



# The Lymington Voice

The Newsletter of the Lymington Society Spring 2006

## Well Attended AGM hears about National Park

### Chairman of New Forest National Park Authority Gives Wide-ranging Talk

The AGM of the Society was held at The Lymington Community Centre on Wednesday the 5th of April under the Chairmanship of Mr Clive Sutton. As has become usual in the last few years the Robert Hole Room was filled almost to capacity with the caretaker having to get out extra chairs.

Mr Sutton opened the meeting with a full review of the last year's activities of the Society including the successful Social Programme of events and other highlights such as the successful listing of the Masters house. A full report of Clive Sutton's address can be found else-

where in the Newsletter.



**Ted Johnson Chairman of NFNPA**

Following the usual business of an AGM, including the adoption of a resolution appointing the existing Committee en-masse for a further year, Clive introduced the main speaker of the evening,

Ted Johnson Chairman of the New Forest National Park Authority.

Ted, who is well-known in the area from his time as Head of Planning for New Forest District Council, entertained the AGM with an illustrated talk

*"Increasing mobility and the growth of the urban conurbation of the South Coast had led to increasing pressures on the New Forest which were threatening to overwhelm it"*

on the background to the formation of the National Park.

For many years the New Forest survived pretty much intact without national intervention to safeguard its unique character. Increasing mobility and

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## Social Programme a Great Success

### Christmas Drinks at Stanwell House Hotel



The new Social Programme of the Society kicked off in December 2005 with Christmas Drinks at the Stanwell House Hotel in Lymington's Georgian High Street. Over 70 members and guests attended the event, which was felt by everyone involved to have been a great success.

The venue itself contributed in no small way to the success of the event, as the party was held in the stylish conservatory at the back of the hotel which proved an ideal room for the party.

*"The venue itself contributed in no small way to the success of the event"*

Invited Guests attending included Lymington Mayor Kevin Ault and local Councillors Pauline Ellsworth, Martina Humber and Elizabeth Lewis. The Chairman of The Friends of Brockenhurst, Desmond Waight also attended as

### Don't Miss the Summer Garden Party See page 2

a Guest.

Many comments were received from Members who appreciated the stylish surroundings and the high-quality of the service and the food provided by the hotel.

A short speech was given by the Chairman Mr Clive Sutton who thanked the invited guests for attending as well as thanking The Social Committee for organising such a successful event.

The Social Secretary Nigel Seth-Smith also gave a short speech thanking members for attending in such large numbers and for their kind comments on the venue and the catering.



**Clive Sutton With Councillors Ellsworth and Lewis**

It is the Social Committee's intention to make this a regular event and we are already talking to Stanwell House Hotel about this year's arrangements. The intended date will be the 13th of December, so make a note in

Continued on page 6, Col. 1

## Society Website Updated -Are you online?

Are on-line ?? If so why not have a quick look at our Lymington Society Web Site? The Society's Internet Web Site [www.lymsoc.co.uk](http://www.lymsoc.co.uk) (not to be confused with the Chicken Factory Webb's Site !!)

*"We intend to continue to develop the website for the benefit of the Society and would welcome suggestions for new features"*

has been up and running for some time but has recently had a major over-haul.

As well as the latest Chairman's Report, there are reports on planning matters and copies of the most recent Newsletter to download. Full details of the Members of

the Committee and their contact details can be found. On the social side, details are regularly posted of forthcoming Social Events organised by the Social Committee. For those who would like to help the Society to recruit new members or for anyone who would like to join The Society there are downloadable Membership Application Forms to be printed off and posted to the Membership Sec. and Treasurer Derek Sheffer.

We intend to continue to develop the Website for the benefit of the Society and would welcome suggestions for new features which Members would find useful. Finally we are very keen to obtain e-mail addresses for members to simplify future communication and to distribute the Newsletter. We would therefore be very

## Further Events organized for Expanding Social Programme

Good news for those who enjoyed the first three events of the Society's new Social Program. Further events have been arranged for the rest of the 2005/2006 Season. The varied program and interesting program is as follows.

**Wednesday the 7th of June**  
**Summer Garden Party-East Grove Lymington 6.00-8.00 pm £5.00**

*Courtesy of Sir Robin and Lady Georgina Craufurd. Summer Garden Party and tour of the Garden of this famous Georgian House, one of the most beautiful houses in the town and still in its original Georgian Garden.*

**Wednesday the 26th July 2006**  
**Looking at Hurst. Drinks & an Illustrated Talk. Stanwell House Hotel. 6.00-8.00pm £5.00**

Illustrated talk on one of Henry 8th most famous Castles by this well known local speaker who was for many years the Curator of the Castle for English Heritage.

