

## **NEW FOREST CONSULTATIVE PANEL**

**Minutes of the Meeting held at the Linden Hall, Lyndhurst Community Centre,  
Lyndhurst, SO43 7NY  
on THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2023 at 7.30 pm**

### **Those present:**

Andrew Gilruth (Chair)  
Steve Avery (NFNPA)  
Lucy Andrews (FE)  
Graham Ferris (Verderers)  
David Russell (NFDC)  
Vicki Gibbon (Panel Secretariat)  
Alison Bolton (Boldre Parish Council)  
Sue Bennison (Bramshaw Parish Council)  
Melissa Shepherd (Bransgore Parish Council)  
John Korbey (Brockenhurst Parish Council)  
Robert Clarke (Burley Parish Council)  
CPRE  
Peter Brown (Camping & Caravan Club)  
Sylvia Wiggins, Graham Chilcott (Copythorne Parish Council)  
Ian Moyse (East Boldre Parish Council)  
Roly Errington (Ellingham Parish Council)  
Diana Kitcher (WI)  
David Horne (Hordle Parish Council)  
Brice Stratford (Lyndhurst Parish Council)  
Mike Proctor (Marchwood Parish Council)  
Tim Cook (Netley Marsh Parish Council)  
Brian Tarnoff (Friends of the New Forest)  
Janet Bache (NF Dog Owners Group)  
Ailsa Farrard (NF Equestrian Association)  
Jenni Tubbs (NF Friends of the Earth)  
Frank Weller (Ramblers Association)  
Redlynch Parish Council  
Gareth Deboss (Ringwood Town Council)  
Charles Payne (Wellow Parish Council)  
Richard Taylor (NF Cycle Working Group)

### **1 Apologies for absence**

Craig Harrison (FE)  
Alexa Carcas (Fawley PC)  
Martin Fletcher (Royal Forestry Society)  
Rob Waite (EA)

## **2 Approval of Minutes from the meeting held on 1 June 2023**

2.1 The minutes were approved.

## **3 Matters Arising**

3.1 In response to the last meeting, Robert Clarke asked Craig Harrison how success was defined regarding the HLS scheme. Mr Harrison responded that success was defined by what had been done and completed and that he would report back to the panel at the next meeting.

## **4 Items the Chair feels urgent to report**

4.2 Andrew Perry Norton, CDA Chair, advised the Panel of a serious encroachment issue at Shobley near Ringwood. He explained that the site owner had been approached however had refused to take action. He explained that due to the amount of court costs involved a crowd funding page had been set up on the CDA website and urged members of the panel to support the work of the CDA in this matter.

4.3 It was agreed that a letter would be written on behalf of the panel in support of the CDA.

4.4 Sue Bennison reported to the Panel on a number of fly tipping incidents which had recently occurred in Brook. She asked if NFDC had plans in place to stop these issues in the future and who's responsibility it was to ensure any fly tipping was cleared. Derek Tipp advised that he would look into NFDC's policy and report back.

## **5 Matters for Reporting**

### **5.1 Forestry England Update – Craig Harrison**

Craig Harrison gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the recent work of Forestry England.

Hatchet Pond car park had now been reopened, changes included the relocation of the car park, keeping the same number of spaces but further from the water's edge whilst retaining good views of the popular spot. With the recent wet summer, several fungi had emerged earlier than usual and again Forestry England would continue to focus their resources on fungi harvesting.

Mr Harrison advised that FE were continuing to work on a range of measures to combat fly tipping in the Forest and a recent spate of vandalism toward bridges. He asked that panel members help to share the message of not leaving pumpkins in the forest which could lead to animal fatalities.

A copy of the presentation is available on the website.

## **4.2 NFNPA Update – Steve Avery**

Steve Avery began his presentation by highlighting the Partnership Plan launch which took place at the New Forest Show, the Plan in conjunction with partner organisations; sets out priorities and how partners would work together to achieve these. Mr Avery advised on the proposed new Permitted Development Right which would allow additional flexibilities to support housing development, and to allow farm buildings, high street uses and hotels to change to residential use without the need for planning permission. This consultation would run until 25 September, he explained that the Authority had some major concerns regarding this and would be discussed at the Authority meeting on 21 September.

The Vernon Dene case was ongoing and Authority members would be looking at revoking the Certificate of Lawfulness at their October meeting. He concluded his report by advising the Panel that the Authority's Annual Review 2022-2023 was now available on the website here - [Annual review - New Forest National Park Authority \(newforestnpa.gov.uk\)](https://www.newforestnpa.gov.uk/annual-review-2022-2023)

A copy of the presentation is available on the website.

## **4.3 Verderers – Graham Ferris**

Graham Ferris advised that the Forest Farming group had taken the first steps in applying for a grant for the agri-scheme, which should be processed at Christmas.

## **4.4 NFDC Update – Derek Tipp**

Derek Tipp gave an update on NFDC work and issues, including advising that the Solent Freeport had a new CEO James Hassett. The Shared Prosperity Funding had been allocated to support small projects across town centres in the district with Totton being a priority. The NFDC local plan would soon be updated with the key focus being local people and affordable housing and Mr Tipp also highlighted the A326 consultation.

## **5 Any other items the Chairman feels urgent**

5.1 There were no further items.

## **6 Dates of next Panel Meetings.**

6.1 Thursday 7 December 2023.