PRESENT:

Lord Manners

Official Verderer

Mr R Deakin

Elected Verderer & Staff Committee Chairman Forestry Commission Appointed Verderer

Mr A B Dowsett Mr J Greenwood

Elected Verderer

Miss D Macnair MBE Mr G M H Mills DL

Senior Elected Verderer **DEFRA Appointed Verderer**

Mr A H Pasmore Mr D Readhead

Elected Verderer Elected Verderer

Mrs D Westerhoff

Natural England Appointed Verderer

APOLOGIES:

Cllr E Heron

National Park Appointed Verderer

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Jonathan Gerrelli

Head Agister

Miss Sue Westwood

Clerk to the Verderers

IN COMMITTEE in the Library

2018/9765

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESUME

The Minutes of Court held on 21st February were approved and signed.

2018/9766

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESUME

The Official Verderer declared an interest in the Verderers' Higher Level Stewardship Agreement as tenants on his Estate benefit from the Verderers Grazing Scheme and his Estate is in Higher Level Stewardship.

Elected Verderers Mr Deakin, Mr Greenwood, Miss Macnair and Mr Readhead declared an interest in the New Forest Higher Level Stewardship Scheme, Verderers Grazing Scheme and Basic Payment Scheme. Mr Pasmore declared an interest in the Basic Payment Scheme.

Mr Deakin and Mr Greenwood are members of the New Forest Commoners' Defence Association committee. Mr Deakin is also Treasurer.

Mr Deakin and Mr Readhead are Directors of the New Forest Livestock Society. They are also members of the New Forest Stallion Syndicate.

Mr Dowsett is a Forestry Commission Volunteer Ranger.

Mr Greenwood is employed part-time by Cadland Estate and therefore has an interest in the Stallion Grazing. Mr Greenwood also has a stallion of his own.

Mr Hallam Mills declared an interest in HLS Schemes as his Estate is in Higher Level Stewardship. The Estate is also involved in the Better Boundaries Project, run by the New Forest Land Advice Service with support from Natural England.

Mr Mills is also a Patron of the New Forest Trust

Mrs Westerhoff is a tenant of the Forestry Commission. Mrs Westerhoff sits on the Board of Trustees of the New Forest Trust.

2018/9767 CONDITION OF STOCK

RESUME

The Head Agister said that whilst he is still relatively happy with the condition of stock, the recent cold, wet and snowy weather has definitely had an impact. The Agisters have been busy removing quite a few ponies, mostly 2 and 3 year olds, mares with yearlings and older ponies.

An early Spring would be useful but the forecast is more wet and cold weather.

Quite a few mares appear to be in foal and there should be a good crop of foals this year.

The Agisters are busy marking cattle and they estimate there are quite a number still left to mark.

The Clerk said very few complaints have been received by the office concerning the condition of stock.

2018/9768 TB TESTING AND CATTLE MARKING

DISCHARGE

The Head Agister explained that Agisters do sometimes help commoners with their TB testing even if they are not having cattle marked at the same time. Sometimes Agisters will go back on the second day of a TB test to help with the second vet visit. This assistance is offered as a courtesy to help the Commoners.

There have been a few inconclusive test results but no animals have been confirmed as suffering from TB. Herds with inconclusives have been shut down, and are subject to the usual requirement of two clear TB tests, 60 days apart.

2018/9769

REPORT ON MARKING FEES RECEIVED TO DATE AND RESUME COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR 2018 2017 **Forest Ponies** 584 417 Forest Cattle 338 156 Forest Donkeys 2 8 Forest Pigs 0 0 Forest Sheep 0 0 **Total Forest Stock** 924 581 Common Ponies 143 109 Common Cattle 144 156 Common Donkeys 5 8 Common Pigs 0 0 Common Sheep 0 0 **Total Common Stock** 292 287 Ponies, Cattle & Donkeys on the Forest 924 581 Ponies, Cattle & Donkeys on the Commons 292 257 Total Ponies, Cattle & Donkeys 1216 838 Total Stock - Forest & Commons 1216 868

2018/9770 BYELAW ENFORCEMENT - TRANSFER OF BRAND & PROOF OF DISCHARGE COMMON RIGHTS

The Clerk confirmed that the byelaw infringement reported in the February Court is being dealt with and no further action should be necessary

2018/9771 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DECISIONS

RESUME

The Announcements and decisions were approved.

