



Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held at the Landford Village Hall at 7.00pm on 20 May 2019

Present

Cllr D Wilson (Chairman)	E Finlayson (Parish Clerk)	29 Members of the Parish
Cllr L Randall (WC)		6 visitors

Pre-Meeting

The Chair explained that a Parish Meeting is a meeting of the residents of the Landford Parish i.e. anyone on the Parish electoral register. The Chair of the Parish Council is required to chair the meeting and the Parish Clerk takes minutes - but there is no formal involvement of the Parish Council in the meeting. It was noted that any attendee could raise and discuss any points they wished to, but only attendees on the Landford Parish electoral roll could make proposals or vote on any proposals.

A head count of anyone present who was not on the Landford Parish electoral roll was made for the Minutes.

The Annual Parish Meeting opened at 19:05.

APM 1/19 Apologies: None.

APM 2/19 An update on RSPB Franchises Lodge – Dante Munns & Clare Elcoate

D Munns talked about getting to know the wildlife, neighbours, maintaining the public rights of way and about the potential introduction of a new right of way for a circular walk, which is in the ecological study phase. The local wildlife and fauna were highlighted, with a number of bat surveys being carried out and invasive plants had been removed (over 70 hectares of mature rhododendron). It was reported that there are hawfinches breeding and a large number of birds visiting e.g. lesser spotted woodpeckers and wood warblers. The number of deer on site was mentioned with respect to the impact on the site and management in isolation or partnership with local working groups. It was noted that there are still studies and open questions regarding the land’s heritage and the vision going forward. Accommodating site visitors with minimal impact and sensitivity to the area was under review. There were no current plans to open the area up to the public, as it is to be maintained as a secluded forest space. Antisocial behaviour in the form of fly tipping and off-road scramblers has been an issue.

C Elcoate spoke about an approach from the Cameron Bespolka Trust to partner with RSPB to create a field centre in Franchises Lodge which is to be called “Cameron’s Cottage”. An architect, quantity surveyor and structural engineer had been appointed and a planning application is due in July/August time frame. Images of the current and proposed buildings were shown. The building will have basic accommodation for up to 20 people including leaders. The vision includes university students being able to carry out fieldwork as well as an area for young people to connect with nature. Provisions are being made for an accessible bedroom downstairs. The site would be used for practical forestry skills, forest bathing, sustainable living, and navigation skills along with life skills, astronomy and art courses. There is no mains electricity or services at the moment, and the aim is to keep it as off grid as possible, using a biomass boiler, solar power and a well as the main source of water.

Questions included:

- What about the light pollution impact of new building and activities? – C Elcoate responded that the cottage is in the darkest part of the forest and there will be sensors to ensure any lighting does not disturb the bats.



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- Can the local Parish schools (including the pre-school) visit the cottage? – C Elcoate responded that use as an outdoor classroom for day trips would be possible and that the fees are still under discussion.
- The local village Facebook page has a number of discussions about the noise on site and the impact on the local wildlife (e.g. machinery displacing deer and tree felling); were they aware of this? – D Munns and C Elcoate asked for the village Facebook site to be sent to them and discussed that they are looking at how to better communicate plans to the local area.
- Will the site be open for locals? – D Munns and C Elcoate mentioned that the volunteer groups and site visits (e.g. to see bats) may be arranged through the RSPB.

D Munns and C Elcoate closed the presentation at 19:35.

APM 3/19 New Forest National Park talk on origins and history of footpaths – Adam Vasey

A Vasey gave an engaging talk about the origins and history of footpaths.

Highlights included:

- Where it all started, the advertising of the countryside in paintings, poems and writings
- John Muir and his role in the forming of National Parks
- North Yorkshire Dales 1932 mass trespass
- 70 years of National Parks with 15 National Parks in the UK.
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW Act)
- New Forest has over 140 miles of tracks and footpaths

A Vasey closed the presentation at 19:57.

APM 4/19 Parish Council highlights 2018/2019 - Cllr David Wilson (Chairman)

Cllr Wilson gave a short presentation about Landford Parish Council which included information on the Parish Council responsibilities, projects, partnerships, contacts and asset maintenance and improvements.

