

Flat One, Palace Stable Yard, Beaulieu, Hampshire SO42 7YL

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Minutes of Council Meeting Thursday 19th June 2025, 6.30pm

Present:

Cllr. N. Hubbard (Chair), Cllr. S. Steele, Cllr. C. Knight, Cllr. S. Reece, Cllr. A. Cowie, Cllr. J. Rowland.

In attendance:

Mrs. R. Pearson, Mr. N. Barwood joined the meeting at 8pm. Cllr. K. Mans, Cllr. D. Poole, Mrs. N. Deering (Clerk).

2537 Apologies and confirmation of agenda:

Apologies from: Cllr. M. Dolbear. The draft agenda previously circulated was confirmed.

2538 Chair's opening remarks

Cllr. Hubbard welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2539 Declarations of interest in current agenda

None.

2540 Minutes of last meeting

Proposed: Cllr. Reece Seconded: Cllr. Rowland Unanimously agreed.

2541 Representatives reports

HCC/NFDC - No further updates on Hampshire and Solent devolution; NF may join with Southampton. Recommendations due 29th September, results expected by year-end. Cllr. Mans noted ongoing forest-wide waste collection issues; report complaints at waste.changes.gov.uk and inform Cllr. Poole of persistent problems. A326 work continues. Cllr. Mans has sent a press release to Cllr. Hubbard for circulation.

Police - None

2542 Council Updates

- **Playground & Recreational Field:** Cllr. Cowie reported two loose, rotten fence posts at risk of collapse and noted a quote for gate repair; the Clerk will ask Chris to proceed. Litter has

increased, and Cllr. Hubbard suggested moving a bin from High Street. Paul is effectively managing litter and will tighten swing bolts, secure matting, and address overgrown brambles on the pathway. The ROSPA report raised no urgent issues, with the slide now conforming and ongoing monitoring needed for the swing bar.

- **SDR Vehicle Speed Review:** Cllr. Hubbard reported that he received an email from NFDC indicating that Speedwatch will restart. They are ready to recruit volunteers. An accident was reported on Harlick Hill.
- **Waste bins:** Dealt with.
- **Tractors / harvest traffic through the village:** Cllr. Dolbear said he has contacted the contractors and will send email to Clerk who will write to the tractor operators.
- **Councillor training:** Clerk to let Cllrs. Knight and Reece know when the next Knowledge & Core Skills course will be run by HALC.
- **Electronic banking:** Cllr. Hubbard said he will help the Clerk get set up and will test it on the Clerks salary payment.
- **Data protection** – On going.
- **Beaulieu Parish Council Leaflets** – Cllr. Hubbard said Parish Council leaflets were printed but not delivered. The Post Office will deliver them for about £200 + VAT on 28th July, 18 days before they are needed. Cllr. Steele stressed the importance of completing this. Proposed: Cllr. Cowie Seconded: Cllr. Rowland. Unanimously agreed.

2543 Public participation

Mrs. Pearson reported that there have been incidents of fly-tipping on the Estate costing £8,000 to clear up. Said that John Nicholls will be working on Lodge Lane making passing spaces very soon.

2544 Committee & representative's reports

CDA/NFALC/Forest update –

Cllr. Reece reported that the Forestry in England intends to introduce charges at all New Forest car parks. A possible of £8 a month charge. This presents a risk of parking displacement. She outlined the mapped areas and potential locations for Dragons' teeth, ditches, or banks where verge parking may occur. She felt that Hatchet and Moonhills will be problematic on our doorstep, and the spill may also extend along the road by the Water Tower at Moonhills Farm and along the properties of Hatchet Gate and Furzey. If there are any thoughts about displacement areas, please contact Richard Burke.

The widening of the A326 – HCC will be submitting planning soon. The increase of traffic potentially diverting through Beaulieu was discussed.

Developers and authorities are now discussing new alternatives to the withdrawn Fawley Waterside plans. Any proposal will need a new planning application.

After meeting with Brice Strafford and his colleague, Jimmy is seeking volunteers to participate in a dialect survey. Councillor Reece is compiling a list and would like this information to be shared. Further details will be provided later.

Cllr. Reece had received a response from Holly Fitzgerald regarding verge parking at Furzey. Holly expressed her appreciation for the photographs provided. Today, Cllr Reece visited the site again and submitted additional photos. She has also inquired about the possibility of installing dragon's teeth.

Although this area is adjacent to the forest, She has observed that when there is a high volume of parked cars, vehicles are now utilising the boundary side as well.

Cllr. Reece reported that one of the entrances to a house on Furzey Lane has tarmac laid beyond their boundary driveway as well as new brick and stones on the verge, this has also been passed onto Holly and CDA with their enforcement team.

