

# Denny Lodge Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly  
held on Monday 18th May 2015 at 8.00 pm in Beaulieu Abbey Church Hall

Present: Mr P Roberts (Chairman)  
Ms A Tilbury (Vice)  
Mr J Green  
Mr R Gover  
Dr V Batty  
Mrs J Horton  
Ms E Elecoate  
Mrs M Dawkins (Clerk)

Also present - Cllr Michael Harris and Mr & Mrs F Pope

Mr Roberts opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Denny Lodge Parish Council's Annual Meeting.

1. **Apologies:**  
Apologies were received from Mrs Jane Horton
2. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:**  
The minutes of the last meeting, dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 had been circulated to those present, and accepted as a true record. Ms Tilbury proposed the minutes and seconded by Mr J Green. All being in favour, the Minutes were duly signed.
3. **Matters Arising:**  
There were no matters arising.
4. **Chairman's Report** (Written by the retiring Chairman)  
First of all I would like to thank you all for pulling together for the survival of Denny Lodge Parish Council. I will not apologise for communication with the Parishioners asking for their support for it to continue. I learnt years ago that if you want to raise the issue of a perceived problem put something controversial on the Agenda and members will attend an AGM or APM. I would like to thank Mo, for being persistent in her endeavours to keep the support for Denny Lodge. I am sure you will pull together and go from strength to strength.

Ongoing topics throughout the year, Cycling, Broadband and the Website are all still unresolved but hopefully progress is still being made.

Roly and John have ably looked at the Planning during the year, and we had representatives at the Consultative Panel, Arson Forum, NFALC and the Verderers Court, with Clive Maton being a Verderer. The Consultative Panel and NFALC are very useful for raising questions and the Quadrant Meetings run by the National Park, which all members are invited to attend are very informative.

We have been very well served by our District Councillor Paul Vickers and his retirement this year will be a great loss to us and the New Forest District Council.

Other retirements of Clive Maton who chaired the Council for a number of years, had the added bonus of his membership to the Verderer's Court and the National Park Authority and Graham Wilson a member for over 30 years who was tireless in keeping the Council together, always finding new Clerks and Councillors when required.

The Clerk and myself have worked together over the past couple of years on the Budgets, and hopefully we have now made them easier to understand and work out. The next job the Council needs to look at is the Standing Orders, as they do need updating due to new legislation and I have told Mo if you need any help or advice I am always at the end of the phone.

Something I was told years ago is: One of the attributes of a Councillor is that they do not know everything but they know where to get the information. Good luck for the Future. Eddie Holtham

#### District Councillor's Report

Cllr Michael Harris introduced himself to the meeting, stating that 'he had a hard act to follow in the steps of Paul Vickers' but would do all he could to help Denny Lodge Parish Council go forward. He would contact Mr K Thornbeer over issues that he felt may help the council and would invite him to the next meeting in July.

#### PCSO Daniel Carlin's Report

There was no report. However, the committee were informed that PC Jason Eastwood was going to come to future meetings.

#### Consultative Report

There was no Consultative Report

#### Arson Forum Meeting.

Meetings will now only be taking place quarterly. There was no report submitted.

#### NFALC (New Forest Association of Local Councils) Report

As Clerk I have attended four meetings during the last year and was pleased to announce that Denny Lodge Parish Council has now a full complement of seven members on the committee, "rearing to go"...

During the past year much attention has been given to the forthcoming elections with a presentation given by Rosemary Rutins. Cyclists also caused an area of concern and one of the Focus Groups, represented by Neal Martin of Burley Parish Council has worked hard during the year to try and establish a Cycling Charter. We still await a final decision. The main problems being a cap of 1000 riders and the wearing of a number on the cyclist's back. Light pollution, Fracking,

Broadband, Dibden Bay/Marchwood Military Port, Council Tax, the NPA Management Plan are other areas discussed.

NFALC stands to give support, when asked, by all/any Parish Councils throughout the Forest and works closely with the NFDC and the NPA

It was suggested at a recent meeting in April, that I give to each Councillors a "Good Councillors Guide". I hope the booklet will prove very useful.

If anyone is interested, I keep minutes of meetings for the past couple of years in a file should they wish to read them.

I have found that attending these meetings has given me a broader outlook into the New Forest and would welcome one of the councillors to come along and be a representative also.

#### Verderer's Report

No report was submitted

#### Clerks Report

I am so pleased to welcome our new councillors and to thank the 'olde' councillors for their continued support. It is great that we now have seven councillors, a full complement, so we can go forward together sharing ideas and views.

I have brought with me a newly printed map of Denny Lodge for each councillor plus a booklet as a guide, dates of meetings, a list of councillors address and emails etc. If there is any other information you may need, please let me know. Every year we hold our AGM and APM on the same evening. This is really to save people coming out too many evenings.

Now speaking about the Agenda list, it is very important that it is displayed at least three days before a meeting and because Denny Lodge does not own a Notice Board, it takes time to display them throughout the parish. The boundary covers approximately 40 miles. At a previous meeting it was decided that the Councillors may wish to display agenda notices (and any other notices that occur from time to time), on telegraph poles, within their residential area. I hope that each councillor may be able to help in this way.

I would like to thank Eddie for all his help and guidance and together we have put the accounts onto a computer system which works very well.

Clive Maton, another stalwart, has been Chairman for many years and in addition he has been a representative for the NPA at the S.E. Quadrant Meetings, Graham Wilson, Vice Chairman for many years, has shared so much of his knowledge of the forest and given his working life to the Forestry Commission. We thank them both very much.

John our longest serving member, always helpful and understanding especially when it comes to planning matters, like Rolo who is always there with John to discuss planning. And last but not least, Alison our ex police officer who loves the forest and another loyal friend to Denny Lodge Parish Council.

I have to say thank you to Rosemary Rutins, who has been a tremendous help when we were recruiting for new councillors

New matters on the horizon are adopting our own website with the help of the NFDC and investing in Social Media, which many parishes are following. I would like to ask if there are any parishioners who may know of a technical wizard that might be able to help Denny Lodge Parish Council, A person that has the time to give and the flair to express themselves to help promote and take Denny Lodge forward.

4. Chairman's Questions

Mr Roberts mentioned his concern regarding a Website for Denny Lodge Parish Council. He is going to liaise with the Clerk to establish one.

Signed: Chairman ..... Date: .....