The Head Agister left the meeting

2018/9772 NEW FOREST FRESHWATER & RIVER RESTORATION STRATEGY &

RESUME

PLAN WORKSHOP

Mrs Westerhoff said the report is still awaited. She is hopeful it will be available prior to the next Court.

Action

2018/9773 BACK UP LAND

RESUME

In the absence of Cllr Heron, this item is to be resumed at the next Court.

2018/9774 LAND AT ASHURST (LYNDHURST ROAD) STATION

DISCHARGE

The Clerk reported that the Agent acting for the Crown Estate is still pursuing Network Rail in connection with the cottage and strip of woodland. The Agent may request the Crown Estate itself to intervene as at present no progress is being made.

OPEN COURT - 10.00 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Bruce Rothnie, Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest

Mr Paul Grugeon, Land Agent (New Forest)

The Head Agister opened the Court with the usual proclamation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DECISIONS BY THE OFFICIAL VERDERER

2018/9775 BACK UP GRAZING

At our last court we heard two presentments which, amongst other things, stressed the importance of back up land to the system of commoning in the New Forest.

The Verderers, of course, strongly agree with that proposition. We have therefore made a submission to The New Forest National Park Authority in connection with its draft local plan 2016–2036, expressing strong support for their policy SP 48 which seeks both to maintain the supply of land available for back up grazing and to resist the loss of back up grazing to development or change of use.

2018/9776 ENCROACHMENTS

The Verderers agree that encroachments onto the grazing land of the New Forest must be prevented and where they have already occurred, removed and the ability of stock to graze those areas reinstated.

That an encroachment may only take up a small area does not matter for the reasons so eloquently given by Mr James Young in his presentment last month.

The Forestry Commission's Estates Officer, Mr Sean Marsh has dedicated a lot of time to this issue over the past few years, with notable successes. In addition, the Forestry Commission has recently appointed a Verge Protection Officer, Mrs Jayne Albery, in order to ensure that encroachments are detected and tackled as soon as possible and as vigorously as possible. It has also been agreed to set up a joint working party consisting of representatives from the Verderers, Forestry Commission, Commoners' Defence Association, New Forest Association and it is hoped, Natural England, the National Park Authority and New Forest District Council.

The purpose of the working party will be to pool our respective knowledge and ensure that our joint resources are effectively deployed to deal with this insidious and all too common threat.

2018/9777 HLS

The annual general meeting of the Verderers' Higher Level Stewardship Agreement is due to be held on Wednesday 25th April at 5.30 p.m. As before refreshments will be provided afterwards!

However the AGM will now be preceded by an open day in the grounds of Queen's House starting at 2.00 p.m. It will consist of a series of exhibition stands showing the breadth and depth of the work carried out under the HLS agreement and the benefits that have accrued, and continue to accrue, to the Forest

I hope that we will see as many of you there as possible and I would ask you to ask your friends, neighbours and colleagues to attend what I think should be an important and informative event.

ANIMAL ACCIDENT REPORT

2018/9778 THE ANIMAL ACCIDENT REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2018

The Agisters attended 14 accidents in February. This compares with 12 in February last year.

6 ponies and 1 donkey were killed and 1 pony was injured.

1 accident occurred in daylight, 1 at twilight and 12 in the dark.

2 accidents were not reported by the driver involved.

3 motorists are known to have been local.

The total killed and injured so far in 2018 is 15. This compares with 12 in the first two months of last year.

In what is thought to be the first time in the recent history of the Verderers' Court, a gentleman rushed into the Verderers' Hall wishing to make a presentment immediately after the Head Agister had formally closed the Court. The Official Verderer conferred with the bench and it was agreed the gentleman's presentment should be heard.

PRESENTMENTS

2018/9779 ENGLAND COAST PATH

Presentment by Mr Brian Tarnoff, New Forest Association (Chair, Habitat and Landscape Committee)

'We are now one week into the consultation on the Highcliffe to Calshot stretch of the

England Coast Path. This well meaning but unnecessary project will create non-historic rights of way with new access rights to the seaward side of the route. This will bring disturbance to the most remote areas of the National Park, will exacerbate the verge parking problem and potentially threatens to convert over 3500 acres of protected habitats into coastal access.