**Saturday August the 19th 2006**  
**Picnic and Boat Trip To Hurst with a Castle Tour. £15.00**

Bring your own Picnic and enjoy a day at Historic Hurst Castle with Hurst Ferries. Leave Lymington Quay at 12.00 pm -



Hurst Castle

obliged if Members could log on to the Society Website and using the link to Donald Mackenzie send us your e-mail address so that we may include you on future e-mails.

**Donald Mackenzie Tel 01590 678087**  
**donald@donald-mackenzie.co.uk**



[www.lymsoc.co.uk](http://www.lymsoc.co.uk) home page

Enjoy a Picnic Lunch followed by a tour of the Castle. Return at 6.00 pm.

### For Details on how to obtain Tickets for these Events

Contact:  
**The Social Secretary**  
**Nigel Seth-Smith**  
**on 01590 678210**  
**nigel@gennum.co.uk or**  
**26 Waterford Lane, Lymington. SO41 3PT**

**Or Purchase direct from Solent House Dental Surgery, Cannon Street, Lymington (Next to the Old Library)**

## Bill Hope-Jones and Peter Chitty Retire from Lym. Soc. Committee

### End Of An Era as Society Founder and Treasurer Bow Out

At the recent AGM the Chairman Clive Sutton confirmed the end of an era in the history of the Society by announcing the resignation from the Committee of Bill Hope-Jones and Peter Chitty, two people who have done so much over many years on behalf of the Lymington Society. The Chairman then went on to describe the events that led to the setting up of the Society by Bill Hope-Jones.

*"I am told that in late 1945 Robert Hole 'ordered' Bill and Cecil Blatch*

*to lunch so as to get them involved with his idea of having a community centre in Lymington. There was a public meeting in March 1946 and Bill became a member of the foundation committee and later treasurer -- for 50 years.*

*In addition to the Community Centre, Bill was involved in the founding of the Lymington Society and has been active in it ever since. I can say that during my time as Chairman he has regularly attended meetings and has made contributions which often put our parochial concerns into perspective."*

(Editor: The Committee wish to set out on the Society's behalf everyone's huge gratitude to Bill for the many years of service to the Society in so many capacities. A future edition will set out in more detail, the History of the Society and Bill's important Role in the Society's history.)  
Turning to the resignation of Peter Chitty from the Committee Clive Sutton told the AGM

*"The second important announcement to make is that I have lost a personal battle. From time to time I have received letters from Peter Chitty saying that it is time for him to move on as a committee member and*

## Chairman's Annual Report to the AGM

### Clive Sutton' Address to the AGM at Lymington Community Centre Aril the 5th 2006

#### Welcome

Ladies and Gentlemen, can I welcome you all to this Annual General Meeting of the Lymington Society.

I am pleased to say that we are now settled into a regular pattern with our AGMs, holding them in March or early April.

#### New Social Programme

Thanks to the enthusiasm of our Committee Members and thanks to some prompting from the members at the last AGM, we have started to be able to involve our members more in social events. Later on in this meeting you will be hearing of a programme of further events and I believe the programme is being circulated

I hope those of you who were able to attend, enjoyed the party at Stanwell House Hotel in December and the Reception at the St Barbe Museum in January. The feedback from both was very positive. We were very pleased that several Town Councillors were able to come to the party in December.

#### Improved Newsletter

A landmark this year has been a production of an improved Newsletter which you received before Christmas. We are conscious that you have not yet had another one but we are working to produce this fairly shortly after this meeting.

I hope there will be between two and four Newsletters per year depending on the amount of material we have to report.

#### Consideration of Planning Applications

The Committee have held their regular monthly without a break. To miss a meeting means that we can miss Planning Applications and the time for making representations passes. I have to give personal thanks to Nick King and Derek Scheffer for watching the Planning Notices and the Council's Website like hawks to alert us to important planning applications.

Obviously most of the applications that come through are of a routine nature and we try not to get involved in issues which are only of interest to neighbours, unless those applications challenge an important point of planning principle.

However there are numerous applications at present which continue to try to push the boundaries of what the Society's Committee Members feel is acceptable and which if passed, would have the effect of significantly altering the character of the locality.

#### Development at Waterford Lane

You are all aware of those applications to which I am referring to. Examples this year have been the Waterford Lane application for dense housing in a very pleasant residen-

tial area of Lymington in Waterside. That application was refused but will return again in another form.

