the lead in moving/replacing Play Area equipment onto adjacent land owned by BWMH. This to allow building works to take place to re-site the Community Shop.</p> <p>Cllr England will lead this activity. Contact to be made with play equipment suppliers for initial site meeting to discuss alternatives. Wild Play items will be investigated as well as providing like-for-like play equipment, or better. Cllr Kempe and Small are likely to take key roles in this project. Financial aspects need early examination.</p> | Clerk Cllr England |

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| 8.2 | William Gilpin Pupil arrival & collection | <p>Clerk will write to the school following an observation received from a resident about the volume of traffic around the school during arrival and collection times. This relates to cars parking on grass verges and apparently blocking driveways along Pilley Hill, Pilley Street, Gilpin Close and near the Fleur-de-Lys.</p> <p>Boldre Parish Council understand the complexities being faced during these difficult times. Some parents might be prepared to leave their cars in the BWMH car park which tends to be quiet at these times of day. The school might write to parents and residents reinforcing appropriate messages at this time. An article in The Bridge could also assist.</p> <p>The resident who contacted us says he has also made contact with Hampshire County Council about the problems as he sees them, which we understand are related to potential health and safety issues.</p> | Clerk | |
| 9 | Finance | | | |
| | 9.1 | Payments | Payments of £ 3947.37 were approved for October 2020. | |
| | 9.2 | Bank | The reconciliation for September 2020 was confirmed. Discrepancies noted over the past two months, caused by Charge Card payments, have been resolved. | |
| | 9.3 | Groundsman and Clerk Holiday pay | <p>Advice has been taken from the Hampshire Association of Local Councils regarding holiday and bank-holiday pay for the Groundsman and Clerk.</p> <p>There is no legal requirement to award any pay for earlier years for holiday not claimed. As a one-off recognition of employee commitment, BPC agreed to allow employees to claim missed holiday for days in excess of the statutory minimum (28 days). This results in 8 days holiday pay at pro-rata rates for each employee. The council agreed that payment should take into account historic pay rates rather than apply current pay rates.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Kempe, seconded by Cllr Bolton. All in favour.</p> | Close |
| 10 | IT Summary | The updated Open Reach quote for high speed broadband to properties in Bull Hill & Pilley Bailey is still awaited. | Cllr Moore | |
| 11 | External Meetings | Cllr Bolton watched the recent Quadrant meeting. Steve Avery gave a summary of the anticipated planning changes which appear overly complex. The issues of, affordable, starter and social housing were not adequately covered. | | |
| 12 | Policies | <p>Policies still to be reviewed and circulated include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Protection and The GDPR Statement • Financial Regulations <p>The policy for Reporting at Meetings has been reviewed by Cllr Humphreys and will be circulated by the Clerk.</p> | <p>Cllr Moore</p> <p>Clerk</p> | |

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| 13 | Clerk Notes | | |
| 13.1 | England Coast Path | Request for new data or evidence from Natural England - sent to BPC earlier – thought to be of little relevance to BPC. | |
| 13.2 | Planning Changes | The proposed plans pose a huge risk to both countryside as well as our community, and risk our ability to shape the future of where we live - sent to BPC earlier – Cllr Bolton is summarising her thoughts for BPC. | |
| 13.3 | Highways issue | The issue involving the gully grid(s) apparently covered on purpose in Warborne Lane, Portmore is mentioned in section 6 above. | |
| 14 | A.O.B. | | |
| 14.1 | Bull Hill Footbridge | Cllr Kempe broached the question of the footbridge over the stream adjacent to the busy B3054 near Lees Nurseries and Bull Hill Farm. BPC may help fund replacement planking if budget is available. The Finance sub-group will report back to the October meeting. | Carry forward |
| 14.2 | BWMH Defibrillator | Cllr Kempe asked about keypad access. This is still due to be installed by the BWMH. | BWMH |
| 14.3 | Footpaths | The stile on F17 has been repaired by the Lengthsman. Cllrs Keen and Bolton will check signposting for F19 at Norley Farm. Stile on F502 in Pylewell park still need s attention. | Cllr AB & PK Clerk |
| 14.4 | Trees felling at Gorse Hill | The NPA have confirmed that this site is outside the conservation area. | Close |
| 14.5 | BPC Vacancies | Vacancies for two Parish Councillors now exist. Notices will be posted on the Notice boards. NFDC will inform BPC of any applicants after 30 th October 2020. | |
| 15 | Next Meeting | The next BPC meeting is on Monday 9 th November 2020, in BWMHall at 18:30. Some councillors may attend on site. The public will not be permitted to attend in person but will be able to use Zoom technology (or the telephone) to attend remotely, as will those councillors who decide to stay away. | |

