

20TH MAY 1991

NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of New Forest District Council held at Appletree Court, Lyndhurst on Monday, 20th May 1991.

Councillors:

p Mrs. N.E. Alldridge
p K.E. Austin
p Mrs. O.A.M. Badland
p S. Bailey
p P.A. Baker
p Mrs. P.D. Baker
p Mrs. M.J. Bannister
p Major C. Beeton
p Wg. Cdr. H.E. Bennett, MBE
p W.E.B. Boothby
p E.R. Bowring
p D.S. Burdle
p R.J. Burnett
p Mrs. D.M. Brooks
p J.E. Coles
p Miss S.A. Cooke
p D.E. Cracknell
p J.G. Craig
p W.F. Croydon
p B.A. Cullers
p G. Dawson
p J.J. Dawson
p Miss P.A. Drake
p Major S.S. Elvery
p Mrs. L.K. Errington
p L.P. Gibbs
p W.J. Greer
p A.J.C. Griffiths
p R.C.H. Hale

Councillors:

p F.R. Harrison
p Mrs. Y.P. Holloway
p Mrs. A.M. Howe
p J.M. Hoy
p J.A.G. Hutchins, JP
p J. Lovering
p J. Maynard
p Mrs. M. McLean
p N.D.M. McGeorge
p Miss G.E. Meaden
p R.F. Orton
p P.G. Pearce-Smith
p C.G. Ramsden
p A.W. Rice TD
p Miss G.M. Rickus CBE
p Mrs. M.J. Robinson
p D.N. Scott
p Lieut. Col. M.J. Shand
p S.A. Shepherd
p A.J. Simmons
p Mrs. B. Smith
p Mrs. L.P. Snashall
p G. Spikins
p Mrs. J.K. Vernon-Jackson
p R.G. Vernon-Jackson
p S.S. Wade
p G.H. Wales
p Mrs. D. Wilson
p Mrs. P. Wyeth

Apologies:

Officers Attending:

P.A.D. Hyde, R. Carver, N.J. Gibbs, D. Gurney, E.W. Hughes, E.S. Johnson, Miss J. Debnam, Mrs. J. Livesey, J. Paterson, Mrs. R. Rutins (part) and T. Simpson.

The Chairman of the Council (Cllr. D.S. Burdle) in the Chair.

1. MAYOR AND MAYORESS OF LA CHEVROLIERE.

The Chairman was pleased to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress of La Chevroliere, the twin town of Lyndhurst, to the meeting.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Cllr. Bowring moved that Cllr. J.A.G. Hutchins, JP be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Errington.

Cllr. Maynard moved that Cllr. J.E. Coles be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year. The amendment was seconded by Cllr. J.J. Dawson.

On a vote by ballot it was

RESOLVED:

That Cllr. J.E. Coles be elected Chairman of the Council to continue in office until his successor becomes entitled to act as Chairman at the next Annual Meeting of the Council on 18th May 1992.

Cllr. Coles took the Chair and made the declaration of acceptance of office which was formally witnessed by the District Secretary.

Cllr. Burdle invested the Chairman with the chain and badge of office.

The Chairman thanked members for his election and spoke of the changes which would affect local government in the coming months. He referred also to his predecessor's strong commitment to the Council's public relations, and in particular to his involvement with New Forest 2000.

On behalf of all the staff the Chief Executive congratulated the Chairman on his election and assured him of the full commitment and support of all staff through the forthcoming period of change.

Cllr. Burdle invested Mrs. Coles with her badge of office and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

3. VOTE OF THANKS TO CLLR. D.S. BURDLE AND MRS MONICA BURDLE.

It was moved by the Chairman of the Council, seconded by Cllr. J.J. Dawson and unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the best wishes of this Council be accorded to Cllr. Derek Burdle for his outstanding service during his term of office as Chairman of the Council, also to Mrs Monica Burdle for her able help as Chairman's consort, and that they be wished every success for the future.

On behalf of all the staff, the Chief Executive expressed thanks and good wishes to Cllr. Burdle and Mrs Monica Burdle. He referred to Cllr. Burdle's pledge at the start of his term of office to lead from the front, to place the New Forest on the map, and to

restrain development throughout the District. He had achieved these aims through unstinting efforts.

