

**Minutes of the
ROADS PLANNING AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF CONSERVATORS OF ASHDOWN FOREST**

Monday 23rd April 2018, 14:00

Committee members present: Mr JW Spicer (Chairman), Cllr C Hardy (Vice Chairman), Cllr R Stogdon, Cllr J Barnes.
Ex officio member: Mrs S Tidy was also in attendance.
Also present: Mrs P Buesnel (Director).

Minutes were taken by Miss K Meade.

There were no members of the public present.

The Chairman opened the meeting.

10/18 Apologies

Cllr P Holloway, Mr M Cooper and Kirsty Dirs (Clerk) sent apologies.

11/18 Declarations of any interest by Members of a Personal or Prejudicial Nature.

No declarations of interest.

12/18 Matters Arising

12.01/18 Dog Waste Bins

The Director advised that the dog bins have now been installed in the Forest Centre and Broadstone car parks. Fairwarp Parish Council and Wealden District Council have been informed.

13/18 Confidential Items

The Committee entered confidential session

The Committee left confidential session

14/18 Breach of Bye-law Issues

14.01 Back Lane Parking

There have been ongoing problems with a number of untaxed and uninsured cars being parked or dumped on Forest land. A final warning letter has been issued to the owners of SORN vehicles under Bye-law 5. It is unclear as to whether these cars are abandoned, dumped or parked and whilst Wealden District Council have provided generous support, they are unable to remove vehicles if they have not been abandoned.

The Committee discussed the actions that could be taken under Bye-law 2 and Bye-law 5 and felt that Bye-law 2 would offer the best solution.

Mr Spicer proposed that a notice should be served, under Bye-law 2, requesting the vehicles be removed by a given date and failure to do so would result in them being taken away. It is imperative that action should be taken immediately following the expiration of the notice. **The Committee agreed.**

15/18 Strategic Plan (standing item)

There was nothing to report.

16/18 Management Information

The Clerk highlighted that only around 140 horse riding permits have so far been issued this year and that it is possible that many riders are riding without a permit. However, the low numbers of permits could be due to the inclement weather earlier in April. It was felt that the Rangers and Mounted Rangers should actively monitor and remind riders without permits. The Ashdown Forest Riding Association (AFRA) should be asked to remind their members.

Action

It was noted that fly-tipping and dumping garden waste causes the largest number of Bye-law breaches.

The Clerk noted that the housing market on the Forest is currently very active, with numerous houses being put up for sale.

17/18 Any urgent item for which the Clerk has notice in order to pass to the elected Chairman

None

The meeting closed at 14.45