#### Bath Lodge Development

Similarly the application for redevelopment of the important site of Bath Lodge has also been refused and the developer's architects are seeking to have a meeting with the Society to discuss further proposals. I can say personally that I do not welcome meetings with developers where an application has been made and the purpose of the meeting is merely to persuade us to accept the application. I am much more interested in meetings where the plans have not been finalised and the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the sort of proposal which would not substantially harm the locality and which hopefully would enhance it.

#### Avenue Road/Buckland Road

Another important application to which the Committee responded by making representations at the public appeal, was the Avenue Road site on the corner of Buckland Road, which was refused by the Inspector and which is again being applied for in a different form.

#### Lymington's Changing Character Caused By Large Developments

I think the Committee were one of the first groups to express concern as to the changing character created by large developments in suburban roads. We are now starting to see the effects of the grants of those applications which the Committee resisted, but which were granted in any event. I expect you have all noticed the new developments in Avenue Road by the school entrance and on the other side of the road to it. We already have the large development at St. Andrews Lodge. The developers will soon be able to argue that further large-scale development will not be out of keeping with the character of the locality, because the locality has already changed.

#### Proposed Lymington Forum

During the course of the year your Committee proposed a Forum with other local bodies such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council. The Town Council has not felt it possible to have an informal dialogue with the Lymington Society because they feel that they are restricted to a degree of formality in their relationships with other bodies due to their public position. That is understandable but we are able to talk personally to members of the Town Council and have very friendly personal contacts with them. We liaise where appropriate with the Chamber of Commerce.

#### Dialogue With the NFDC

The Committee has been able to have a constructive dialogue with the New Forest District Council planning officers and I can say that a very useful meeting was held with Chris Elliott, the Chief Planning Officer, a couple of months ago. That has given us as a Committee, several pointers as to particular representations that we can make, which hopefully will have a prospect of being well received by the Planning Department.

Summarising briefly what Chris Elliott told us, he described how the NFDC Planning Authority will be reduced by some of its Offi-



**Society Chairman Clive Sutton**

cers being seconded to the National Park. I am sure we will hear more of that later from Ted Johnson.

#### Lack of Proper Representation before Planning Applications are Made and at Planning Committee of NFDC

Of particular concern to the Society was the question of representations on planning matters. Committee Members have been very concerned as to the fact that in Council Planning Meetings time for representations on major planning matters such as the Webb Site and other decisions, having an important impact on Lymington, are given the same amount of time, a total of three minutes for all representations, as for an application for a small extension to a property.

#### Need for More Pre-Planning Consultation and Representations for Large Developments

Obviously a small extension is of importance to the applicant as a large development is to a developer, but what distinguishes them is that the impact of a small development on the locality is likely to be very much less than a large development, and the question of the amount of time granted for making representation to the planning committee should be looked at from that perspective.

It seems that one difficulty with the planning process is that the developers take a view as to what is in their commercial interests, and at some considerable cost in architects and planning fees, they draw up a plan based on that. That is then rejected and it is then difficult for the developers to consider going back to the drawing board to approach the matter from a perspective which would be much more in keeping with the locality. That then leads to polarisation of views and possibly a planning appeal.

I think there are several developers who would be happy to be able to talk informally to the planners and also to amenity associations such as ours at an early stage in to establish local views on what is reasonable. The prime example of this has been the Webb Site where I think everyone now accepts that we would not be in the situation of the Council having had to approve what many people feel is an overdevelopment, if informal discussions had taken place with the developers as an earlier stage. Indeed the developers I believe would have been happy for this to happen.

## Chairman's AGM Report (continued)

#### The Webb's Site AGAIN ???

I am afraid we cannot seem to avoid the subject of the Old Chicken Factory Site in every AGM, no doubt for some time to come. The existing developers are I understand moving on and we await new developers and I hope that they will liaise with us if they are intending to change the plans. They do of course however have an existing permission for dense development which they can benefit from.

#### The Lymington Quay Bridge

I expect you have noted my crusade over the footbridge linking the Webb Site to the Town Quay, for which I do have the support of the Committee. This became public in our first Newsletter which put the negotiations with various parties into the public arena, which may or may not have been helpful. The question of the footbridge has all come about in the last year from the talk by Brian Avery at the last AGM. Following that meeting he drew up plans for a footbridge which then were put into a computer-generated picture and which have been published.

