

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL
Copythorne Parish Hall – 27 January 2015
(7.00 p.m. – 9.19 p.m.)

PRESENT: Councillor S Bullen-Jarvis (Chairman); Councillors J Goodwin, Lady Kara Hawks, G James, M Moriarty and J Reilly
 New Forest District Council: Councillors D Andrews and D Tipp
 Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Riddoch and Puttock

126. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillor Goodwin declared an interest in planning application 14/00997 (Holly Farm, Pound Lane).

127. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Richard Mancey of Paultons Park gave a presentation on further plans for the Park. These comprised the refurbishment of an area to be branded as “Crittter Creek” in 2015, and refurbishment of a further area in 2016 to be branded as “Lost Kingdom”. The latter would cater particularly for children aged 5 to 10 and for those with physical disabilities and learning difficulties. Consultations with the planning authority had confirmed that the new proposals fell within permitted development rights.

In response to questions, Mr Mancey confirmed that the Park made every effort to deal with highway issues. No problems arose on site and parking facilities were more than adequate to cater for expected attendances. Mr Mancey agreed to prepare a presentation pack which could be used by the Parish Council in any future discussions.

128. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 25 November & 9 December 2014 and 13 January 2015 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

129. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

130. COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

There were no County Councillors present.

131. DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillor Andrews reported on the appointment of an NFDC Task and Finish Group to look at child poverty. Certain areas of the New Forest contained levels of child poverty which were the third highest in Hampshire. The next meeting of the Group would bring together various agencies to address the issue.

Councillor Tipp reported on the election of Richard Frampton as an NFDC councillor in a Bransgore and Burley bi-election. Councillor Frampton was also a member of the National Park Authority. NFDC were also considering the replacement of parking meters and would be conducting a tender process in the autumn.

132. FLOODING

Councillor Goodwin presented several photographs showing improvements carried out to watercourses and culverts that were required to carry, when required, heavy surface water flows either to the Cadnam River in the Cadnam/Copythorne area or Bartley Water in the Bartley village area. Concluding the presentation he emphasised the need for the community now to maintain any watercourses/ditches on or adjacent to their properties during the summer months and ensure that foliage/saplings do not get established in beds or banks.

133. CORRESPONDENCE

Affordable housing house swap: A tenant of Spectrum Housing in an affordable housing unit in Copythorne had asked the Parish Council to agree to relaxation of the local connection rule to facilitate a desired house swap. The tenant wished to move to a larger property but was unable to find a person with a local connection with whom to exchange.

It was unclear whether the Parish Council had a formal role in this process in the absence of any provision in the section 106 agreement or any other documentation. Regardless of this, however, members agreed that the Council would be opposed to any relaxation of the local connection rule.

Other correspondence: Members noted the following correspondence:

- the December Safer Neighbourhoods Beat report
- a letter from two local residents concerning the contents of the affordable housing report from Age Concern discussed at the 13 January meeting
- other correspondence as shown in the list accompanying the agenda

134. REDUCED BUS SERVICES AND PROVISION OF COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Councillor Moriarty presented an oral report on the papers circulated with the agenda. In particular, these referred to the effect on local bus services of Hampshire County Council's decision to reduce subsidies as part of further budget savings. Bus companies were left to deal with the loss of income and had to consider commercial interests. As a result there was more emphasis on parish councils and other organisations to focus on community transport schemes.

The County Council had also re-launched the Passenger Transport Initiative which offered guidance in the provision of community transport. Councillor Andrews also referred to facilities offered by the organisation Community First New Forest.

Councillor Moriarty was asked to consider whether he would be willing to lead a project to assess local need and pursue appropriate community transport initiatives.

135. FINANCE MATTERS

Budget monitoring: Members noted the December quarter budget monitoring figures, as circulated with the agenda.

Expenditure: The Clerk presented the monthly financial statement, together with details of proposed payments. Agreed, that the statement be received and the following payments authorised:

Cheque no

958	M Derrick (Clerk's salary and expenses – January)	£851.12
959	Copythorne Parish Hall (Meeting accommodation, Jan – March)	£77.00

District Councillor Grants: Councillor Andrews reported that a proportion of her rural assistance grant was available for Copythorne in the current financial year. Agreed, item for discussion at the next meeting.

136. MATTERS PENDING

Members reviewed the outstanding items list and agreed the following:

511 (*Footpath inspections*): All outstanding inspections to be completed by 24 February 2015

523 (*Highway/drainage issues*): Area Surveyor addressing outstanding issues in Old Romsey Road

541 (*Winsor United Sports Club football pitches*): Councillor Goodwin to report back on discussions with Club

542 (*Quiet lanes in the New Forest National Park*): Clerk to request item to be included in the next North East Quadrant agenda

534 (*Traffic issues, Old Romsey Road*) *deleted*

137. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Further to discussion at the 13 January meeting on the Action Hampshire report on possible affordable housing sites, members considered whether the report could be released publically at this stage. It was agreed that it would be inappropriate to publish the report at present, particularly as landowners had not been approached and initial planning appraisals had not been carried out. Once these further investigations had been completed, a definitive list of sites would emerge for further discussion. These sites would then be discussed in public and a decision made on a final selection. Any sites considered for development would also be subject to the normal planning processes which were open to public scrutiny.

138. STANDING ORDERS

Standing Order 4(ii) was invoked to allow the meeting to deal with the business in hand.

139. DELEGATES' REPORTS

Councillor Lady Kara Hawks reported on the North East Quadrant meeting held on 22 January which had included discussion on welcome packs for new village residents, planning enforcement and affordable housing.

140. MEMBERS' REPORTS

Councillor Moriarty: No Consultative Panel meeting held in January in the absence of business.

Councillor Bullen-Jarvis: Further damage to glass panels in red telephone boxes.

141. PLANNING MATTERS

New application: Members agreed the following response to a current application:

14/00997 Former Dairy Building, Holly Farm, Pound Lane (Replacement roof; 4 no rooflights; cladding). Support (3), subject to the views of the Conservation Officer (Councillor Goodwin declared an interest in this application, took no part in the discussion and did not vote thereon)

Decisions: Members noted recent decisions, as shown in the list accompanying the agenda (appendix 1 in the minute book).

CHAIRMAN _____ DATE _____