Natural England has the power to exclude sensitive habitat from automatic inclusion in coastal margin access, but their proposed exclusions are incomplete. There are gaps such as one through National Nature Reserve at Simm's Wood and Steerley's Copse where walkers emerging suddenly onto the Beaulieu estuary from the woodland screen would cause a widespread startle response, serious disturbance to the wintering birds on the eastern shore, where surveys have shown nearly double the population of the west side, likely due to less disturbance. Salt Marshes and Flats are excluded under Section 25 Public Safety where Section 26 Nature Conservation exclusions should have priority and permanence. Elsewhere, vulnerable wader roosts on vegetated shingle beaches, including one of the most provably undisturbed, have not been excluded. In the context of the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, which promises stronger conservation of both designated and undesignated habitats, not enough has been excluded to fully protect these fragile areas.

Worse, any exclusions are made a nonsense by the Ordnance Survey decision to show all potential spreading room in coastal margin as access land [under a purple "wash"]. Estimate of the current proposal excludes at least 75% of this area. As many online and smartphone apps license the OS data, this grotesque misrepresentation will mislead visitors into those areas we most need to protect. It is vitally important that all interested parties deter the Ordnance Survey from inaccurately depicting our coastal protected habitats as access land on the allegedly definitive map.

Whilst many of its problems do not directly fall under the Verderers' remit so far, one commoner has noted the path route cuts through fields used both for back up grazing and seasonal running of stallions with mares. This finds the route and seaward coastal margin access unwelcome and unsafe. We hope the Verderers, not just through their direct responsibilities on the Crown Lands, but as supporters of commoning and as a member of the National Park's Recreation Management Strategy Steering Group, will call for resolution of these problems before the route is approved and implemented.

The Natural England consultation on this stretch runs until 9 May 2018, more information, criticism and analysis may be found on our website newforestassociation.org'.

The Head Agister re-closed the Open Court

IN COMMITTEE in the Library

CONSIDERATION OF PRESENTMENTS

2018/9780 ENGLAND COASTAL PATH

DISCHARGE

Whilst much of the proposed path falls outside the remit of the Court, there are a number of areas and issues of concern and it was agreed a response to the consultation, by the Court, is therefore appropriate.

Matters felt to be worthy of inclusion in a response are set out below:-

The Solent Way has served the area and walkers well for many years and incorporating this existing route into the proposed coastal path should be considered.

Back up grazing has been included in some locations. This is an issue for at least one commoner who grazes a stallion with his mares in a field

through which the proposed path will run. It is felt this will create a potential hazard to users of the path. It will also adversely affect the cultural heritage as, if the field could no longer be used to run a stallion with mares, it could threaten the diversity of bloodlines in the New Forest Pony herd. The New Forest Pony is already listed as 'at risk' by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust. Finding suitable grazing for mares with a stallion is increasingly difficult.

The 'spreading room' shown by the Ordnance Survey, is at best misleading, likely to cause confusion and at worst will encourage people into areas which are highly sensitive from the point of view of nature conservation. The foreshore at the end of Tanners Lane is a case in point. Additionally, the spreading room which is to be shown on the OS map may well result in trespass onto private property as users of the path will think their presence there is permissible. Existing footpaths do not provide the opportunity for users to stray legitimately off the route and it is felt the new Coastal Path should be the same.

DW/JG/Clerk

The Clerk requested assistance in drafting a suitable letter in response to the consultation. Mrs Westerhoff and Mr Greenwood offered to assist.

NEW SUBMISSIONS AND OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2018/9781 TREE PLANTING IN POUND LANE, BURLEY – REPLACEMENT OF 13 DISCHARGE MATURE BEECH & OAK TREES

The Forestry Commission has submitted a proposal to plant replacement trees in Pound Lane, Burley.

Miss Macnair pointed out that there have been instances of disease being introduced with plant stock grown abroad.

The Court's preference is for the young trees to be sourced from the UK and preferably from the Forest itself. However, the Deputy Surveyor explained the need to ensure genetic diversity and ensure trees planted now were resilient to longer term climate predictions. He also sought to give assurance to the Court that every effort would be made to ensure that disease is not introduced. The Deputy Surveyor agreed to provide information as to the source of the saplings.

Action

In view of the Deputy Surveyor's assurance, the Court therefore approved the proposals subject to biosecurity being assured and compliance with the three usual conditions regarding satisfactory reinstatement, safe working conditions and compensation for loss of grazing.

