

COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 11th December 2018
ITEM 13 – Correspondence & Clerks Report

Correspondence

1. Letter from the Secretary of the Copythorne Community Group, referring to the resolution of the Council to adopt the Sports Wall and Basketball Net facilities at Copythorne Parish Hall. The Group intends to dissolve and its remaining funds, amounting to £544.42, will be passed to the Parish Council for them to undertake various works as specified in the report presented to the Parish Council.

The letter stated that an extraordinary meeting of the Group will be called to finally approve this matter and to confirm that the Parish Hall Management Committee has no objection to this proposal.

3. Letter from NFNP regarding the report made by the Parish Clerk on behalf of the Council concerning a shipping container at Nuthooks House, Old Romsey Road, Cadnam. The Planning Officer has visited the site and corresponded with the occupiers. The occupier has agreed that the container located in the front garden will be removed although they are trying to sell it. The Planning Officer will revisit next month and will review the situation. The shipping container at Orchard Cottage, Old Romsey Road has also been reported and is being investigated.
4. E-Mail from HCC referring to my recent enquiry regarding parking on the slip road of the Old Romsey Road and Romsey Road. The e-mail notified me that the enquiry has been passed to NFDC as they act as agents for local traffic management and deal with matters relating to parking.
5. E-Mail from Hampshire Highways regarding our recent weed spraying enquiry. The e-mail stated that Hampshire Highway's current arrangement for the treating of weeds on the highway is to make one visit per year to treat any weeds that are present at the time of the visit. They state that they " *do not undertake to maintain a weed-free environment, only to control the growth of weeds upon the highway. This arrangement of one cut per year was determined following a public consultation on how best to spend the limited funds available to our department following recent central government budget cuts. At this time there is no intention for us to carry out a second treatment here*".
6. Letter from NFDC regarding **2019/2020 Precepting Arrangements with** a precept claim form for the financial year 2019/20 to be completed and returned by 14 January 2019
7. E-mail from **Beverley Harding-Rennie** the new Rural Housing Enabler working within the New Forest as part of HARA (Hampshire Alliance for Rural Affordable Housing). The New Forest National Park Authority did not put forward any sites for allocation at Copythorne in the recent local plan examination and since the last discussions between the Parish Council and HARA, English Rural have continued to work with the landowner of site 5, The Haywain, to see if the landowner would be prepared to sell the site at rural exception site land values so that a small scheme of 10 affordable rented homes could be delivered. There are currently 31 households on the Local Authority housing register with a local connection to Copythorne Parish.

HARA (Ms Harding-Rennie, NFDC, NFNP and English Rural) would like the opportunity to come and attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the provision of rural affordable housing in Copythorne and the current proposal for a scheme of affordable rented homes to the rear of The Haywain (site 5).

Clerk's Report

1. The Parish Clerk was notified that the Council Website states that " *There will be public participation sessions at the start of proceedings (7 pm prompt) when residents may make statements or ask questions about any matter affecting the Parish*" This statement contradicts the agenda which clearly stated that the public session is a "Public Session for Items on the Agenda". Standing Orders state that " *members of the public may make representation, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they are entitled to attend in respect of the business on the agenda.*" Councillors views are sought as to which approach should be taken. Should the proposal be to amend Standing Orders then a formal proposal is required.
2. On reviewing the Insurance Policy in preparation for budget forecast for next year it became apparent that the policy cover was insufficient to cover all items on the updated Asset Register. The policy has now been adjusted effective 15th November 2019 to increase the Street Furniture sum insured by £5,170.00 to a new total of £14,827.00 to align the policy with the Council's asset register. The annual additional premium due for this alteration is £15.85, including Insurance Premium Tax (IPT), which has increased the

Council's future annual premium payable to £491.37, including IPT. However, there is no pro-rata premium payable until the next renewal date of the policy on 9th June 2019.

3. Copy of the November Beat Report is attached.