

MINUTES of the Court of Verderers held on Wednesday 17th January 2007 at 9.30 a.m. in the Library, The Queen's House, Lyndhurst.

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

IN COMMITTEE

The Head Agister was present for the first two items.

The Official Verderer advised the Court that Mrs Jane Benson, High Sheriff for Hampshire, would be attending the Open Court.

2007/2722 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING DISCHARGE

The Minutes of the Court held on Wednesday, 20th December 2006 were approved.

2007/2723 CONDITION OF STOCK RESUME

The Head Agister reported that overall stock is in good condition. The weather has been wet and windy and the Agisters are keeping a close eye on the animals.

There are still a few cases of strangles at Woodgreen, Penn Common and Cadnam Green. Strangles has also been reported in a private yard in Minstead. A few commoners have been out catching their own stock in areas where drifts were not held because of strangles. The Agisters will keep a close eye on mares with foals.

A few acorns remain on the ground, most of which are now blackened and are therefore less palatable to stock. The death rate from suspected acorn poisoning has declined but a few more are expected in the coming months.

Mr Adams arrived in the meeting and confirmed he is reasonably happy with the condition of stock.

The Head Agister left the meeting.

2007/2724 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DECISIONS RESUME

The announcements and decisions were approved.

2007/2725 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RESUME

The Elected Verderers declared an interest in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.

Mr Gerrelli declared an interest in any items concerning Campsites.

The Official Verderer declared an interest in matters concerning Forest golf courses.

2007/2726 FINANCIAL STATEMENT RESUME

The Financial Statement for December 2006 was approved.

2007/2727 REPORT ON MARKING FEES RECEIVED AS AT THE END OF DECEMBER 2006 RESUME

The following Marking Fees have been received:

Ponies	4173	Pigs	627
Cattle	2586	Sheep	41
Donkeys	110		

Total - 7537 Total Ponies, Cattle & Donkeys – 6869

2007/2728 ANIMALS REMOVED FROM THE FOREST RESUME

TYPE	POOR	SICK/INJURED	WANTED BY OWNER	OTHER
Mares with foals	2 (+ 2 foals)		1 (+ 1 foals)	
Other Ponies		1	1	
Cattle		2	6	
Donkeys				
Pigs				
Sheep				
Total	4	3	9	0

2007/2729 BYELAW ENFORCEMENT RESUME

Mr Malcolm Horsburgh

Mr Horsburgh, who was being prosecuted for refusing to pay marking fees, failed to appear in Court and the case against him was proven in his absence. He was fined £200 and ordered to pay £500 costs. The Court issued a Collection Order which means the Court's Bailiff will pursue Mr Horsburgh for payment.

The Coopers

Five members of the Cooper family are being prosecuted for non-payment of marking fees. Two have yet to appear in Court. They must attend on the 2nd April to enter their pleas. The other three pleaded not guilty and their trial is listed for 3rd and 4th May.

Costs are expected to be in the region of £5,000 as Counsel will be required if a full trial takes place. Costs will be requested if the prosecutions are successful.

Mrs Jane Benson, the High Sheriff joined the Committee. The Official Verderer welcomed and introduced her to everyone present. Mrs Benson then explained her role to the Court.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Mike Seddon, Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest
Mr Will Parke, Area Land Agent (New Forest)

The Official Verderer formally welcomed the High Sheriff to the Court. He explained that the office of High Sheriff is over 1,000 years old and is the oldest continuous secular Office under the Crown. The High Sheriff has special responsibilities for senior judiciary visiting Hampshire and is the Queen's representative in respect of all matters to do with the maintenance of law and order.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DECISIONS BY THE OFFICIAL VERDERER

2007/2730 STALLION SCHEME

The Verderers' Stallion Scheme has now been running for six full years, and with the considerable and much valued assistance of the Commoners Defence Association, a scheme for a further three year period has now been agreed. The scheme was formally endorsed by the full Court in our December Committee, with the main objectives remaining unchanged, i.e. to reduce the number of foals, to improve the quality of stock bred on the Forest and as far as possible to prevent late foals being born.