In reply, Cllr. Burdle referred to the interesting functions, and also the tragedies, with which he had become involved through his office. A two day visit to the Royal Hampshire Regiment, on duty in Northern Ireland, came particularly to mind. He also thanked the staff of this Council and the Hampshire Fire Brigade for their untiring efforts and assistance during the Lyminster floods and Picket Post fire.

Cllr. Burdle was particularly pleased to have achieved recognition of the New Forest on mail franked in the District. Previously all such post was either marked Southampton or Bournemouth. He was also pleased with the progress of New Forest 2000 which was now being closely followed by other Districts, and indeed had set the tone for the County's own presentation.

The Chairman presented Cllr. Burdle with a past Chairman's badge and Mrs Monica Burdle with a memento of her term of office.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Cllr. Mrs Errington proposed that Cllr. J.A.G. Hutchins, JP be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Craig.

Cllr. Miss Cooke proposed that Cllr. Mrs J.K. Vernon-Jackson, JP be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council. The amendment was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Robinson.

On a vote by ballot, it was

RESOLVED:

That Cllr. Mrs J.K. Vernon-Jackson, JP be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council, to hold office until immediately after the election of the Chairman at the next Annual Meeting of the Council on 18thMay1992.

Cllr. Mrs Vernon-Jackson made the declaration of acceptance of office which was formally witnessed by the District Secretary.

The Chairman invested Cllr. Mrs Vernon-Jackson with the badge of office.

5. RETURNING OFFICER'S REPORT (REPORT A).

The District Secretary advised that the following Councillors had been elected to serve on the New Forest District Council at the elections held on 2nd May 1991, and that each had made the declaration of acceptance of office.

Ward Name

Candidates Elected

Barton	K.E. Austin A.J.C. Griffiths
Bashley	A.W. Rice Mrs. D. Wilson
Becton	S. Bailey Major S.S. Elvery
Blackfield & Langley	Mrs. A.M. Howe J. Maynard
Boldre	D.N. Scott
Bransgore & Sopley	Miss G.M. Rickus
Brockenhurst	W.J. Greer
Colbury	G. Spikins
Copythorne South	W.F. Croydon
Dibden & Hythe North	Mrs. M. McLean Mrs. M.J. Robinson S.S. Wade
Dibden Purlieu	Mrs. B. Smith
Downlands	J.G. Craig
Fawley/Holbury	J.E. Coles B.A. Cullers P.G. Pearce-Smith
Fordingbridge	R.C.H. Hale Lieut. Col. M.J. Shand
Forest North	C.G. Ramsden
Forest North West	J. Lovering
Forest South	Mrs. O.A.M. Badland
Forest West	Miss P.A. Drake R.F. Orton
Hordle	E.R. Bowring J.M. Hoy
Hythe South	R.J. Burnett G. Dawson L.P. Gibbs
Lymington Town	Mrs. Y.P. Holloway R.G. Vernon-Jackson G.H. Wales
Lyndhurst	Mrs. P.A. Wyeth
Marchwood	Mrs. N.E. Alldridge

Milford	Major C. Beeton A.J. Simmons
Milton	Wg. Cdr. H.E. Bennett, MBE J.A.G. Hutchins
Netley Marsh	D.S. Burdle
Pennington	N.D.M. McGeorge Mrs. J.K. Vernon-Jackson JP
Ringwood North	Mrs. P.D. Baker Mrs. L.K. Errington
Ringwood South	P.A. Baker D.E. Cracknell
Sway	Miss G.E. Meaden
Totton Central	Mrs. M.J. Bannister Mrs. D.M. Brooks S.A. Shepherd
Totton North	Miss S.A. Cooke J.J. Dawson F.R. Harrison
Totton South	W.E.B. Boothby Mrs. L.P. Snashall

6. VOTE OF THANKS TO FORMER COUNCILLORS.

The Chairman of the Council moved, Cllr D.S. Burdle seconded, and it was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the best wishes of this Council for their services to Local Government in this District as Councillors be accorded to the following who are no longer members of this Council:-

