PRESENT:	Mr O Crosthwaite Eyre Mr J Adams Mr P Frost Mr A Gerrelli Miss D Macnair The Hon R Montagu Mr A H Pasmore Mrs P Thorne	Official Verderer Elected Verderer & Chairman of the Staff Committee Countryside Agency Appointed Verderer Elected Verderer Elected Verderer Forestry Commission Appointed Verderer Elected Verderer DEFRA Appointed Verderer
IN ATTENDANCE:	Miss S Westwood Mr J R Gerrelli	Clerk to the Verderers Head Agister (first three items only)
APOLOGIES:	Cllr Mrs K Heron Mr J F Kitcher	National Park Authority Appointed Verderer Elected Verderer

#### IN COMMITTEE

The Head Agister was present for the first three items.

2007/2783 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the Court held on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2007 were approved.

2007/2784 CONDITION OF STOCK

Report by the Head Agister

The condition of stock is quite good. Some ponies have, and continue to be removed as their condition falls back. A number of ponies have lost some condition but have not fallen below the accepted standard and the Agisters are keeping a careful watch on the situation.

It was considered a shame that some commoners will not remove foals from their mares earlier. There are more foals in the north where some drifts were cancelled because of strangles and unfortunately some commoners are not keen to catch their own foals.

After the Head Agister left the meeting, the Chairman of the Staff Committee commented that the vast majority of ponies are looking well and as a result any animal which is losing condition should be noticed. He warned, however, that the worst months are yet to come.

#### 2007/2785 VISIT BY MR PAUL NEWMAN OF DEFRA

The visit by Mr Newman appeared to go very well. Mr Newman enjoyed a ride out with the Head Agister and Mr James Young of Ford Farm Stables who is also a commoner. They saw a lot of ponies and the ride was useful in that it enabled Mr Newman to see the brands on the ponies and gain an appreciation of how the commoning system in the Forest works. The branding session which took place at Mr & Mrs Rayner's property, Broadley Farm, Wootton, was also a success.

The Head Agister left the meeting.

RESUME

DISCHARGE

2007/2786	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DECISIONS					RESUME	
	The announcements and decisions were approved.						
2007/2787	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST					RESUME	
	The Elected Verderers and Mrs Thorne declared an interest in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.						
	Mr Gerrelli declared an interest in any items concerning Campsites.						
2007/2788	FINANCIAL STATEMENT					RESUME	
	The Financial Statement for January 2007 was approved.						
2007/2789	REPORT ON DECEMBER 20		G FEES RECEIV	ED AS AT THE	END OF	RESUME	
	Ponies 3	arking Fe 681 410 78	ees have been rec Pigs Sheep	18			
	Total - 4187 Total Ponies, Cattle & Donkeys - 4169						
2007/2790	ANIMALS REMOVED FROM THE FOREST JANUARY 2007 RESUME						
	TYPE	POOR	SICK/INJURED		OTHER		
	Mares with	14+14	1 + 1	OWNER 1 + 1			
	yearlings Other Ponies	23	2	13	3		
	Cattle Donkeys Pigs	80	1	4	1		
					21		
	Sheep	404	-	40	05		

Of the cattle, not all were below an acceptable standard but were part of a herd which was losing condition and creating difficulties on the Forest.

19

25

RESUME

#### 2007/2791 BYELAW ENFORCEMENT

131

5

#### **Coopers**

Total

The Official Verderer reported that a lot of disclosures have been requested are being handled by the office.

#### Mr M Horsburgh

Mr Horsburgh has paid his marking fees for 2006 and 2007.

2007/2792 FENCING AT ELMERS COURT

The Clerk confirmed she is still trying to speak to the National Park Authority Planning Department about the problem with Elmers Court fence.

2007/2793 REVISION OF THE BYELAWS

A number of further revisions have been suggested by members of the Court. The sub-committee will meet again on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007 at 11.00 a.m. The Clerk will confirm which meeting room is available.