The scheme has been revised in a number of ways, and the principal conditions are:-

1. That the number of stallions be limited to 42, with no fixed ratio of younger and older stallions,
2. That stallions will be inspected in the spring only, with the present judging inspection profile being continued. Blood lines will also be taken into account,
3. The mandatory turning out time will be from May 1st until July 1st during each of the three years of the scheme beginning in 2007. However owners may opt to turn out their stallions between 1st April and 31st July. All stallions must be removed from the Forest by 31st July,
4. All stallions, upon reaching the age of 5 years, must run on the Forest for eleven consecutive months. If they fail to run out successfully in the first year, they may be tried again the following year. If they fail on the second attempt at running out, they will no longer be eligible for inclusion in the scheme. Stallions which successfully complete one eleven month period out on the Forest will not be required to stay out for the winter again. Please note that five-year old stallions may be taken off the Forest to attend the Stallion Show in August without jeopardising their qualification. These five-year old stallions that are running out under this rule will receive the same funding,
5. No stallion over the age of 18 will be considered for the scheme,
6. Stallions will continue to be moved every three years to a new area, however expert Veterinary opinion is being sought as to how often stallions should be moved, and what effect the current policy may have on the blood lines.

The premium payable to the stallion owners has yet to be decided, however it is our intention to dedicate the funds that we have available to the provision of free winter grazing for all eligible stallions. If funds permit then a premium will be paid as well. At

present I am very pleased to say that we have been offered ongoing financial support by the Forestry Commission, and annual grants have been offered to us by the New Forest Trust and the National Park Authority. Taken together these funds should be more than sufficient to provide free grazing as before for at least the first year.

Lastly, some fears have been expressed in the past that this scheme may somehow effect commoners' rights. I would like to stress, as clearly as is possible, that this scheme in no way effects or somehow jeopardises a commoner's right to lawfully depasture his animals. The scheme is operated entirely within the limits of the New Forest Acts which ultimately govern the way that we as Verderers regulate those rights.

2007/2731 WINTER WELFARE TOUR

Our winter welfare tour took place on Friday 15th December and was as always well attended by representatives from various national and local welfare organisations, including the RSPCA, the British Horse Society, the International League for the Protection of Horses, the Blue Cross and the Donkey Sanctuary.

The tour allowed those who are concerned with the welfare of the animals that are out on the Forest to see their condition for themselves. At the end of the tour all those who attended were unanimous in their opinion that the condition of the stock gave them no cause for concern, and that the quality of the animals has greatly improved over the years. They once again expressed their admiration for the way that the animals are managed, and particular praise was given to the Agisters for the work that they do in ensuring the welfare of the stock. It is, of course, very encouraging to receive such positive endorsements from these highly respected charities.

2007/2732 BYELAW ENFORCEMENT

At the Southampton Magistrates Court on Friday 5th January 2007 Mr Malcolm Horsbrough was successfully prosecuted for non-payment of his annual marking fees due under the bylaws. Mr Horsbrough was fined £200, which is the maximum fine allowable for this particular offence, and he was ordered to pay £500 towards the Verderers' legal costs.

It is unfortunate that we have had to resort to the criminal courts in order to enforce the bylaws, however it is only right and proper that we should pursue those who persistently refuse to pay.

2007/2733 SPEED LIMITS

At November's Court, Col Peter Sweet proposed that a 20 mph speed limit should be implemented throughout the Forest.

The idea has been forwarded to the County Council and the I met with Cllr Mel Kendall, Executive Member for the Environment, who is responsible for speed limits in Hampshire.

2007/2734 VERDERERS' COUNTRY STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

Payments have now been sent to all members who participated in the scheme last year. This was slightly later than expected because of a delay in receiving the money from the Rural Payments Agency. Application Forms for the current year were sent out at the same time and commoners are urged to complete these and return them to the Scheme Manager without delay.

ANIMAL ACCIDENT REPORT

2007/2735 ACCIDENT REPORT FOR 2006

The Agisters attended 174 accidents in 2006, compared with 155 in 2005.

