

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE** OF EVERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON **TUESDAY 15th NOVEMBER 2016** IN EVERSLEY VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Cllr S Miller (Chair)
Cllr A McNeil
Cllr P Todd (Ex-Officio)

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Chris Hutton, Cllr C Hetherington (arrived at 8.25pm) and Mrs J Routley (Parish Clerk).

46 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllr K Neville

47 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
(i) There were no declarations of interest
(ii) There were no written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.
(iii) There was no need to grant any requests for dispensation.

48 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
(i) The minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on **TUESDAY 18th OCTOBER 2016** had previously been circulated to all Councillors.
(ii) Errors
Min 36: delete 'Appendix B'.

It was **resolved** that the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chair.

SM

(iii) Matters arising from previous Minutes

Min 37: Protection of Village Green The Clerk had written to the residents of Up Green informing them of the Council's plan to install dragon's teeth. Cllr P Todd had received a phone call from one of the residents suggesting a meeting between all interested parties.

Min 40: Marsh Lane drainage Cllr A McNeil has spoken to Chris Smith regarding the blocked drain from Marsh Lane to the pond. The problem areas are the ditch on highways land and the culverts under Marsh Lane. Cllr A McNeil is to write to HCC to ask them to clear the ditches and culverts

AM

Ditches Cllr A McNeil has written an article for the Parish Magazine about residents responsibility for ditches which will appear in the next addition.

Min 39: Litter picker Report Cllr A McNeil had spoken to the Litter picker. The Litter Picker had written to EPC stating that he would no longer be able to empty the bins because of a change of vehicle.

49 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Green Bin at Burial Ground A resident had commented that the green bin at the burial ground had not been emptied for some time.

Hedge at The Fielders A residents had complained that the hedge is again encroaching onto the pavement and asked if the land owner could be contacted to address this.

50 PLAY INSPECTOR REPORT

(i) Councillors had received a copy of the Play Inspector's Report.

RESOLVED

- The Chair is to go through the report in detail and prioritise repairs and maintenance required and their costs and bring this back to the committee.

SM

51 DRAFT BUDGET FOR OPEN SPACES,

(i) The committee noted that a lot of work on open spaces in the village needs to take place and that the council would have to set a realistic budget to achieve this.

(ii)

RESOLVED

- The Budget Working Group is to meet to finalise and recommend the budget to Full Council. **SM/PT/AM/Clerk**

52 LENGTHSMAN SCHEME,

(i) The Chair had met with the Deputy Clerk at Yateley Town Council and discussed potential work under this scheme.

RESOLVED

- To use the Lengthsman Scheme to clear the footway - pavement, hedges and trees on the north side of the road from the Village Hall up to the roundabout with the street.
- The Chair will investigate what can be achieved with the remainder of the funds.

At 8.25pm Cllr C Hetherington arrived.

It was agreed to take item 16 next.

53 **RESOLVED**

- To pass a resolution in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the public and press from discussion of the following item where publicity might be prejudicial to the special nature of the business.

CO1 CONTRACT MATTERS

The confidential session did not come to a decision. The Council will return to the matter.

At 9.30pm Cllr C Hetherington left the meeting.

54 PROTECTION OF VILLAGE GREEN AREA FROM VEHICLES AND OCCUPATION

(i) The Council had previously agreed that installing dragon's teeth would be the best form of protection.

(ii) The quote to install dragon's teeth had come in at £1520 which exceeded the £900 previously approved so this would have to go to Full Council for approval.

(iii)

RESOLVED

- To recommend to Full Council to approve the further costs.

SM

55 GRANTS AND FUNDRAISING,

(i) Tesco Bags of Help The Chair reported that the voting has now closed and EPC is waiting to hear in what position they had come. It was noted that they have now also opened up a smaller scheme of £1-3K which can be applied for each month.

Small Grants Scheme EPC has been successful in achieving a grant of £349 towards a Rights of Way Booklet. This has been granted with the caveat that EPC will need to work closely with HCC and incorporate some of their information. This is to be further discussed at the next full council meeting.

(ii) Total fundraising funds received The Clerk confirmed that the total fundraising funds received was £5,161.48. Around £4K has already been spent on new playground equipment therefore just over £1K remained which could be put towards the new equipment to be bought with the Tesco Bags for Help Grant. (It had been previously noted that if EPC came 3rd in the voting then the Council would have to make up the shortfall of £600. Therefore this amount could now be covered if necessary).

6.12.16

RESOLVED

- The Rights of Way booklet will be further discussed at the next full council meeting and a councillor assigned to lead this project.

56 CHEQUERS GREEN,

(i) Councillors and resident have noted that antisocial behaviour and fly tipping has begun again at Chequers Green since the police camera had come down.