#### 2007/2794 MICROCHIPPING AND HOT BRANDING OF PONIES

As already reported a very good demonstration was given to Mr Paul Newman of DEFRA. The proposal to use a system of brands together with a silhouette to identify ponies in place of microchipping may well be acceptable by DEFRA and the EU. Mr Paul Newman advised that the individual identification of all equines by the time they are six months of age will be compulsory. Mr Adams and the Clerk will now work up a detailed system for approval by the sub-committee and submission to DEFRA.

### **OPEN COURT – 10.00 a.m. in the Verderers' Hall**

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Will Parke, Area Land Agent (New Forest)

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DECISIONS BY THE OFFICIAL VERDERER

2007/2795 NEW FOREST ACTS

In a presentment made at our January Court Mr Bob Cooper set out a hypothetical situation in which he suggested that any elected verderer who participates in our Countryside Stewardship Scheme is automatically disqualified from continuing to serve on the Court by virtue of section 16 of the 1877 New Forest Act.

That particular issue was raised in a presentment made by Mr Jack Weaving in February 2004. We took expert advice on this matter at that time, and we were very clearly advised by both Defra and our own Solicitors that section 16 does not apply in these circumstances. It is therefore perfectly proper for any of the elected Verderers to participate in our Stewardship Scheme if they so wish. That advice still stands, and the matter, as far we are concerned, is closed.

2007/2796 ENCROACHMENTS

Further to Mr Michael Cooper's presentment last month on behalf of the Commoners' Defence Association, we have since met with representatives of the CDA to consider how best to take action against those who encroach upon the Forest's grazing.

### ANIMAL ACCIDENT REPORT

### 2007/2797 ACCIDENT REPORT FOR JANUARY 2007

The Agisters attended 19 accidents which is the same as in January last year.

7 ponies, 2 cattle, 3 donkeys and 2 pigs were killed.

RESUME

RESUME

RESUME

2 of the donkeys, a jenny and her yearling, were both killed in the same hit and run accident; also, 2 young pigs were killed in a single accident.

13 accidents occured during the hours of darkness and 15 involved private cars or light commercials.

4 accidents were not reported and 11 involved local motorists.

The total killed and injured for the year to date is 14 compared with 12 for the same period last year.

### PRESENTMENTS BY THE DEPUTY SURVEYOR OF THE NEW FOREST

None

### PRESENTMENTS

### 2007/2798 REFUSE BINS LEFT ON CAMPSITES Presentment by Mr Michael Cooper on behalf of the New Forest Commoners' Defence Association

"Our committee are concerned about the large refuse bins being left on the various campsites around the Forest once the camping season has finished. We understand this matter has been brought to the attention of the Forestry Commission already, when bins were found to be overflowing with refuse being bought onto the sites by outside sources. A picture is attached of some of the bins at the Denny Wood campsite, which was taken just two weeks ago. We are glad to report that these have now been emptied, and the bins turned upside down. However, these bins are an extremely unsightly item to have in what are often very picturesque parts of the Forest. It is the feeling of our association that they should be taken off Forest for the period that the campsites are closed. To remain full of litter also presents a hazard to the inquisitive pony, and could result in injury or death. Their removal would also alleviate the Forestry Commission of incurring the further expense of attending and emptying them on numerous occasions throughout the winter".

### 2007/2799 DEPASTURED STOCK AND SALTED ROADS Presentment by Mr Michael Cooper on behalf of the New Forest Commoners' Defence Association

"Would the court be kind enough to remind Forest drivers through the press, that recent gritting and salting of our Forest roads during the winter season, has unfortunately, once again, drawn the depastured stock to the road surface. Their liking for the salt in the grit has been quickly renewed. We would ask that all drivers bear this in mind, and proceed with caution when icy conditions prevail on the unfenced roads".

#### 2007/2800 REFLECTIVE COLLARS Presentment by Cllr Roger Neath – New Forest South East

Mr Neath very kindly presented the Court with a cheque for £500 to be used for the purchase of reflective collars for the ponies.