There are going to be problems with encroachment on the River, and opposition from adjoining owners, but the Society's intention is to act as a facilitator to explore the prospect of such a link as fully as possible by approaching all relevant parties. If it is not possible then the Society has done its best to achieve what it believes would be to the advantage of Lymington, and which will benefit the residents of that development. I can say that this is a something which the New Forest District Council Planning Officers want to see achieved.

#### The Future Planning of The Area North of the High Street

There are other sites where forward planning could be very useful such as the question of parking on the Tesco car park site and the issue of the whole of that area including the Old School Site.

#### The Retirement of Bill Hope-Jones and Peter Chitty

I have to deal with two important personal matters. The first is that you may have noticed that for the first time for many many years the meeting has not been formally introduced by Bill Hope-Jones. He has let it be known recently that he does not feel he can attend any further committee meetings or this AGM.

I hope we will see him again on some occasion. At this stage having only just had this news we are not in a position to do anything formally but I want to tell you're a little about what I know of Bill and what he has achieved in Lymington and for the Society.

I am told that in late 1945 Robert Hole "ordered" Bill and Cecil Blatch to lunch so as to get them involved with his idea of having a Community Centre in Lymington. There was a Public Meeting in March 1946 and Bill became a member of the foundation committee and later treasurer -- for 50 years.

(I know that feeling from the days when Ted Marsh, who I believe was also a member of this Committee "ordered" me to get involved with the Lymington Museum. By the time of Ted Marsh's death the impetus for the mu-

seum was unstoppable and we are now very proud of it.)

In addition to the Community Centre, Bill was involved in the founding of the Lymington Society and has been active in it ever since. I can say that during my time as Chairman he has regularly attended meetings and has made contributions which often put our parochial concerns into perspective.

The second important announcement to make is that I have lost a personal battle. From time to time I have received letters from Peter Chitty saying that it is time for him to move on as a Committee Member and make way for younger people. I have always persuaded him to withdraw them, but this time he has reminded me that when he joined the committee he managed to persuade some of the then more elderly members of the committee to resign so as to allow some new blood and ideas into it.

Peter has done so much for the Society, as Newsletter Editor and Treasurer and Committee Member. I have always seen Peter as a valuable link with the past Committee with his personal contacts with so many members. He says we now have a very good young and vibrant committee, and so his departure will not make the impact that it might have made some years back.

There comes a point, as with refusing invitations, where refusal reaches a point of being inconsiderate and rude, and if Peter feels that this is the time for him to resign his resignation is reluctantly accepted, although he is free to withdraw it at any time.

#### Current Members of the Committee

That leads me on to the remaining members of the committee, who at this AGM I wish to name and shame.

#### Ivor Johnson

Ivor Johnston came on the committee before me and has acted as a safe pair of hands as Secretary and a great support to me. I know he has had lots of other things to do this year with moving house, building work and travelling abroad.

#### Alison Bolton

Alison Bolton does so many other things but it is a very good committee member always having a point of view and representing the matters involving the outlying villages and in particular the Forest. This will be more valuable as the National Park becomes a very prominent neighbour to Lymington. We shall know more in a moment as to whether it will be a threat or a benefit.

#### Don Mackenzie

Don Mackenzie is a very active member and has organised the revamped newsletter and some other personal initiatives. I am getting more and more feedback about people having first learnt about an important planning issue from a visit to the dentist. I hope one day all his pa-

tients will be members of the Lymington Society if only because they will not be able to say no at the crucial moment. In addition to the Newsletter, Don is closely involved in public responses to the Council on various consultations and in particular has taken the initiative to raise the issue of the Master's House at the Infirmary.

As you are probably aware by now, Don discovered that the Masters House had not been listed due to a bureaucratic mix-up. It was scheduled for demolition. In fact it is one of the few surviving examples of a workhouse style of Victorian architecture left unchanged in the country. Although at the moment the Master's House may not look too prepossessing I hope in years to come it will be seen as an important piece of architecture which it was important to retain.

I think it will be said by the Health Authority that our intervention has led them to change their plans as a result of not being able to demolish it. I fear this is a conflict which is going to arise from time to time, but wearing our Society's hat we must do what is right over the preservation of buildings and the history and character of our Town.

#### Nick King

Nick King lives behind the High Street and is very conscious of the impact of inappropriate development in the burgrave plots. Although he works in London he spends a lot of time researching planning issues, dealing with individual planning responses and keeping us up to date.

#### Derek Scheffer

Derek Scheffer comes from a similar situation in living behind the High Street and being concerned as to neighbouring development. He backs up Nick King on the planning side and I believe is able to keep his ear to the ground to pick up local views. I am particularly grateful for him agreeing to take over the Treasurership from Peter. If there have been any administrative hic-ups this year during the changeover I hope you will understand.