(ii) On 1.3.16 EPC had approved a budget of £300 towards a CCTV camera. The council was asked to approve expenditure on a CCTV Camera and signs at a cost of approximately £100.

RESOLVED

- To purchase a camera and signs.

57 TREES, HEDGES, VERGES AND DITCHES

(i) There were no reported issues on HCC land.

(ii) There were no reported issues on EPC land.

(iii) Fielders Pavement The Clerk is to contact the land owner to ask him to cut back the hedge which is encroaching on the pavement.

Clerk

Arlott Close The hedges of 2 of the houses at Arlott Close are overhanging. The Clerk will write to the occupants on behalf of HCC asking for them to be cut back.

Clerk

Kingston House Trees are overhanging and causing difficulties for pedestrians. The Clerk will write to the occupants.

Clerk

The Cottage Rose bushes have fallen over into the pavement and are causing an obstruction. The Clerk will write to the occupants.

Clerk

The Chase The Clerk is to write to the owner informing him that EPC will be clearing the other side of the road and suggesting that it would be a good opportunity for him to cut back hedges and trees on his side of the road.

Clerk

58 FLY-TIPPING

(i) Opposite Village Hall There has been yet more fly tipping at this location. A member of the public witnessed and reported the fly tipping. EPC will attempt to contact the landowners and request that they clear.

Clerk

Sherlock Lea A resident was witnessed throwing hedge cutting into Chequers Green. The Clerk is to write to him and ask him to clear or offering for contractors to clear at a cost to him.

Clerk

59 PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

(i) Footpath by Charles Kingsley's School Trees from 25 Kingsley Road are overhanging this footpath. The Clerk will write to the occupants .

Clerk

Alley way Kingsley Road It was noted that the hedge from No. 6 Kingsley Road was overhanging the alleyway and causing an obstruction. The Clerk will write to the occupants.

Clerk

Footpaths in general The Chair had spoken to The Ramblers who said they have an app to report rights of way problems to HCC.

Councillors discussed the possibility of setting up a volunteer group to help clear footpaths in the Village, possibly using the St Mary's volunteer group if it was still active. The Clerk will contact St Mary's.

Clerk

60 PLANNING APPLICATIONS,

(i) 16/00721/LBC Bramshill House (10 applications)

Conversion of Bramshill House, the Stable Block and the existing Nuffield Hall, to provide a total of 25 units and associated parking. Use of the principal rooms of Bramshill House as a publicly accessible museum space. Demolition of curtilage listed buildings and maintenance and restoration works to Bramshill House and Gardens. The provision of a new 13.9ha SANG. at Bramshill House ,

RESOLVED

- Cllr P Todd is to prepare a draft of a formal response to HDC.

PT/6.12.16

(ii) The Council noted receipt of the following planning applications but chose to make no comment on them.

(a) 16/02969/LBC 1 Longwater Cottage Longwater Road
Installation of a black cat flap.

(b) 16/02994/OHL Street Record Bramshill Road
CONSULTATION FROM UTILITY PROVIDER: It is proposed to upgrade the existing 11kv overhead line south of Bramshill Road, Eversley, Hook, from a 2 wire overhead line to a three wire overhead line. The section of line affected is between pole P5276 (east of A327) and the existing pole south of Lyndridge Cottage shown orange on the attached plan. In addition it is proposed to install a new 200 kVA PMT on a lame leg pole, at the existing pole south of Lyndridge Cottage, as shown on the attached plan

(iii) Other Planning Matters
None.

61 ANY OTHER OPEN SPACES ITEMS OF INFORMATION

(i) The Clerk reported the following:

Toilet Access for Payback Team Yateley Town Council had agreed that EPC could have a key to their toilet facilities for the Payback Team's use.

Hart Green Infrastructure Strategy This workshop was due to take place in Petersfield but its location has now been moved to Fleet. Cllr P Todd confirmed he could therefore now attend on the Council's behalf.

(ii) Bus Stop Bollard The Chair asked for an update on this.

There being no further items for discussion the Chair closed the meeting at 9.59pm.

Chairman.....Date.....