Mr Neath went on to say that he has a commoner friend in the north of the Forest who recently lost a cow in and RTA and he felt the salt may have attracted the animal onto the road.

The Official Verderer thanked Mr Neath and said that the Verderers do all they can to encourage commoners to fit collars to their ponies.

2007/2801 REDUCTION OF ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS Presentment by Mr Derek Bennett of Sway

> Mr Bennett advocated the use of more pinch points, similar to those constructed on the Thorney Hill to Burley road. He suggested they could be introduced elsewhere in the Forest and suggested Goatspen at Burley might be a good place to start.

2007/2802 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES Presentment by Mr Derek Bennett of Sway

> Mr Bennett commented that when approaching a SID recently, he observed that another motorist, who was exceeding the speed limit, instantly slowed down when the equipment flashed up his speed. The SID clearly made an impression on that driver.

> The Official Verderer said the Court is pleased to hear the SID is working and added that the Verderers are closely involved in choosing the locations for the SID's.

2007/2803 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES Presentment by Mr Chris Aldhous, New Forest Resident

Mr Aldhous concurred with Mr Bennett's comments and added that the SID's do need to work properly if they are to maintain credibility.

#### IN COMMITTEE in The Library

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Will Parke, Area Land Agent (New Forest) Mr Bruce Rothnie, Head of Recreation & Strategy APOLOGY: Mr Mike Seddon, Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest

### **CONSIDERATION OF PRESENTMENTS**

2007/2804 REFUSE BINS LEFT ON CAMPSITES

This matter has already been taken up with Forest Holidays, which has advised that in future the refuse bins will be removed from the campsites out of season. Mr Cooper will be advised.

#### 2007/2805 DEPASTURED STOCK AND SALTED ROADS

DISHARGE

DISCHARGE

It was agreed to ask the Press to print a warning to motorists next winter if a cold spell of weather is forecast.

2007/2806 REFLECTIVE COLLARS

The donation of £500 is most welcome and the Clerk will write to thank Cllr Neath.

#### 2007/2807 REDUCTION OF ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The Court agree the pinch points are a good idea, and that the Picket Post to Burley road might be a good place to trial them. Cllr Mrs Heron will be consulted. The suggestion will also be raised at a road accident reduction meeting being arranged by the Clerk.

2007/2808 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

It was agreed that the SID's are not always 100% accurate.

#### SUBMISSIONS BY THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2007/2809 BRITISH TELECOM UNDERGROUND DUCT EAST BOLDRE TO DISCHARGE EAST END

The Court approved the proposals subject to the usual conditions regarding reinstatement, safe working conditions, compensation for loss of grazing etc. Careful reinstatement will be required on the corner close to the thatched cottage.

2007/2810 BT UNDERGROUND DUCT AND CABLE OUTSIDE BURLEY DISCHARGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Court approved the proposals subject to the usual three conditions.

2007/2811 PROGRESS PILOT PROJECT – GROUND NESTING BIRDS DISCHARGE

The Court discussed the proposals to site temporary information signs at a number of locations in the Forest. Mr Rothnie explained the intention of the signs is to persuade visitors to use certain routes in preference to others in order to protect ground nesting birds. He added that the Forestry Commission is also closing certain car parks during the bird nesting season for the same reason. Whilst understanding and accepting the reasoning behind the proposals, the Court felt that the signs would have an urbanising effect on the Forest and agreed to discuss the matter further later in committee.

2007/2812 PROGRESS PROJECT – ENCOURAGING ACCESS INTO DISCHARGE NORLEYWOOD INCLOSURE FROM NORLEYWOOD CAR PARK

As the track will encourage people into the Inclosure this was approved providing there is no hard edging.