2018/9782

REPLACEMENT OF IRREPAIRABLE BT OPENREACH CABLE - DISCHARGE DECOY POND FARM ROAD VIA BEAULIEU ROAD TO DENNY WOOD

Elected Verderers Richard Deakin and Dave Readhead, together with Mr Paul Grugeon (FC Land Agent) attended a site meeting with BT at which the proposals for replacing this cable were discussed in detail.

Mr Deakin and Mr Readhead confirmed they are happy with the proposals. The Court therefore approved the proposals subject to the three usual conditions. Mr Mills suggested that when replacing the BT telephone cable, a dormant broadband cable should also be installed in order to avoid any future application for work in the same area. Everyone agreed this is a good idea and Mr Grugeon undertook to discuss the request with BT.

Action PG

2018/9783 BOURNEMOUTH WATER EMERGENCY WORKS AT SETLEY & DISCHARGE TEMPORARY FENCING

Mr Grugeon reported that on 19th March, Bournemouth Water had to carry out an emergency repair on the 9 inch main at Setley. He felt the procedures used by the water company were very good and hoped that other utilities would follow the same system.

A discussion then took place concerning temporary fencing which is sometimes required to protect excavation sites. It was agreed that when anything needs fencing for more than a couple of months, a wooden post and rail fence is required. Plastic barriers tend to get knocked over and so are not satisfactory.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COURTS OF CONCERN TO THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2018/9784 ENCROACHMENTS

DISCHARGE

The New Forest Land Advice Service will be convening the meeting to discuss how best to tackle encroachments on the Forest.

2018/9785 TOM'S LANE, LINWOOD

DISCHARGE

The Environment Agency carried out a site visit and has written to the Court. No further action by the Court is required. The Environment Agency is writing to the commoner whose commoning practices may be putting Forest watercourses at risk. The Clerk was asked to request details of the EA's concerns.

Action Clerk

2018/9786 POACHING & DAMAGE TO THE FOREST

RESUME

The Court takes severe poaching of the Forest very seriously and this year there is evidence that poaching is worse than usual in some areas, probably due in part to the wet winter.

The BPS has undoubtedly resulted in a few commoners keeping significantly larger herds than they have done in the past. This has resulted in an increase in damage to the Forest in the vicinity of some holdings. Such damage may be a cross compliance issue. If so, it is for the RPA to consider whether sanctions should be imposed.

Damage is also apparent this year outside holdings where stock numbers have remained consistent. In those cases, the damage is thought to be wholly due to the weather conditions experienced this winter. Whilst such damage is not ideal, by June it is often the case that the affected areas have recovered well.

In some places, damage is causing concern to non-commoning residents and Forest users and this may well be justified. The Court is keen that everyone knows that it does take the problem seriously and is trying to identify solutions.

The matter is regarded as urgent and a sub-committee is to be convened as soon as possible to discuss individual cases in detail and try to find solutions or decide what, if any, sanctions could be imposed if appropriate. The Clerk will try to arrange a meeting next week. In the meantime, the

Action Clerk

Action

Deputy Surveyor said he will discuss the issue with Natural England.

DS

SSSI RESTORATION WORKS

2018/9787 REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE LIST

RESUME

The SSSI Repair and Maintenance list was circulated to the Court.

ACTION LIST

2018/9788 ACTION LIST

RESUME

An updated action list was provided.

Mr Pasmore expressed concern that an item he raised some time ago has not been added to the Action List and he is afraid it will be forgotten. It was felt this is an accidental omission and the Deputy Surveyor asked the Clerk to ensure that Jayne Albery, who compiles the list, be informed of anything that needs to go on it. The Clerk confirmed she will do that.

Action Clerk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF CONCERN TO THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2018/9789 STOCK PROOF FENCING

DISCHARGE

Several issues have arisen lately, with private fencing and Forestry Commission inclosure fencing where incursions by stock are becoming a nuisance. This prompted discussion on what constitutes a stock proof fence.

Mr Pasmore mentioned that some years ago a British Standard for stock proof fencing had been identified. The Clerk will endeavour to find it.

Action Clerk

Meanwhile, the general view is that to be considered stock proof, a fence must include stock mesh and at least two strands of wire, or stock mesh and post and rails. To be effective and safe, wire must be properly tensioned.