Highlights included:

- Two grants applied for and received from Southern Wiltshire Area Board to expedite the play area gates and fencing at both Parish recreation grounds.
- Cross organisation working with Bramshaw Parish Council on replacing the Nomansland green bins
- The recent Parish Meeting with the Southern Wilts Community Policing team
- New Parish noticeboards for Nomansland and Hamptworth
- The upkeep of existing assets, including the great work carried out by the Parish handyman to refurbish the wooden Parish bus stops.

Cllr Wilson noted that “Announcement of the Landford Parish Council’s Community Champions” was removed from the agenda this evening due to the lack of nominations received. The next steps would be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllr Wilson closed the presentation at 20:05 with a slide on how to access/contact the Parish Council.



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APM 5/19 PSCO Simon Nash – Community Policing update

Cllr Wilson noted that PSCO Nash had given apologies earlier in the meeting due to an ongoing incident.

APM 6/19 Neighbourhood Watch update – Merv Quick

M Quick, the Wiltshire Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Committee Member for South Wiltshire Community Police Team Area, gave a short history of their role in the organisation and how NHW is not all about crime, but about community and a caring society.

NHW is a national organisation, with around 170,000 schemes running in the UK. Encouragement was given to the Parishioners to sign up to a local scheme. A number of benefits were highlighted on membership including large organisations such as insurance companies giving a reduction on products.

M Quick highlighted that reporting any suspicious activity to the Community Police Team is to be encouraged as the police recently highlighted that they appreciate local intelligence.

The current challenge is the reinvigoration of NHW across South Wiltshire. There is a Neighbourhood task team set up with Landford, Redlynch and Downton Parishes, which is being driven by a Downton parishioner.

It was noted that each scheme has a co-ordinator and they may send messages directly to those enrolled in that scheme via the NHW system. As the data is held centrally, individuals/co-ordinators do not need or have access to members' private information.

M Quick closed the presentation at 20:13

Parish Emergency Plan – overview & next steps – Cllr Tony MacLachlan

Cllr MacLachlan explained Landford Parish Council's intention to create a Parish Emergency Plan. The plan will include actions to be taken in the case of local emergencies including the risk of the river Blackwater flooding.

The presentation gave an overview of the plan, key contact identification and content to date.

Cllr MacLachlan closed the presentation at 20:25 and asked for further questions and suggestions on how the Parish would like to see the Parish Emergency plan proceed.

- A Parishioner asked if a management group, like the Parish Defibrillator management group, should be formed to be an emergency team for central co-ordination and updates to the Parish Emergency Plan.
- A Parishioner highlighted the snow risk and the lack of gritting on the Parish roads. It was suggested the Plan could contain the location of the local grit bins, if there were any further grit/salt stocks in the Parish and who to contact.
- A Parishioner suggested circulation of the Parish Emergency Plan with the Parish Directory so that it would reach all houses in the Parish.

APM 7/19 Nomansland Community Events update – David Venetti

D Venetti spoke about the creation of Nomansland Community Events (NCE) as a not for profit company and its relationship with the Nomansland Sports Association. NCE has taken on the responsibility for running the Nomansland Recreation Ground and facilities (the play area is maintained by Landford Parish Council).



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The NCE has been responsible for:

- Cleaning up of the site and installing new recreation ground signs.
- Collaborating on events with local organisations e.g. the local school PTA. So, for instance, a professional firework display occurred on Bonfire Night, which it was hoped would be better for animals by reducing ad-hoc smaller events.
- Reinvigorating the family Go-Ride cycling events and sportive.
- Supporting after school Football training for the current Yr6 Children (10/11 year olds) which enabled funds to be raised via subs and grants to support this 18/19 strong team to continue and expand once they are no longer in the local primary school.
- Running family friendly football on a Friday (dads and lads).

D Venetti closed the update with an open invitation for any questions.

APM 8/19 Open forum for your questions and comments

The open forum raised a number of points:

- Appreciation of the local parishioner who litter picks every day and how the Community Champion award would be a good thing to try again.
- Verge cutting and ownership, regarding data that there is a 50% speed increase when rural verges are cut.
- Roundels in the village not visible – Speedwatch data mentioned that 1 in 5 people speed on Lyndhurst Road and visible roundels are needed as a reminder of the limit on this road.
- Highways footpath refurbishment (example given was North Lane, due to continual digging up for fibre and maintenance). It was suggested that My Wiltshire online reporting was the best place to start.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20:43 pm, when refreshments were available.