



*Verderers of the New Forest  
Verderers' Grazing Scheme  
The Queen's House  
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**MINUTES OF THE VERDERERS' GRAZING SCHEME MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

Present:

Lord Manners (OV)	- Official Verderer
Mr R Deakin (RD)	- Elected Verderer
Mrs D Westerhoff (DW)	- Natural England Appointed Verderer
Mr H Mills (HM)	- Defra Appointed Verderer
Mr D Readhead (DR)	- Elected Verderer
Mrs T Woodley (TW)	- VGS Administrator

**IN COMMITTEE in the Verderers' Meeting Room**

Item	Item	Action
1. Apologies	None	
2. Declarations of interest	DR and RD declared their membership of the VGS. RD and DR are members of the New Forest Livestock Society. DR and RD are members of the New Forest Pony Breeders and Cattle Society. OV and HM have tenants who are in the VGS and one is a fencing contractor. HM has an interest in NFLAS. DR and RD are committee members of the CDA	
3. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising	Minutes of the last meeting were approved	
4. VGS Cross checks – Due diligence	TW supplied a report detailing the VGS payments made to Forest commoners in Dec 2016 and Commons commoners in Jan 2017. TW informed the committee that the Supplementary Feeding Areas inspection by NE and the Head Agister is scheduled for June 19 <sup>th</sup> 2017. TW reported that the 2016 HLS health check had been completed and submitted to NE in March 2017. All VGS objectives for 2016 had been met.	
5. VGS Annual Grants 2017	TW reported to the committee the status of VGS annual grants for 2017.	
6. Pound rebuild 2016 and 2017 Proposals	TW reported on the 2016 rebuilds – D Bessant completed 4 replacement pounds in 2016 – Woodgreen, Woodfidley, Holmsley and Appleslade. The Woodgreen pound was much larger than the standard pound design which brought the total for 2016 over projected spend. 2017 pound rebuilds –Ashurst/Sandhole Bridge, Sloden Drove, Latchmoor and Pilley Bailey are scheduled for replacement in 2017. D Bessant's quote has been accepted and a contract has been issued.	

<p>7. Small grant applications</p>	<p>Grants of varying sums were approved to the following members of the VGS:</p> <p>Miss K Harrison – Barn for housing cattle  Mr O Cook – Livestock trailer  Mrs J Haugh – Livestock handling system  Mrs K Clarke – Livestock trailer  Mr M Noble – Stable &amp; barn repairs  Mr R Bessant – Livestock handling system  Mrs A Smith – Cattle crush  Miss E Dovey – Livestock shelter  Mr C Moore – Erection of barn  Mr R Johnson - Roller  Mr A Naphthine – Hay barn  Mr P Bessant – Replacement tractor  Miss S Garret – Fencing renewal  Mr A Thomas – Livestock trailer  Mr G Rees – Concrete / hardstanding  Mr J Gerrelli – Livestock trailer  Miss R Wedge – Livestock handling system  Mr B Mansbridge – Flatbed trailer  F Winter &amp; Son – Livestock handling system  Mr RG Mansbridge – Barn gates  Miss C Taplin – Livestock handling system  Mrs C Taplin – Mobile field shelter  Mr &amp; Mrs S Young – Livestock handling system  Mr R Maton – Livestock handling system  Mr P Butler - Roller  Mr M Lovell – Replacement tractor  Mr T Gould – Water trough installations  Miss L Bow – Livestock handling system</p> <p>Referred until next committee meeting:  Miss V Johnson – Concrete for barn floor</p> <p>Refusals:  Miss R Spencer-Fleet – Field shelter  Mr L Byford – Fencing &amp; hedge work  Mr J King – Concrete base</p> <p>TW to inform applicants of results.</p>	<p>TW</p>
<p>8. Sightline Fencing/ Driftway Fencing</p>	<p>TW reported on the completed driftway fencing projects for 2016. Latchmoor drift fence is due to be finished next week due to the delay in site clearance and winter weather. The committee discussed the Latchmoor Golf Club fence and felt a return site visit was needed but were keen to have the fence re-instated. Tina, I think I've confused you on this and it is best omitted. It is Ian Millar from EA who has taken on the project. Ian Barker is NPA ecologist who has accepted the project submitted but now tells me that it is low on the list for acceptance. No meetings planned at present.</p> <p>2017 driftway and sightline fence projects have been quoted for and various permissions/ service checks are being sought before acceptance. Proposed projects are Pilley Allotment, Sheepwash, Hatchet Mill and Verderers field at Boltons Bench. The committee discussed the need for the agisters to monitor the maintenance of the existing driftway and sightline fencing. Agisters to be asked to compile a list of existing fences for TW to create an inspection list.</p>	<p>TW</p>

9. Verderers' Water Troughs	A quotation has been accepted from R Stride for restoration to the bases of the 8 water troughs. Matt Bright has installed a new trough at Ashurst and will work with R Stride to replace the trough at Canterton. TW confirmed the Canterton trough is on Crown land and within the HLS area.	
10. Incinerator Grant application	TW informed the committee that the new incinerator has been commissioned this week and the £15,000 VGS grant has now been released to the New Forest Hunt.	
11. VGS Rule Breaches	Nothing to report for 2017	
12. Purchase of Agisters' Trailers	TW reported the replacement trailers were delivered and paid for in February 2017 at a total cost of £15190. DR advised that the agisters' trailers should look to be replaced every 5 years.	
13. AOB	DR reported to the committee on the current status of the micro-chipping law change and its effect on the New Forest's derogation. Foals up to 12 months old can still be issued rump stickers, but anything over 12 months old sold at the next Beaulieu Road Sale will now be required to be micro-chipped although DR is still pursuing the possibility of a derogation. DR proposed the VGS fund the chipping cost of any forest stock brought forward for sale at the upcoming Spring sale. The cost of the vet is approximately £110 per hour and each microchip approximately £4. The committee agreed with the proposal. DR to forward invoice to TW for payment.  The latest correspondence received from Mrs J Tillman was the subject of a separate discussion.	DR
14. Date for next Meeting	The next VGS meeting will be Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2017. Time TBA	

T Woodley  
VGS Administrator

Copy to:  
VGS Management Committee  
Verderers