2018/9790 PONIES DE-BARKING TREES IN BOLDERWOOD

DISCHARGE

Mrs Westerhoff said she had seen evidence of damage to Holly, Rowan (Mountain Ash) and a few Yew in the Bolderwood area which she believes has been caused by ponies. A brief discussion ensued concerning what is considered acceptable because it is a natural behaviour for ponies to eat Holly.

The Deputy Surveyor said monitoring is being carried out and he will see if any animals have been identified as being the culprits. He said if it is considered a serious issue, he will come back to the Court.

Action DS

2018/9791 NEWLY ERECTED SIGN AT BRAMSHAW GOLF COURSE CAR PARK

DISCHARGE

Mr Pasmore expressed concern that the newly altered sign for the Bramshaw Golf Course car park may screen animals on the verge. Mr Gary North (FC) will be asked to look at the sign and see if any changes are necessary. It may be necessary to split the signage and the Court confirmed it would accept that in the interests of animal safety.

Action PG

The Deputy Surveyor and the Land Agent left the meeting.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

2018/9792 AGISTERS' HORSES AND VETERINARY COSTS

DISCHARGE

Following a recent incident where an Agister's riding horse came down on the road and was injured, the Court was asked to consider whether, in such instances, it should assist with the cost of veterinary fees. The question of insurance cover for veterinary fees was also discussed. After careful consideration it was agreed the horse expenses should cover such eventualities. However, the horse expenses have not been increased for several years and will therefore be reviewed.

Action RD

2018/9793 ROCKFORD FARM COTTAGES NEW ACCESS

DISCHARGE

If the planning application is successful, the National Trust is minded to agree one new access onto the common to serve both new commoners' dwellings. The Court's view has been requested.

The Court is not opposed to the proposal but it is suggested that to avoid potential problems with poaching, a limit should be imposed on the number of animals that can be turned out via what will be a 'Forest gate'. A 'Forest gate' is a gate used by stock only.

The National Trust is keen to ensure the new commoners' dwellings do not result in material damage being caused to the common and to that end, the Court suggested it may be possible to also impose a condition on the number of animals that can be kept on each of the proposed new commoners' holdings.

Action OV/Clerk

The Official Verderer will write to the New Forest Trust and the Clerk will write to the National Trust to put forward these suggestions.

HIGHER LEVEL STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

2018/9794 HIGHER LEVEL STEWARDSHIP SCHEME / FUTURE FARMING DISCHARGE GROUP

There are six different Higher Level Stewardship Schemes in the Forest. The earliest will expire in October 2018. The Verderers' HLS is the last to finish, in February 2020. It is understood that, under current rules, the life of an HLS scheme cannot be extended. The Court (through its membership of the Forest Farming Group) continues to press hard for a bespoke scheme for the Forest after the present scheme ends. However this will take time to develop and to cater for that and to avoid parts of the Forest being out of any scheme, the Forest Farming Group is writing to the Minister to ask for a legislative change, post Brexit, allowing all those schemes to be rolled over until 2022. The Official Verderer will write to the local MP's to ask for their support.

Action

2018/9795 PONDHEAD STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT

DISCHARGE

The planning application in respect of the variation has been approved.

Mr Pasmore expressed concern that the lawn is very wet and he feels conditions are not satisfactory. It is felt, however, that before any further works are considered, the present scheme must be completed. Monitoring will continue.

VERDERERS GRAZING SCHEME

2018/9796 VGS APPLICATION FORMS

DISCHARGE

The VGS Administrator is working on this year's applications.

MATTERS ARISING FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS

2018/9797 STALLION SUB-COMMITTEE

DISCHARGE

Mr Deakin reported on the meeting held on Monday.

The stallion inspection will be held on Saturday 7th April. The sub-committee will convene on the 9th to agree which stallions are remaining in the scheme, which will go out this season and which will be offered grazing.

15 stallions will be turned out for 6 weeks from 14th May until 25th June but, as last season, owners may catch their stallions in the week before, i.e. from 18th June. This is in line with the recommendation from the CDA.

2018/9798 LOST LAWNS

DISCHARGE

Site visits were held recently at which works were agreed.

2018/9799 STREAM RESTORATION PROJECTS - RIVER FLY MEETING

DISCHARGE

At a recent meeting, Gemma Stride (FC) gave a talk and update on stream sampling for invertebrates. This scheme has only been running for 18 months hence there is not enough data to draw any firm conclusions. However, there are no adverse signs and things look encouraging.