The meeting closed at 21:40 hrs

Log of Parish Planning Recommendations to the New Forest NPA in October 2020

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| 20/00599 | Passford Farm Cottage, Southampton Road, Boldre, Lymington SO41 8ND | Replacement pool hut | Comment 4 BPC agrees with the Building and Design Officer's comments that the replacement Pool House should not be larger than the existing one and is overly domestic and inappropriate within the cartilage of this rural, listed farmhouse. |
| 20/00608 | Ramsley Southampton Road Boldre, Lymington SO41 8PT | One and two storey extension; alterations to fenestration; demolition of existing conservatory (Application for a Non Material Amendment to planning permission 19/00626) | Comment 2 It is felt impossible from the confusing plans supplied and lack of Parish Briefing Notes to assess whether this addition, which does not appear subservient to the core dwelling, is above the permitted 30% |
| 20/00615 | Passford Farm Cottage, Southampton Road, Boldre, Lymington SO41 8ND | Jacuzzi & Decking Retention of replacement decking; pool enclosure | Comment 4 This replacement decking is larger and taller than the previous decking. BPC agrees with the Building Design and Conservation Area Officer that it has a suburbanising effect on this rural listed building and does not conform to: DP 2 - does not respect historic environment DP 18 - not contextually appropriate SP 16 - Inappropriate in height, scale and colour. SP 17- increases suburbanisation effect. |
| 20/00626 | Lymington Golf Centre, South Baddesley Road, Walhampton, Lymington, SO41 5SD | Extension to practice shelter | Comment 5 |
| 20/00639 | 7 Royden Lane, Boldre, Lymington, SO41 8PE | Single storey extensions | Comment 2 With no Parish Briefing Notes received to assist by the time BPC met it is felt that this proposed extension is probably oversize. |
| 20/00625 | Myrtle Cottage Royden Lane, Boldre, | Application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for Proposed outbuilding and replacement roof tiles | No Comment No documents have been provided for this Certificate of Lawful Development. |
| 20/00669 | Post Office Cottage Boldre Lane, Boldre | Extension; 2no porches; alterations to roof; alterations to doors and windows; demolition of 1no porch (Application for Non-Material Amendment to Planning Permission 20/00219) | Comment 3 |

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| 20/00692 | Horseshoes Brook Hill, Norley Wood, Lymington, SO41 5RQ | First floor rear extension over existing ground floor; ground floor rear extension; porch; 2No. dormers; chimney extension; render; cladding; window alterations; demolition existing porch | Comment 5 |
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Comments

1. We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.
2. We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.
3. We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed.
4. We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed.
5. We have no objection to this planning application and are happy to accept the decision reached by the National Park or NFDC Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.

REPORT TO BOLDRE PARISH COUNCIL, Cllr Jan Duke (NFDC) 12 OCTOBER 2020

Health & Leisure Centres

Following on from my report to the meeting held on 7 September 2020 I can report, following the meeting of the Cabinet on 7 October, that all 5 of the Health and Leisure Centres run by New Forest Council are now open and there has generally been a good level of return by users. On 21 September Swim Academies also restarted and there has been very high demand for swimming classes with people now currently on the waiting list.

As you will be aware NFDC have been looking at handing over the day to day operation of their leisure centres to specialist companies within the health and leisure industry. The earlier tender process was interrupted due to the Covid epidemic but is now back on track with bids from 3 companies being received which are currently being reviewed by NFDC.