69 ponies, 13 cattle, 2 donkeys and 3 pigs were killed and 28 ponies, 11 cattle, 4 donkeys and 1 sheep were injured.

106 accidents occurred in the hours of darkness and 68 occurred in daylight hours.

131 accidents involved private cars or light commercials, 5 involved motorcycles and 2 involved heavy vehicles.

36 accidents were not reported in 2006 compared with 20 in 2005.

The total killed and injured for the year is 131 compared with 114 for 2005.

PRESENTMENTS BY THE DEPUTY SURVEYOR OF THE NEW FOREST

None

PRESENTMENTS

2007/2736 ENCROACHMENTS

Presentment by Mr Mike Cooper on behalf of the Commoners' Defence Association

"For a significant period of time our committee has been dealing with a number of reports concerning encroachments. Some of these amount to a few feet, whilst others are for considerable areas of land. As a result, the association's solicitor has looked into the matter at great length, and has himself, sought the opinions of several eminent figures in the legal profession. Unfortunately, although very well qualified for the job, they lack the local knowledge, understanding, and interpretation of the Forest and its history. This we feel has prevented them from reaching a satisfactory conclusion. The association is limited in what it can achieve in such situations, and with this in mind we now turn to the Verderers, as under Section 23 of the 1877 New Forest Act, it is their duty to protect the grazing land of the New Forest by enquiring into all unlawful enclosures, encroachments, and trespass whatsoever. The association see this matter as a serious issue, and one that appears to be escalating. Therefore, we seek to work with the Verderers, offering what help we can, so that a satisfactory and binding solution can once and for all be found".

2007/2737 BLACKWELL COMMON

Presentment by Mr Mike Cooper on behalf of the Commoners' Defence Association

"The lawn adjacent to the entrance of Blackwell Common cemetery is now accessible to motor vehicles. The bank and ditch have flattened, and now require some reinstatement work. Damage to the area is not severe at the moment, but if left unchecked, will be rendered useless for grazing. It is my opinion that this area is being used as a turning circle".

2007/2738 MARKWAY LAWN

Presentment by Mr Bob Cooper on behalf of the Minstead Manor Commoners

Mr Cooper expressed concern that debris is stopping up the flow of water.

2007/2739 ENCROACHMENTS

Presentment by Mr Bob Cooper on behalf of the Minstead Manor Commoners

Mr Cooper supported the Presentment made on behalf of the Commoners' Defence Association adding there are also problems on Minstead Manor waste.

2007/2740 LYNDHURST BYPASS & THE PARTICIPATION OF CERTAIN VERDERERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

Presentment by Mr Bob Cooper

Mr Cooper raised the matter of the Lyndhurst Bypass and expressed the opinion that any objections made by the Verderers would be rejected on the grounds that certain Verderers are guilty of misconduct by participating in the Verderers' Countryside Stewardship Scheme in contravention of Section 16 of the New Forest Act of 1877. Mr Cooper accused the Verderers of acting against the advice of DEFRA legal officers. He believed decisions made by the Court subsequent to the Verderers participation in the scheme to be invalid due to those Verderers being disqualified from holding office.

2007/2741 THE PARTICIPATION OF CERTAIN VERDERERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

Presentment by Mr Mike Cooper on behalf of the Commoners' Defence Association

"Our association would like to offer its full support in recognising the good work of the Verderers. Our elected Verderers give their time freely and at some considerable personal expense. We do not see any conflict between those members who are practising commoners, and the administration of the Stewardship scheme. They pay full marking fees on depastured stock, and as we see it, have every right to participate in reaping the rewards, without compromising themselves, or the scheme in any way whatsoever".

2007/2742 PONY COLLARS

Presentment by Mr Mike Cooper on behalf of the Commoners' Defence Association

"I have pleasure in enclosing a cheque for £500 towards the manufacture of some more pony collars. This has been kindly given by New Forest District Council's - Road Safety Partnership, who are one of the few, if not the only safety partnership in the UK that has a priority to reduce road casualties and includes an item to reduce stock casualties".