Mrs Westerhoff is keen to join Mr Dowsett on his next sampling visits. Anyone else who would like to join them is very welcome. Mr Dowsett will advise the Clerk when he is next carrying out sampling and members of the Court will be advised.

Action BD/Clerk

The Official Verderer said he would like to thank Gemma Stride for all her efforts and wish her well in her new post with the Land Advice Service.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

2018/9800 FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FEBRUARY 2018

DISCHARGE

The Financial Statement for February was noted. Mr Deakin raised a minor query which the Clerk undertook to investigate.

Action Clerk

STAFF MATTERS

2018/9801 FENCING OF FIELD BEHIND THE COACH AND HORSES AT CADNAM

DISCHARGE

The fencing has been renewed but the old wire has been left on the Forest. It is a hazard to stock. The Clerk reported that Mrs Woodley is pursuing Enterprise Inns to get the old fencing removed.

Action Clerk/TW

2018/9802 FIELD AT CADNAM

DISCHARGE

Mr Greenwood reported a problem with fencing of another field in the Cadnam area. He indicated he knows, or can find out, who owns it. The Clerk requested he provides her with the details so that a suitable letter can be sent.

Action JG/Clerk

2018/9803 **INCIDENT WITH COW AT FAWLEY**

DISCHARGE

A lady was recently tossed by a cow whilst walking her dog in the Fawley area. It is understood that luckily she only suffered minor injury which did not require medical intervention. The lady is unable to identify the cow concerned. She is very upset and worried about the safety of other Forest users in the area. The local Agister is investigating whether there is a particularly aggressive cow in the area or whether it is likely to be a one off Agister Lovell incident, possibly connected with the presence of calves in the herd. No other incidents have been reported in the area.

Action

As always when such a report is received, the Court is taking the incident very seriously. The Clerk is in email correspondence with the lady and will contact her again once the Agister has completed his investigations.

Action Clerk

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2018/9804

DRAFT LOCAL PLAN - LETTER RECEIVED FROM SWAY PARISH DISCHARGE COUNCIL REGARDING THE POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF A FIELD IN SWAY

The Official Verderer reported that he has received a letter from a member of Sway Parish Council which is concerned, amongst other things, about a field in Sway which has been included in the draft local plan as a potential housing development site. The site has a history of use as backup grazing.

The Court is keen to ensure backup grazing is not lost and the Official Verderer will respond to the correspondent accordingly.

Action OV

2018/9805

NFU RESPONSE TO DEFRA CONSULTATION - HEALTH AND HARMONY: THE FUTURE FOR FOOD, FARMING AND THE **ENVIRONMENT IN A GREEN BREXIT**

DISCHARGE

This paper was circulated prior to today's meeting. It was agreed the Court should respond. The Official Verderer will draft a response.

Action

OV

2018/9806

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY HIGHWAYS REPLACEMENT OF CATTLE GRID DISHARGE AT CADNAM

Members of the Court expressed disappointment at the location of the diversionary signage which was put in place during the work to replace the cattle grid on the B3079 at Cadnam roundabout. It is felt the signage was badly thought out and as a result unnecessary damage has been caused to verges in the area. The Clerk will contact the County Council to express the Court's concerns and ask for comment.

Action Clerk

2018/9807 ANIMAL ACCIDENTS & THE SPEED CAMERA VAN

RESUME

Several members of the Court remarked that they have not seen the speed camera van recently. The Clerk responded, saying that the reports she receives indicate it is still operating as agreed but she will carry out some checks.

Action Clerk

The possibility of average speed cameras being deployed in the Forest was also discussed. The Clerk said she believes the problem with average speed cameras is not the technology, which has greatly improved in recent years, but the lack of resources for the necessary back room support. Mr Readhead said he will seek an update on the current position.

Action DR

2018/9808 GDPR (GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS)

RESUME

Mrs Woodley has been tasked with investigating what the Court needs to do to ensure compliance with the new data protection legislation which comes into force on 15th May. Mrs Woodley is also attending training courses on the subject. Meanwhile, work has already been undertaken to ensure the Court's computer system is secure.

Action TW

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 12:55 p.m.

Jullame/ 18/4/18