#### Nigel Seth Smith

Finally our new member this year is Nigel Seth-Smith who has accepted the duties of events organiser, which is something which has been sorely needed on our Committee. He has started off admirably organising the two functions in Christmas and January. There is also a Social Committee to assist Nigel in organising events.

As you see all our Committee Members have their strengths and particular duties. We still need someone to advise us with technical planning issues as I anticipate there will be occasions when developers will more frequently start to ask our opinion on proposed development schemes.

#### Advisers

##### Brian Avery

At the moment Brian Avery, who you heard speak last year, is very interested in planning and in Lymington from a strategic point of view, and wishes to be helpful and we will hopefully consult with him on a case-by-case basis.

## Chairman Announces Resignation of Bill Hope-Jones and Peter Chitty (Cont)



Peter Chitty

make way for younger people. I have always persuaded him to withdraw them, but this time he has reminded me that when he joined the committee he managed to persuade some of the then more elderly

members of the committee to resign so as to allow some new blood and ideas into it.

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that it might have made some years back.

There comes a point, as with refusing invitations, where refusal reaches a point of being inconsiderate and rude, and if Peter feels that this is the time for him to resign, his resignation is reluctantly accepted, although he is free to withdraw it at any time."

Ed: We plan to pay our thanks to Peter in more detail in a future issue.

## Planning Report from Nick King (Planning Sec)



Nic King Planning Sec.

The Old School, Cannon Street; block of 18 flats

North Greenlands, Pennington; 8x2 storey dwellings and 2x1 storey dwellings

18 & 20 Waterford Lane; 12 houses.

### Webb's site, Bridge Road

It looks like we'll have another chance to influence a new developer and help secure a development worthy of this wonderful riverside site. What we've been working for all along is a less dense and more imaginative scheme that links the new development into the life of the town, not an isolated



second-home dormitory - this is what people who attended our Open Meeting wanted. Dr Mackenzie expressed our position very clearly in the Lymington Times on 25.02.2006 and Mr. Sutton has been championing the idea for a bridge linking the development to the town, an imaginative design by local architect Brian Avery.

### 'Housing Design, Density and Character' - Special Planning Guidance

We took part in December in NFDC's consultation on this important new planning measure, which aims to 'place design quality alongside density at the centre of policies on housing development'.

We agree that, in the right location, well designed higher density developments can 'improve the character and sense of identity of a place'. However, we fear that the process as outlined could simply serve as a pre-qualification service for developers, a way to qualify sites for higher density development at an early stage, before spending time and effort on detailed designs.

For example, the guidance recommends

that a developer should seek a pre-application discussion with their local planning authority on the basis of 'design aspirations and a basic concept plan to calculate building area, mass and thereby numbers of dwellings'. In other words, a developer need not submit a single architectural drawing or visual showing how a development would look before participating

*"we believe that when a development proposal puts them in conflict with each other, enhancing character should take precedence over higher density."*

in a pre-application discussion that could qualify a site suitable for higher density development with an agreed number of dwellings.

We're all in favour of pre-application discussions that reduce the number of unrealistic planning applications but we want to make sure they consider the right issues and reflect the views of local people on how their town develops. In particular, we believe that when a development proposal puts them in conflict with each other, enhancing character should take precedence over higher density.

Lymington is a market town with a distinctive character that owes much to its unusual New Forest/Solent/Lymington River location. Its combination of sailing marinas, attractive riverside walks, country lanes and unusually intact Georgian town centre attracts high levels of inward investment and visitors. Any guidance should take as a starting point a requirement that development should enhance its distinctive character.

We have asked if we can take part in the more detailed stages of defining this potentially powerful planning tool.

### Planning adviser

We have approached some suitably qualified candidates to help us with occasional advice on planning issues - so far without success. We would be grateful for your suggestions.

### Nick King Planning Secretary

Email: [nicolas.king@dial.pipex.com](mailto:nicolas.king@dial.pipex.com)

## Planning Report

We're lobbying for better arrangements for representation at NFDC planning meetings, where speakers are arbitrarily restricted to 3 minute slots; and have asked whether the Society could be involved at an earlier stage with the planners and developers to ensure more suitable proposals for sites of significance, such as the Old School in Cannon Street.

We've continued the fight against poor planning decisions, focusing our efforts on over-development or replacement of houses with flats, which would result in spoiling the character of our town.

