

**MINUTES of the Verderers' Grazing Scheme Management Committee held on Wednesday  
15<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in the Verderers Meeting Room**

PRESENT: Mr Dominic May Official Verderer  
Mr R Deakin Elected Verderer & Staff Committee Chairman  
Mr G M H Mills DEFRA Appointed Verderer  
Mrs D Westerhoff Natural England Appointed Verderer

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Samantha Luther VGS Administrator

APOLOGIES: Mr D Readhead Elected Verderer

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

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING RESUME  
The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RESUME

The Official Verderer, and Mr Deakin declared their membership of the Verderers Grazing Scheme.

Mr Deakin is a member of the New Forest Livestock Society.

The Official Verderer and Mr Deakin are members of the New Forest Pony Breeders and Cattle Society

Mr Mills has a tenant who is in the VGS, and who is also a fencing contractor. Mr Mills also has an interest in the NFLAS.

SMALL GRANT APPLICATIONS ACTION SL

Grants of varying sums were approved to the following members of the VGS:

H Gregory – Fencing and hurdles  
T Woodley – Livestock trailer  
C Bates – Cattle crush  
K Dovey – Fencing  
L Byford – Fencing  
R Harris-Jones – Fencing  
E Dovey – Fencing  
J Readhead – Mobile pound  
T Gould – Cattle crush  
S Waite – Livestock trailer  
P Bessant – Harrow and roller  
R Maton – Cattle handling system  
J Young – Barn  
M Cooper – Gate and fencing  
J Pothcary – Cattle handling  
C Dawe – Cattle handling  
B Ingram – Barn repairs

Other small grant applications:

Mr and Mrs Coombs – Fencing – application declined as not currently a member of the VGS Scheme

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S Surplice – Fencing – application declined as not currently a member of the VGS Scheme.

C Davies – Fencing – application declined as small level commoning activity and a large scale fencing project in relation to number of animals depastured.

C Shutler – Query, is the land less than 1 mile outside the perambulation? Also two quotes required.

N Stephens – Fencing – application declined due to conflicting information re: number of animals, clearing of the old fence line and no length of fence on quote.

Mr Tillman – appeal of previous application refusal. Decision upheld. Also not currently a member of the VGS scheme.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

### OPENING OF THE VERDERERS' INCLOSURES

SL to make contact with the FC to find out how much additional land is available to the depastured stock as a result of opening the Verderers' Inclosures.

ACTION SL

### CONDITION MONITORING OF THE FOREST

SL to contact J M-S of the LAS to ask her to start planning the 2017 condition assessment of the Forest. DW would like LAS to include an evaluation of whether the Forest is over grazed- J M-S to devise a method.

ACTION SL

### VGS CROSS CHECKS

SL to check those commoners who have increased their herd numbers by more than 10% since last year, split into ponies and cattle.

ACTION SL

SL to work with Mr Greenwood and the Agisters to identify ghost cattle.

ACTION SL

SL to check those who are at the upper limit of the VGS scheme, whether there have been any animal transfers between family.

ACTION SL

### NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 3pm. SL to email this date to committee members.

ACTION SL