2007/2813 PROGRESS PROJECT – ENCLOSURE OF WILVERLEY TOILET DISCHARGE BLOCK

The proposal to fence round the toilet block and provide a short ramp for wheelchairs was approved. The gate must be maintained in a stock proof condition at all times and a box gate may be necessary.

DISCHARGE

RESUME

2007/2814 PROGRESS PROJECT - ROADSIDE DITCHING WORK IN THE DISCHARGE VICINITY OF CROCKFORD

This was approved but the Court asked that the spoil from the ditch be thrown up on the road side to create a bank which will help prevent verge parking.

2007/2815 HORSE DRAWN OMNIBUS FOR PAYING CUSTOMERS DISCHARGE

This matter was discussed later in the Committee.

### MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COURTS OF CONCERN TO THE FORESTRY COMMISSION AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS OF CONCERN TO THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2007/2816 A31 FENCING

Mr Adams reported he has met the Highway Agency workforce. They revealed that the fences are checked only from the road. A list of 24 defects was handed to the Highway Agency together with gate keys to facilitate access. Assurances have been received that repairs to the fences will be carried out.

#### 2007/2817 A31 LITTER

The laybys do not currently have any rubbish bins and rubbish, including glass, metal and plastic can all be seen discarded over the fence onto the Forest. Mr Parke said he will check to see who is responsible for what on this road. It is thought that Mott Macdonald has a contract covering all maintenance on the road including the fence, vegetation and litter on the verges but that the Forestry Commission is responsible for clearing any litter on the Forest side of the fence.

The Court felt it is imperative that the District Council does not start charging for the collection of domestic waste as the Forest is likely to become a rubbish tip.

The Fordingbridge road is reportedly now excellent.

#### 2007/2818 RUBBISH BEHIND PICKET POST FILLING STATION

Mr Adams remarked that the rubbish is mostly building materials. It was suggested it may be coming from a nearby house where building works are being undertaken. Mr Parke said the Keepers are dealing with another matter in the area, concerning an illegal fence belonging to a property that has recently changed hands. He added that the Forestry Commission gives permission for skips to be placed on the Forest on a temporary basis.

#### 2007/2819 FALLEN STOCK

Somerley Estate tip is not used by the Forestry Commission for the disposal of dead deer. Details of how to contact the site were provided to the Clerk who will make enquires about possible disposal of carcasses.

DISCHARGE

RESUME

RESUME April 2007

RESUME

#### 2007/2820 SOUTHAMPTON LASER GATEWAY

A response has been received from the Leader of Southampton City Council. Observational and evaluation trials on the proposed installation of four lasers in the Civic Centre Clock Tower are to be carried out under Regulation 48 of the Habitats Regulations 1994. This matter will be discussed again as and when further information becomes available.

#### FORESTRY COMMISSION CAMPSITES AND DOGS DISCHARGE 2007/2821

The lack of clarity on Forest Holiday's website has now been addressed. Ashurst and Denny are dog free but the dog free areas on other campsites have been abandoned.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS INVOLVING THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2007/2822 MILKHAM INCLOSURE CROSSINGS (This matter was discussed RESUME whilst Mr Rothnie was still present)

> Mrs Thorne commented that nothing has been done to reinstate the crossings which are in a dangerous condition. She requested the Forestry Commission to get on with the work as soon as possible.

RESUME GATES AT HIGHLAND WATER (This matter was discussed whilst Mr 2007/2823 Rothnie was still present)

> The gates on Highland Water inclosure which should be open are almost always closed. Those on Dames Slough are locked open and it was requested that the same be done to the Highland Water gates. Mr Rothnie said he will take this up with Mr Richard Stride.

2007/2824 ASHURST CRICKET PITCH

> The debris from the old pavilion has not yet been cleared and a roller has yet to be removed. Mr Parke is pressing the Cricket Club to deal with both matters. It was agreed the area could be opened up to stock providing the roller drawbar is not a danger to stock.