We can point to some recent decisions in our favour that we've helped achieve, in conjunction with our Town Councillors and local residents, though we remain vigilant for revised applications (e.g. we have just objected to a revised application at Waterford Lane): **Ed: Permission has now been given at a recent NFDC meeting**



Waterford Lane Development Site

35-37 Avenue Road/1-3 Lower Buckland Road; 41 flats in 4 three-storey blocks

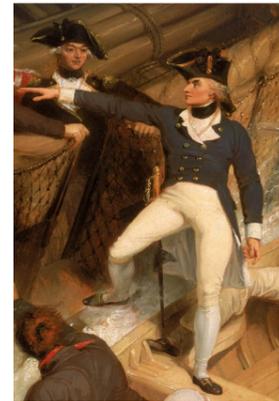
Bath Lodge, Kings Saltern Road; terrace of ten dwellings

## Report on the Society's Social programme (continued)

your diary.

### The Nelson Exhibition

The second event of the Social Programme was also extremely well attended with over 40 members turning up at the St Barbe Museum to see the fantastic Nelson Exhibition. This exhibition featured paintings related to the life of



Nelson Boarding a Captured Ship November 1777

Nelson. As well as the paintings themselves, we were then treated to a fasci-

nating talk by the museum's curator Steve Marshall.

Steve explained that you could tell when a painting was published by the number of medals worn in the picture. Painters who had previously painted a picture of Nelson from a sitting would constantly update the picture by adding more medals as Nelson's fame and importance grew.

The cult of Nelson was so strong that many years after his death commemorative items were still being produced.

Throughout his career, even as a junior officer, Nelson would regularly send back reports to the newspapers of his exploits and was acutely aware of the need to keep himself in the public eye. An important exhibit in the exhibition was the famous Nore Drum. This drum which is actually owned by Lymington Town Council and is normally on display in the National Maritime Museum, was presented to local Lymington aristocrat and naval hero Sir Harold Burrard-Neal.

The drum commemorates the famous occasion when he was involved in putting down a mutiny at The Nore, a naval base in the Medway in May 1797 after which he was presented with the drum by a grateful Admiralty.

### Painting with Scissors. Exhibition of Matisse's Iconic Cut-outs

The final event to have taken place so far in this season's events took place again at The St. Barbe Museum where the Society had a Private View of the famous cut-outs produced by Matisse in the 1950s when he was in his 80s and confined to a



Matisse Blue Nude

wheelchair. Matisse would cut out the shapes from specially painted paper and his assistants would arrange them on the wall to his design. The most famous of these designs - a collection of striking blues nudes are now amongst the most recognised and celebrated of Matisse's creations.

About 30 members were treated to a fascinating talk by Steve Marshall, Curator at St Barbe Museum, on the history of the designs and of their impact on the world of art and design.

## AGM Report (Continued)

### Ted Johnson's Talk

the growth of the urban conurbation of the South Coast had led to increasing pressures on the New Forest which were threatening to overwhelm it.

Following the formation of the New Forest Committee, pressure grew on Government which resulted in the creation of the first National Park in England since the 1950s and the only National Park in Southern England.

Following the formation of the Authority the last year has been spent finding premises to house the employees, finding suitable staff, setting up computer systems and all the normal structures required by such a body.

Currently the authority is housed in the old Efford Horticultural Institute offices



The New Forest National Park Authority Offices at Efford

until they acquire their own building in the Forest which is likely to be in Lyndhurst according to rumours.

Uniquely the New Forest National Park Authority will not employ their own personnel to maintain the Forest but will rely on the Forestry Commission and The Verderers' Agisters for some of these services.

Mr. Johnson then touched on the many aspects of the New Forest which still lie under the control of locally elected Councils. These bodies however will now have to consult with the Authority before embarking on any major schemes

Following an interesting question and answer session between the Members and Mr Johnson, The Chairman Mr. Sutton closed a very successful meeting at 9.30 pm.

## Membership Details

**New Members are always welcome to join the Lymington Society and existing Members are urged to encourage friends to join.**

**As well as a professionally produced Newsletter, Members will be able to attend regular social events arranged by the Social Committee.**

**Membership costs £5.00 per member. Application forms (available to print from our Web Site [www.lymsoc.co.uk](http://www.lymsoc.co.uk)) or from Derek Sheffer at the address below.**

**Please send Completed Membership to:**

**Derek Sheffer  
Lymington Soc. Membership Sec.  
Lorne Cottage,  
Navarino Court,  
Lymington, SO41 9AE**