The Official Verderer thanked the CDA for its support. He added that the matter was dealt with in 2003 and is considered to be closed.

The Official Verderer then thanked the Road Safety Partnership for the cheque.

The Official Verderer also thanked the High Sheriff for coming to the Court. He explained to those present that it is normal for the High Sheriff to be invited to sit with the presiding bench and he hoped Mrs Benson would go away with happy memories of her visit.

The High Sheriff said she had learned a lot and added that she has no jurisdiction over the New Forest.

IN COMMITTEE in The Library

CONSIDERATION OF PRESENTMENTS

2007/2743 ENCROACHMENTS RESUME

It is thought the CDA presentment referred to a long standing problem of a ditch in Brockenhurst that is private property and has been fenced but may be subject to common rights. The Official Verderer will look carefully at the Presentment and papers from the CDA's lawyers and also the New Forest Acts to see if the Court's powers and duties extend to such issues.

Mr Parke commented that similar situations occur regularly each year when occupiers of land abutting the Forest try to erect fences. The fences are usually removed following a visit from the Keeper.

It was agreed that regardless of what action the Court itself can take, it will support the CDA and may be able to contribute towards the costs of any legal action.

2007/2744 BLACKWELL COMMON DISCHARGE

Mr Parke said the Forestry Commission is dealing with the problem and the banks are due to be reinstated in the next few weeks. He added it would be quicker for the CDA to report such matters straight to the Commission.

2007/2745 MARKWAY LAWN DISCHARGE

The lawn will be inspected to see if the restoration works are doing their job and to check on any debris dams which may have formed.

2007/2746 MINSTEAD MANOR ENCROACHMENTS DISCHARGE

The Court's jurisdiction does not extend to Manor Waste; a fact that has been explained to Mr Bob Cooper on a number of occasions.

2007/2747 LYNDHURST BYPASS AND THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE VERDERERS DISCHARGE

The participation of certain Verderers in the Countryside Stewardship Scheme does not breach EU law and the payments made do not constitute a "profit". The Official Verderer will write to Mr Cooper and an announcement will be made at the next Court. The CDA's immediate support in Open Court was welcomed.

SUBMISSIONS BY THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2007/2748 REGENERATION OF CADMAN'S POOL DISCHARGE

The proposals by the Forestry Commission to continue and expand the work to regenerate Cadman's Pool by erecting additional fencing were given very careful consideration prior to being approved subject to the usual three conditions.

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

2007/2749 HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND DISCHARGE

The bid for a grant to work up a main bid for funds from the HLF has been successful and will be announced by News Release shortly.

2007/2750 A31 FENCING RESUME

The Official Verderer met Cllr Mel Kendall, Executive Member for the Environment. Cllr Kendall was shocked to hear what could happen if a fence fails and stock gain access to a main road in the Forest. He promised to see what he can do to resolve the problems.

2007/2751 SPEED LIMITS DISCHARGE

This issue was also discussed when the Official Verderer met with Cllr Kendall. A maximum speed of 20 mph is not considered practical, however a reduction to 30 mph in some areas may be. Cllr Kendall has requested details of the accident black spots for stock on the Forest with a view to considering reduced speed limits and improved signage in those locations. Cllr Kendall may also have found a way to fund more speed limit enforcement.

2007/2752 EYEWORTH WOOD DISCHARGE

Only the main rides have been cleared properly. The Deputy Surveyor confirmed more clearance/tidying up can be carried out if it is seen by the Open Forest Advisory Committee as a priority relative to other woods.

This matter will be discharged from the Minutes for the time being. Mr Adams and Mr Kitcher will advise the Clerk if it is necessary for the subject to return to the Court's Agenda.

2007/2753 RUBBISH BEHIND PICKET POST FILLING STATION RESUME

Mr Parke promised to investigate.