A.E. Avery	M.J. Knill
P. Brown	A. Lee
Miss M.A. Clarke	Mrs. P.J. Marlow
M.R. Cox	R.A. Penny
M.E. Galpin	R.E. Podesta
A.D. Goodall	Mrs. E.I. Pugh
S.A. Hayes	Mrs. E.M.F. Randall
Gp. Capt. M. Hermiston MBE	M.H.G. Richards
A.A. Joyce	W.S. Rippon-Swaine
J.D. Keating	Mrs. J.C. Safe
D.W. Killen	J.C. Webb, DFC
Mrs. M.C. King	

7. MINUTES.

In answer to a question from Cllr. Mrs Robinson, Members were advised that the written reply on the cost of the proposed publicity campaign for the Environmental

Protection Act 1990 (minute 67 (c) refers) would be circulated shortly

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th February 1991, having been circulated, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

8. PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Miss Drake presented the minutes of the meetings held on 13th February, 13th March, 10th April and 1st May 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received:-

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Mrs Alldridge presented the minutes of the meeting held on 7th March 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received and the recommendation be adopted:-

- a) Environmental Health Policy Review - pollution control, pest control and dogs (minute 104)

In the light of recent attacks by dangerous dogs, and in particular the incident in Bradford during the previous weekend when a child had been attacked by a Pit Bull Terrier, Cllr. Griffiths considered that the Council's policies on dogs should contain a statement regarding dangerous dogs. He proposed that these policies should be given further consideration. The proposal was seconded by Cllr. Burdle who considered that there should be controls over the import of dangerous breeds and their exercise in public areas.

The proposal was unanimously agreed.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received subject to the policies on pollution control, pest control and dogs contained in minute 104 being referred back to the Committee for further consideration.

10. STRATEGIC GROWTH IN TOTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Cllr Miss Cooke presented the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received:-

- a) Hollyhatch Road - Testbourne Road Link (minute 40(a))

Cllr. Mrs Bannister reiterated the concern of local people that the Hollyhatch Road - Testbourne Road Link was not to be closed. It had been accepted that the design of the link was faulty and it was the unanimous view of local residents that the design of the link should be altered or it should be closed to all but emergency vehicles.

Residents had shown Cllr. Mrs Bannister copies of their deeds which indicated that the link would be closed.

It was agreed that this matter should be given further consideration in six months time.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

11. LEISURE SERVICES COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Hutchins presented the minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 1991. He also wished the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council every success in their forthcoming term of office.

On the motion that the minutes be received:-

- a) Clayfields Sports Centre: Financial implications (minute 97)

Cllr. Mrs Robinson referred to paragraph 2 of this minute which implied that the sole cause of the additional expenditure had been the hindered grass growth resulting from exceptional weather. She moved that this paragraph be amended to read "The additional expenditure incurred resulted from hindered grass growth necessitating advice from external consultants". The amendment was seconded by Cllr. Wade. The Chairman accepted the amendment.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received subject to the amendment of minute 97 as outlined above.

12. HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Mrs Bannister presented the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received:-

- a) "Amberwood": Redevelopment of Heather Road, Fawley (minute 101))

Cllr. Maynard referred to the decision to request the Policy and Resources Committee to approve the

disposal of land to a fully mutual housing association at nil cost, subject to the consent of the Secretary of State. He was concerned that at some future date the housing association might cease to have its present status and the land would consequently have been given to a private company. He was anxious that these homes should be provided without delay but, subject to there being no implications for the progression of this project, he requested that consideration be given to the land being leased to the housing association at a peppercorn rent.

Cllr. Griffiths was satisfied that the wording of the minute, which referred to disposal, could include leasing arrangements.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the minutes be received;
- (b) That the question of leasing land at Amberwood to a fully mutual housing association be investigated and a report submitted to a future meeting of the Committee

13. LICENSING COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Rice presented the minutes of the meetings held on 28th March and 23rd April 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received and the recommendations be adopted:-

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received and the recommendations be adopted.

14. CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Wade presented the minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received:-

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

15. WORKS COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Wg. Cdr Bennett MBE presented the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received:-

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be received.

16. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

Cllr. Craig presented the minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 1991, together with the minutes of a meeting of the re-elected members of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 16th May 1991.

On the motion that the minutes be received and the recommendations be adopted:-

a) Deer Hunting (minute 100)

Cllr. Maynard was not satisfied that the question of deer hunting in the New Forest should be referred to the New Forest Committee. He considered that the majority of the residents in the New Forest District opposed deer hunting and the Council should express a clear view. He moved that his original motion, namely that

"In recognition of the concern of residents of the New Forest regarding the practice of deer hunting by hounds, this Council urges the Forestry Commission to prohibit such activity on land under their control with immediate effect."

should be adopted. This represented an amendment to the recommendation of the Policy & Resources Committee. This motion was seconded by Cllr. J.J. Dawson who spoke of his continued support of the arguments set out in the minute.

Cllr. Mrs Errington advised members that deer hunting was a lawful pursuit, and the Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest had no authority to refuse to issue the relevant licences. She had moved that the matter be referred to the New Forest Committee as they would be able to lobby the Minister of Agriculture to secure the necessary change in the legislation.

With twenty-eight members voting in favour of the proposition and twenty-three voting against, the amendment was declared carried

b) Appointment of Representatives on Outside Bodies (minute 131)

Cllr. J.J. Dawson considered that the views of the re-elected members of the Policy and Resources Committee were not representative of the Council as a whole. He moved that the appointment of representatives on outside bodies should be referred back to the Policy and Resources Committee for further consideration. The motion was seconded by Cllr. Maynard.

Cllr. Griffiths suggested that, as the majority of the appointments were not cause for concern, it would be most appropriate to deal with this matter

immediately, with only a limited number of appointments having to be given further consideration.

Cllrs. Burdle and Craig reminded members that the consideration of these appointments by the Policy and Resources Committee was in accordance with practice and previous decisions of the Council. The Committee had made recommendations, but the final decision was that of the Council.

Cllr. Mrs. Bannister moved and Cllr. Griffiths seconded that the matter should be considered at this meeting.

With twenty-eight members voting for the amendment, and twenty-nine voting against, the amendment was lost.

The Chairman thereupon put the original motion. With twenty-nine members voting in favour and twenty-nine voting against, the motion was declared carried on the Chairman's casting vote.

c) Association of District Councils (min 132).

Cllr. Griffiths proposed and Cllr. Burdle seconded that Cllr. Craig be nominated to serve as this Council's representative on the Council of the Association of District Councils.

Cllr. Harrison proposed and it was duly seconded that Cllr. Coles be nominated to serve as this Council's representative on the Council of the Association of District Councils.

On a vote by ballot, it was

RESOLVED:

that Cllr. Coles be nominated to serve as this Council's representative on the Council of the Association of District Councils with effect on 24 July 1991, and that he be nominated to be put forward to serve on the National Assemblies of his choice.

d) Local Government Review - a new Tax for Local Government (minute 135)

Cllr. Griffiths referred to paragraph 21 of Annex 3 and was concerned that the introduction of minor local taxes might include some form of tax on tourism. Cllr. J.J. Dawson did not consider that any tax on tourists would be practical to enforce. He also suggested that some account would have to be taken of the reciprocal visits paid by local residents to other districts.

Cllr. Griffiths moved that paragraph 21 be amended by the deletion of the words "..... and to

consider allowing the introduction of minor local taxes". The motion was seconded by Cllr. Mrs Wilson.

With thirty-eight members voting in favour of the motion, and a minority voting against the motion was declared carried.

(Note: Cllr. Mrs. B. Smith disclosed an interest with respect to Minute 120, but there being no discussion, did not leave the meeting.)

RESOLVED:

- a) That the minutes be received and the recommendations be adopted, subject to minute 131 being referred back for further consideration, and the amendment of paragraph 21 of Annex 3 as set out above.
- b) That the District Secretary be given delegated power to take such action as may be needed regarding the Council's representation on outside bodies, including the making of appointments.

17. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS.

RESOLVED:

That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to any orders, deeds or documents necessary to give effect to any decision made at this meeting.

CHAIRMAN