#### 2007/2825 SEAT ON THE OPEN FOREST AT BUSKETTS

The seat replaces an old one but unfortunately it has been concreted in place and gravel spread around it. The Parish Council will be advised that in future it must seek permission.

#### SEAT AT BURLEY 2007/2826

A seat has appeared outside the corner of Oakley Inclosure on the southern edge of Berry Wood. It is believed it has been placed there in memory of a well respected commoner. Regrettably it will have to be removed.

#### **DUR HILL / SILVERSANDS BRIDGE** 2007/2827

Miss Macnair asked for the old fence, adjacent to the illegal Kingston Great Common fence, to be repaired as a matter of urgency. The fence, which is in very bad condition, is needed to prevent stock (or

### DISCHARGE

DISCHARGE

RESUME

## DISCHARGE

members of the public) falling down the very steep embankment onto the disused railway line. The request was noted by the Forestry Commission.

DISCHARGE

GATES ON BURLEY NEW INCLOSURE

2007/2828

#### The gates on this inclosure have dropped and are extremely difficult to open. Mr Parke said they would be inspected and the problem dealt with. MODEL AIRCRAFT CLUB AT BEAULIEU DISCHARGE 2007/2829 It has been suggested that the permission for the aircraft club is to be rescinded. Mr Parke advised that this is not the case. 2007/2830 SOIL IN BROOMY INCLOSURE RESUME A large quantity of soil has appeared in Broomy Inclosure and it was queried as to where it has come from and why it is there. CRANESMOOR DISCHARGE 2007/2831 Contractors are making a horrendous mess of the Forest in their efforts to get on and off the Crow Road. It was suggested an alternative access might be available and the Court hoped the area will be reinstated. 2007/2832 HIGH CORNER INN DISCHARGE A barbed wire fence is falling down and is a danger to stock. 2007/2833 LITTLE DILTON HOUSE - BRIDLEWAY DISCHARGE The Clerk is dealing with the problem of the gate/fencing at the end of this bridleway where it accesses the Forest. It is not the responsibility of the Forestry Commission. TURF HILL AND MILLERSFORD PLANTATIONS RESUME 2007/2834 The reinstatement is considered to be unsatisfactory and stacks of cut Also some areas of cleared Scots Pine are timber remain. regenerating. Mr Pasmore offered to meet representatives of the Forestry Commission on site to discuss what should be done. DONKEY COTTAGE, MILL LANE BURLEY - FENCING DISCHARGE 2007/2835 A new fence has been erected but unfortunately the old one has been left on the Forest side and is a hazard to stock. The owner of the cottage is apparently in hospital and no-one knows who owns the field. Mr Parke said he would get someone to look at the problem.

### Mr Parke left the meeting.

### OTHER MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COURT AND PREVIOUS COURTS

#### 2007/2836 FORESTRY COMMISSION MATTERS

The Official Verderer commented that a considerable amount of time had just been spent discussing the miscellaneous matters requiring action by the Forestry Commission. He suggested that some of these things could best be raised with the Commission direct, rather than through formal Court meetings. Matters which are not resolved should of course be brought to Committee.

#### HOT BRANDING OF CATTLE 2007/2837

Mrs Thorne reported that DEFRA will not revisit this subject as the ban is already in place. The only way of changing the law is to gain the support of MP's. It was agreed to leave this matter for the time being.

#### 2007/2838 STALLION BLOODLINES

Experts from the Scottish Agricultural College are to visit the Forest on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2007 at approximately 11.15 a.m. to discuss how best to conserve diversity of the gene pool. The meeting is being arranged at no cost to the Verderers.

#### STALLION SCHEME FUNDING 2007/2839

The Official Verderer announced that the New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society has kindly offered £3,180 to help cover a projected deficit in respect of the Stallion Scheme funding for the year 2007/2008.

In respect of this year (2006/2007) funding has been received from the New Forest Trust (£4,500) and the National Park Authority has also offered £5,000. A small deficit remains which will be covered by the Court.