Cllr. Reece reported that following Steve Avery's departure from the NPA, his responsibilities have been allocated among three individuals. Nigel Stone has been appointed as Head of Resources and Chief Financial Officer. Gareth Hale will assume the position of Senior Planning Officer for Principal Planning from 16th June. Under the devolution plans the planning process will be organised into two tiers, which may have an impact on the BPC's role.

Deer problem – CDA meeting – FE NT and local land owners are being asked to combat the deer problem. I have advised the new job created by the Beaulieu Estate.

Cllr. Reece reported that at the last NFALC meeting we voted to establish, as convening partner, the New Forest Cultural Council. This will be an on-the-ground partnership organisation and forum, designed to facilitate the promote the healthy development and identity of the distinctly “New Forest” heritage and cultural offering, especially in the post NFDC landscape. It is currently being developed via an NFALC steering group, who are inviting additional bodies (such as the New Forest Heritage Centre, the Marque and the CDA) to join as additional members, prior to the inaugural full council meeting on Thursday 13th November (venue TBC). Three initial projects, already underway, as a linguistic New Forest Dialect Survey, supported in part by some already-sourced Arts Council grant money; revival and registration of the New Forest flag (used as part of May celebrations in the 19th C and incorporated into council coats of arms in the 50s and 70s); and a series of workshops in endangered heritage crafts within the New Forest area, starting 2026, with the first workshop set to be traditional oak smoked leather tanning.

Quadrant Meeting – Councillor Hubbard reported that a productive meeting was held, marking the first since last November. Attendees emphasized to Bryce Stratford and the NPA officer the importance of these meetings and recommended that they be scheduled regularly in advance. Regarding specific matters discussed, the primary topic was car park charges, which has already been addressed above.

Planning Update – Cllr. Steele reported that a site visit to Pennerley Farm has been scheduled for 23rd June at 2:30 p.m., with the NPA Planning Officer in attendance. The site encompasses 17 hectares. Consideration will be given to policies DP50, DP2, and DP3. A planning meeting is set for Tuesday, 1st July at 6:00 p.m. at the Climate Centre. Cllr. Hubbard expressed appreciation to Cllr. Steele for her efforts regarding this application.

Decisions – 24/00119CAC – River House, Dock Lane SO42 7YJ. Replacement dwelling (demolition of existing). Demolition of existing staff accommodation. Outbuildings, gates, fences, garden wall with attached glass house (amended plans). Approve conditionally (Legal Agreement).

Asset Management – Cllr. Hubbard suggested that the committee should continue to develop and expand its scope, including increased community engagement and on issues such as speeding. The establishment of an Emergency and Resilience Plan is important, which would need to be prepared with the community including the involvement of the Estate, Village Hall, and Fire Brigade etc. It was

proposed that the committee might be led by a chairperson who is not directly responsible for creating the plan.

Twinning Garden – Cllr. Reece reported the tap now mended thanks to Cllr. Steele. Said should we purchase a retractable hose and keep in the garden and keep in small locked box? Cllr. Hubbard suggested a hosepipe on the wall. Cllr. Hubbard will ask Mrs. Jones. Agreed to take padlock off kissing gate. Cllr. Reece said could we have a sign on the gate saying ‘Community Garden’ as visitors think it is a private garden. Could we have a sheep hurdle to help define the boundary? Rachel will ask Lord Montagu. Also ask Katherine to remind parents that their children should not walk on the plants. Said ground elder is quite bad, said encourage Cllrs. to look at garden. Cllr. Hubbard and Rachel said it looks lovely. Clerk to invoice BTA for half the costs of plants.

ACTIONS: Mrs. Pearson and the Clerk

Speedwatch – Already discussed.

2545 Finance

Monthly Finance Report circulated. Cllr. Hubbard said £894 surplus Main costs were Twinning Garden £286 and Insurance £1,017. VAT of £1.131 to claim back from HMRC. There will be PASYE and NI on Clerk’s pay this year. Proposed: Cllr. Rowland, Seconded Cllr. Steele. Unanimously agreed.

Bank Payments for approval – Paul Deakin £166.50; Clerk’s salary: £262.05; Beaulieu Settled Estate: £234.78; Royal Mail Door-to-Door £240 [subject to final quote received]

Proposed: Cllr. Dolbear Seconded: Cllr. Rowland. Motion carried unanimously.

2535 Correspondence

SSEN Grant – Applications by 25th June. Cllr. Hubbard reported that he has forwarded this to BVH, CET, Beaulieu School, NMMT and the Church.

Clerks and Councils Direct and CPRE Hampshire Views.

2536 Items for future meetings – None.

Meeting ended: 8.20p.m.