2007/2754 PEDESTRIAN REFUGE AND FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS – DISCHARGE
PIKE'S HILL, LYNDHURST

No objections were raised to Hampshire County Council's proposed pedestrian refuge and footpath improvements at Pike's Hill, Lyndhurst.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS INVOLVING THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

2007/2755 PRIVATELY OWNED VERGES DISCHARGE

Concern was expressed that an increasing number of verges outside properties are being surfaced in order to facilitate car parking. Mr Parke advised that the Forestry Commission has no jurisdiction where the verge does not belong to the Crown.

2007/2756 FALLEN STOCK RESUME

The Deputy Surveyor said he would find out whether Somerley Tip is or has been used for the disposal of casualty deer. It was suggested that in the event that the Foxhound Kennels cease to collect fallen stock from the Forest, Somerley may be a possible alternative disposal facility.

2007/2757 RUBBISH ON THE FOREST RESUME

There continues to be some confusion as to who collects rubbish dumped on the Forest. The Deputy Surveyor will check and report the current position.

2007/2758 LITTER ON THE CADNAM TO DOWNTON ROAD DISCHARGE

The Deputy Surveyor said he will arrange for the large amount of litter that is now spread along the verges of this road to be cleared.

2007/2759 LASER DISPLAY IN SOUTHAMPTON RESUME

Considerable concern was expressed at the proposals by Southampton City Council for a laser display which will be visible at a distance of 15 miles. The matter has been raised at the Consultative Panel. A copy of the National Park's objection will be obtained by Cllr Mrs Heron. A letter of objection will be sent.

The Deputy Surveyor and Mr Parke left the meeting.

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

2007/2760 FENCING AT ELMERS COURT RESUME

The Clerk confirmed she has emailed the National Park Authority about the continued fencing problems at Elmers Court. A response is awaited.

2007/2761 REVISION OF THE VERDERERS' BYELAWS RESUME

A draft of the proposed changes will be issued to all Verderers for consideration and comment at the next Court. The paper will also be sent to DEFRA.

A discussion took place about whether it is prudent to change the maximum ceiling level of marking fee that the Court can charge. The Elected Verderers expressed concern at any increase but the Official Verderer pointed out that the Court must consider how to protect its future financial position. After further discussion it was suggested the ceiling figure for the fee could be index linked. The Official Verderer will explore this suggestion with DEFRA.

2007/2762 MICROCHIPPING & HOT BRANDING OF PONIES RESUME

Mr Paul Newman of DEFRA has confirmed he would like to visit the Forest to see a demonstration of hot-branding. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements.

2007/2763 HOT BRANDING OF CATTLE RESUME

The Clerk wrote to Mr Graham Thurlow MRCVS at DEFRA. No response has been received yet.

2007/2764 STALLION BLOODLINES RESUME

Mr Geoff Simm of the Sustainable Livestock Systems Group at the Scottish Agricultural College is interesting in carrying out a study on the pony bloodlines on the Forest. Miss Macnair confirmed the New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society will make its database available. The stallion sub-committee will meet with Mr Simm to discuss how to take the project forward and discuss the likely cost. It is possible some funding may be forthcoming from the NPA's Small Grants Fund.

2007/2765 STALLION SCHEME FUNDING RESUME

The NPA has agreed to assist with funding the stallion scheme. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Steve Trotter at the NPA.

Payment of premiums to stallion owners in the future is entirely dependent upon funding which is available. Winter grazing will always take precedence. Payments for stallions running out in 2007 are likely to remain at £300.00.

2007/2766 WILVERLEY INCIDENT RESUME

There is nothing further to report at the present time.

2007/2767 KINGSTON GREAT COMMON RESUME

Mr Steve Trotter of the NPA is trying to contact the owner of the common. The NPA is anxious to resolve the problems.

2007/2768 HOLLANDS WOOD & ROUNDHILL CAMPSITE PLANNING APPLICATION RESUME

The NPA has completed its appropriate assessment. Cllr Mrs Heron said she will endeavour to find out on what basis the assessment has been carried out and in particular whether it has taken into account the impact on commoning. The Official Verderer said he is sure the assessment relates to the actual sites rather than the Forest beyond.

The New Forest Commoners' Defence Association is to make representations.

COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME

2007/2769 PIGS DISCHARGE

A commoner who allowed a number of his pigs to remain on the Forest beyond the end of the pannage season and whose husbandry left a lot to be desired will be penalised under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. He is a relatively new commoner who should have been eligible to join the scheme in 2008. It has been decided,

however, that in view of his breach of the byelaws and his lack of concern for the welfare of his animals, he will not be invited to join until 2009. The Stewardship Scheme Manager has written to him accordingly advising him of this decision and also that his eligibility will depend on any further welfare issues or breaches of the byelaws.

2007/2770 PIGS – DOUBLE PAYMENTS DISCHARGE

The extension to the pannage season has resulted in a group of pigs turned out for the minimum qualifying period under the Stewardship Scheme of 40 days, to be sold and turned out again for a further 40 days. Both owners claimed have under the scheme. It was agreed this is not appropriate and an amendment to the rules to prevent it happening again will be discussed by the sub-committee when it next meets.

NATIONAL PARK

2007/2771 CONSULTATION ON THE SPECIAL QUALITIES OF THE FOREST RESUME

Mr Pasmore's draft response will be copied to Mr Frost and Mr Kitcher for comment.

2007/2772 THE FOREST ATLASES RESUME

It has been suggested that the Atlases could be digitised and overlaid on modern OS maps. The Clerk was asked to take this proposal forward with Mr Steve Trotter of the NPA which may have funding available for such a project.

2007/2773 REFLECTIVE COLLARS RESUME

The NPA may be able to assist with funding for reflective collars. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Steve Trotter to discuss the matter further.

2007/2774 COMMONING REVIEW RESUME

Mr Richard Manley (New Forest Trust) is considering the possibility of seeking statutory recognition for commoning and commoners and independent funding for the Verderers. He has requested a meeting with the Verderers. The Official Verderer felt such a meeting should take place and Mr Gerrelli and Mr Pasmore expressed an interest in attending.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

2007/2775 PROVISION OF PASSING PLACES ON HATCHET GREEN DISCHARGE

Mr Pasmore said he feels the passing places are necessary but the design could be improved. No objections were raised and the Highway Authority will be advised.

2007/2776 WORK EXPERIENCE DISCHARGE

A young gentleman has applied for work experience with the Agisters. After very careful consideration it was agreed that very regrettably the request must be refused on the grounds of health and safety.

MATTERS ARISING FROM EXTERNAL COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

No meetings have taken place recently.

STAFF MATTERS (including the Staff Committee)

2007/2777 MALCOLM HORSBURGH DISCHARGE

The Agisters must ask Mr Horsburgh for his marking fees. Mr Adams will request the Head Agister to go with Agister Rix.

2007/2778 TRANSPORT REGULATIONS RESUME
March

New transport regulations will affect the Agisters and a meeting is to be arranged with a representative of Trading Standards who have to enforce the new rules.

TRAINING

There was nothing to report.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK

Nothing to report.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2007/2779 SALE OF FORESTRY COMMISSION PROPERTIES – HOLMSLEY LODGE DISCHARGE

The Forestry Commission has provided details of the pair of semi-detached houses which it intends to build at Anderwood. The Official Verderer currently has the papers, which he will read and return to the office.

2007/2780 POUND CONSTRUCTION DISCHARGE

A complaint has been received from a commoner saying that the bolts on two pounds are dangerous. The Clerk added that she is already aware of this complaint and that she has asked the local Agister to cut and round off the ends of any protruding bolts which may be hazardous to stock or persons using the pound.

2007/2781 FORESTRY COMMISSION CAMPSITES RESUME

An article in the local paper implies that campers are being encouraged to bring dogs to the campsites. The Clerk was asked to seek comments from the Deputy Surveyor.

2007/2782 RUBBISH BINS ON CAMPSITES

RESUME

The large rubbish bins which are left on certain campsites over winter are being used by the public to dispose of various types of waste. Bins have been seen to be overflowing on several occasions. It was thought that in the past the bins had been removed from the sites at the end of the season. The Clerk said she has already contacted Forest Holidays in this connection and will do so again.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.20 p.m.