Consideration will need to be given to the level of premiums which may be payable in 2008/2009 and beyond. Sufficient funds are available from the Court's own funds to cover the grazing, which is considered to be the priority, but payment of premiums will be dependent upon financial support from other organisations.

#### THE WILVERLEY INCIDENT 2007/2840

A most useful conference was held recently with solicitors and Counsel acting for the Court. It is thought the trial may take place towards the end of this year and the matter will be brought back to the Court as and when there is something to report.

#### KINGSTON GREAT COMMON 2007/2841

The Official Verderer raised this issue once more with the Chief Executive of the National Park Authority, Mrs Lindsay Cornish. Mr Steve Trotter, NPA Director of Conservation and Enhancement is still trying hard to contact the landowner.

DISCHARGE

### RESUME April

#### RESUME October

## DISCHARGE

RESUME April

#### 2007/2842 ENCROACHMENTS – FIVE THORNS

The Official Verderer reported on his meeting with Mr Mike Eccles and Mr James Young of the Commoners' Defence Association at which encroachments, and in particular the fence outside the property Five Thorns at North Weirs in Brockenhurst, were discussed.

The Court agreed to support the CDA in seeking legal advice subject to the following conditions....

- 1. the maximum total cost does not exceed £20,000 (£10,000 for the Verderers);
- 2. the CDA instructs a fresh firm of Solicitors, approved by the Court and;
- 3. a representative of the Court is present at all meetings with Solicitors and Counsel.

The Official Verderer will contact the CDA sub-committee to confirm the Court's position.

#### 2007/2843 HOLLANDS WOOD AND ROUNDHILL CAMPSITES

The Clerk was asked to ensure that Mr Steve Avery, the planning officer dealing with the planning application, has a copy of the Verderers' decision. The Clerk will also ask if the Verderers are allowed to speak at the planning meeting and whether they are limited to 3 minutes.

#### 2007/2844 HORSE DRAWN OMNIBUS

The Court was asked to approve a proposal for a 1906 double deck Horse Drawn Omnibus to travel along a length of the disused railway line en-route from Ringwood to Brockenhurst. The intention is to provide a transport service during the summer for up to 22 passengers. The Forestry Commission suggested a trial of one year with a view to issuing an annual permit if the project is a success.

The Forestry Commission feels the route is suitable, although a significant amount of work would be required to create a suitable access at the Wilverley Lodge end and to remove overhanging trees further along the track. The Verderers considered the request carefully but suggested the service should be restricted to the public highway for the time being. If it becomes clear that the service is popular with the public, consideration will be given to the use of a route across the Open Forest. The Verderers were concerned that agreeing to the proposals at this stage would be contrary to their policy (6.5) which states they will not normally approve new formal recreational activities.

The Verderers wished to make clear, however, that this decision is made without prejudice to any future application that may be approved if one of the other three wagon ride permissions is rescinded. RESUME

DISCHARGE

#### RESUME

#### 2007/2845 PROGRESS PILOT PROJECT – GROUND NESTING BIRDS

DISCHARGE

Further to the earlier discussions about this project, the Verderers decided to approve or refuse consent for the proposed information boards as follows:-

Duckhole Bog – refused

Hincheslea Moor Car Park – approved.

North of disused railway line at Longslade (2 sites) – approved.

Ditchend Brook/Bottom (2 sites) – refused. Signs to be sited in car parks.

Upper Crockford Bottom – refused. Sign to be sited in car park.

Tracks to Bishops Dyke (2 signs) – refused. Sign could be sited in Pig Bush car park.

Burbush (south of disused railway line) – refused. Sign to be sited in car park.

### COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

2007/2846 CSS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

DISCHARGE

The advisory group will meet early in March. Supplementary payments will be discussed and recommendations sent to the sub-committee.

#### NATIONAL PARK

#### 2007/2847 NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY MANAGEMENT PLAN DISCHARGE

The Official Verderer, Mrs Thorne and Mr Montagu will be happy to participate in the brainstorming sessions. They will report back to the Court as and when necessary.