Covid 19 Response

The work to put the NFDC area on a sound footing going forward is ongoing. As reported previously we are now in recovery phase and Task and Finish groups alongside NFDC officers have been working hard looking at the various aspects of the council's roles and responsibilities to ensure that we give the best response to the Covid emergency for all residents and businesses in our district.

Our overall Covid Response Strategy focusses on 3 aims –

Educate

NFDC are constantly putting out helpful information bulletins via social media and other information sources to help individuals and businesses understand what they need to do, what help may be available etc etc. Personally I have been regularly passing these information posts within the Boldre & Sway Ward via various Facebook community pages and these have been well received.

One of the biggest impacts has been on local businesses. What happens to them affects all of us. It has been critical that businesses are kept informed of assistance available to them and regulations that affect them to ensure they operate within the guidelines and the law to protect their staff and customers.

Support

As you can imagine in difficult, unprecedented times such as these, there are many residents facing issues that need resolving. From 12 October those in receipt of certain benefits and who have to self-isolate are now eligible to apply for an additional £500 grant. NFDC are working hard to make people aware of the scheme and how to apply via an online e-form. They are also increasing staff levels to take calls and assist people making a claim over the phone. All grants and other funding to both individuals and businesses will be verified against national databases to ensure the funds are allocated appropriately.

NFDC has also worked extremely hard with local business groups to ensure that funding is accessed, grants applications processed and funds distributed in an efficient manner.

Encourage

Encouragement is always the preferred option in regard with compliance with rules and regulations as they are brought in and our Environmental Health team is extremely busy working with businesses and other operators to offer advice and support. If enforcement is necessary our officers will work closely with the Police and other agencies in this regard.

Our customer services team is very busy with enquiries about all of our services but it is vitally important that monitoring of compliance with Covid regulations is done in a timely and efficient way to protect the public. To this end an out of hours reporting facility has been set up which can be accessed 24 hours per day.

Milford Sea Wall

As you will no doubt be aware from press coverage an area of the sea wall at Milford on Sea has failed necessitating an emergency decision to be taken to commence remedial works on 19 August.

Approval was given to allocate up to £1.5m to underwrite emergency works with an expectation that the majority could be reclaimed through the Environment Agency [EA] and the Southern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee [SRFCC].

Unfortunately between 20 and 25 August two major storm impacted on that stretch of coast, Ellen and Francis. During storm Ellen a further 38m of sea wall failed and a further 7 metres of cliff top was lost. The additional cost estimated for this was £350k taking total projected costs to around £1.85m.

Logistical issues also added to the burden due to the severe weather including rocks having to be transported from Marchwood port by road as the barges could not be used. This had an cost impact in the region of £50k.

To date £600k funding has been allocated by SRFCC for the first phase. In addition there it is anticipated a further £250k will be requested for Phase 2.

It was originally envisaged requesting £800k from the EA but this will be raised around £1 million once the final costs are known.

NFDC see it as imperative that work continues and is carried out to a high standard to protect properties and specifically the White House. At time of reporting the NFDC funding position isn't fully known as it is dependant upon the level of funding received from other sources.

I hope that you find the above snapshot of just a few of the areas NFDC are having to deal with at the present time.

It is worrying with this pandemic taking longer than many of us thought it might. It has impacted on all our lives in very many ways. However, perhaps it has given us all a chance to look at our lives and see what changes we can make. This applies to work places, local government and just about every other aspect of society. It is proven by history that it is often the case that a war, or coming together to fight a common enemy, moves a society forward with developments of new technologies, medicines, new ways of working, new ways of living. We are seeing that already. Many of us can work remotely, consult with our GPs etc etc. Many have got out walking and become more aware of their local area and environment. Many have had a little more time to perhaps re-evaluate our lives. I believe that if we all work together through adversity we will come out of this stronger, more efficient and possibly more resilient than we ever thought we could be.

NFDC certainly has a feeling of positivity in adversity and continues to do an excellent job under good leadership.

Cllr Jan Duke
Boldre & Sway Ward
New Forest District Council