2007/2848 CONSULTATION ON THE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF THE FOREST DISCHARGE

The paper prepared by Mr Pasmore, Mr Kitcher and Mr Frost was approved. It will now be forwarded to the NPA.

2007/2849 THE OFFICIAL VERDERER'S MEETING WITH THE CHAIRMAN DISCHARGE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE NPA

Various matters were discussed including the Court's response to the Corporate Plan, the Consultation on the Special Qualities of the Forest and Kingston Great Common.

Mrs Cornish (CE) asked that the Court bears in mind that the Corporate Plan was written when the Authority was no more than one month old. As a result it is already being significantly reviewed. Certain contentious matters are on hold, however a planning authority cannot *not* make decisions. The Official Verderer was assured the Court will be consulted and its opinion sought on any matters involving

There was nothing to report.

MINUTES of the Court of Verderers held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2007 at 9.30 a.m. in the Library, The Queen's House, Lyndhurst.

> the Open Forest. Decisions will be made using the New Forest Strategy document and each application will be considered on its own merit.

2007/2850 THE FOREST ATLASES

> The Clerk said she is to meet with a member of the NPA staff who is an expert on GIS.

**REFLECTIVE COLLARS** 2007/2851

> The Clerk said she is in contact with Emma Rigglesworth at the NPA and is hopeful some funding towards reflective collars will be forthcoming.

2007/2852 COMMONING REVIEW

> The Official Verderer said there is nothing yet to bring to the Court's attention. A meeting took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

#### **OTHER AGENDA ITEMS**

None

#### MATTERS ARISING FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

2007/2853 FOREST CAMS ABSTRACTION DISCHARGE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES)

> Mr Frost reported that the last meeting concerning water abstraction has taken place. Very little water is to be extracted from Forest waterways and only then during periods of high flow. The next set of meetings will be to consider water quality. The Verderers are well represented.

2007/2854 TRANSPORT CONFERENCE AT BEAULIEU

> The Conference was attended by Mr Pasmore and Mr Montagu who reported that Cllr Thornber announced there is to be a review of transportation within the Forest but there is no funding available for major works except via the Regional Transport Panel. He also said that his support of a Lyndhurst bypass would be conditional on a through route being considered.

#### STAFF MATTERS (including the Staff Committee)

NEW ANIMAL TRANSPORT REGULATIONS 2007/2855

> The Agisters had a very useful meeting with Mr John Pullen from the local Trading Standards office. Although they may not be strictly necessary, application forms have been obtained in order that the Agisters may obtain licences permitting them to transport commoners' animals.

#### TRAINING

NEW

(CATCHMENT

DISCHARGE

DISCHARGE

DISCHARGE

RESUME

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

Nothing to report.

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2007/2856 VISIT BY THE HIGH SHERIFF

The Official Verderer reported that he had received a letter from the High Sheriff thanking the Court for her visit which she very much enjoyed.

#### 2007/2857 STOCK FEEDING AREAS ON ADJACENT COMMONS DISCHARGE

Mr Adams asked the position regarding commoners' feeding their animals on the added areas. The Official Verderer confirmed that there is no doubt the Verderers' byelaws apply to the added areas and the Agisters must advise commoners who are feeding on the commons without agreeing a feeding area that they are in breach of byelaw 17.

2007/2858 FEEDING OF DONKEYS AT NORLEY WOOD

Someone is apparently feeding donkeys at Norley Wood. It was agreed the local Agister must investigate and if necessary report his findings to the office.

2007/2859 THE ROL KITCHER CUP

The cup has remained in the Verderers' Hall display cupboard since the end of the LIFE project and it has been suggested that it could be presented to the highest scoring young stallion brought forward for inspection each year. The Court felt this to be a very good suggestion and it was agreed the cup could be presented in Open Court.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.25 p.m.

RESUME April

DISCHARGE