The next Open Spaces meeting will be held on Tuesday 17th January 2017 at 7.30pm

APPENDIX A

Ongoing Actions List

<u>Public Rights of Way Evidence Forms regarding Bramshill Forest</u> Cllr P Todd is still to review the paperwork and write a cover letter for the form which clearly explains the claim.	PT
<u>War Memorial Cross in Churchyard</u> Cllr K Neville offered to voluntarily make the repairs if he could be compensated for materials. He is to look into what would be required.	
<u>Playgrounds</u> Cllr S Miller has taken pictures of all the play areas and the Clerk is to put these on the website.	Clerk
The Clerk is still to put the Rights of Way Map on the website and the notice board.	Clerk
<u>19 Kingsley Road</u> Cllr P Todd has spoken to the Ordinary Water Course Consenting Department (HCC) and this matter is now being looked into. Cllr P Todd is to chase Hampshire Estates on this matter.	PT
<u>Bluebell Wood</u> Cllr K Neville has taken photos in order to mark the routes on the map and will circulate to this committee.	KN
Cllr P Todd will talk to CEMEX regarding this at their next meeting.	PT
<u>Bus Stop by Kingsley Road</u> Councillors reported that the roof of the bus shelter has been damaged. Cllr K Neville offered to make the repairs required.	KN
<u>Flooding on Coopers Hill</u> The Chairman acknowledged that part of the ditch under the walk way at Up Green still needed to be cleared.	SD
Cllr C Young reported that Highways had stated that they would look at the culvert in the road and sweep Coopers Hill but have not yet done so. Cllr C Young had contacted HCC and pointed out that the culvert remained a problem.	CY
<u>Footpath 24</u> The Chairman had met the new owner. The Chairman felt it would be sensible to work with the landowner and the agricultural department at CEMEX to see if the levels could be restored before putting in a floating footpath. The Chairman is trying to arrange a meeting with the landowner and HCC Rights of Way. The Chairman and not received a response from CEMEX. It was felt that if the new owners cleared the ditches this would help towards to footpath.	SD
<u>Garden Plots</u> . To install the padlock on the gate.	SD/SM
<u>Up Green Restoration Project</u> The clearance work had highlighted where the footpath was and it was suggested that a gravel path could be laid all the way through. The SGS grant scheme is again open for applications.	SD
<u>Up Green Village Green</u> Since this matter now seems to be progressing through solicitors it was felt that it was not necessary to pursue protection options at this time. It was also noted that tenants are now respecting the Green and parking on the road.	
At the recent Full Council meeting it had decided there would need to be a long term management plan for this area. The Open Spaces Committee agreed to take on this task in collaboration with local residents.	OSC
<u>Hollybush Lane</u> It was noted that there are overhanging brambles along this lane. The Clerk is to write to the landowners and tenants.	Clerk
<u>Grants</u> The Chairman is to provide new councillor, Cllr M Hitchman with maps of all EPC owned land.	SD
<u>Replacement Bench</u> Full Council had approved the remainder of the cost for the replacement bench. The Clerk is to order this and it is to be sited by the pond at Cross Green.	Clerk
<u>Adverse weather</u>	
Cllr C Young will republish the Emergency Procedures.	CY
<u>Bluebell Wood</u> It was noted that the 'name tree' in the woods may now be a safety hazard.	
<u>Hollybush Lane</u> There is a tree down on the north side.	SD
<u>Grounds Maintenance Contract</u> This contract is to be reviewed again in May 2015.	
<u>Scrutiny flooding meeting</u> EPC has been informed that this meeting due to take place on 19 th January 2015 has been cancelled. The Clerk has asked to be informed of the rescheduled date.	

Marsh Lane Councillors need to assess the ditches by the pylons and the drains are now buried.

Sherlock Lea The rubbish has still not been cleared. Thames Valley Housing Association has been out to assess but were unable to locate the rubbish. Cllr S Miller has provided photographs which the Clerk has sent. Thames Valley Housing Association is to be chased as to when they will take action.

Clerk

Village of the Year competition Cllr S Miller agreed to look into this competition.

Community Litterpick Councillors discussed the possibility of holding this in the summer. Cllr S Miller is to investigate this further.

SM

Chequers Green There had been a complaint from a resident about the pile of green waste at Chequers Green. This was as a result of the Payback Team's clearance and would be burned or cleared as a matter of urgency.

SD

Play Area Inspection Report It was suggested that goal posts may be donated by ESA and that a basket ball hoop may be sponsored by The Chequers Public House. Cllr S Miller is to investigate this further.

SM

Trees, Hedges, Verges and ditches It was noted that the New Council may wish to consider a tree survey on EPC owned land and will investigate costs.

SD

Longwater Lane The Clerk has to written to the land owner with the standard HCC hedge clearing letter.

Clerk

Firgrove Road There is an Alder tree on Firgrove Road that is rotten and could fall across the road. The Chairman is to log a ticket with HCC about this dangerous tree.

SD

Open Space Areas Consultation Cllr D Bradley had responded to this consultation. The Consultants had sent back a map to verify the different areas. It was noted that there were quite a few errors on their map which Cllr P Todd offered to address and respond back.

PT

Chequers Green Play Area It was reported that someone had been exercising their horse in the Chequers Green Play area and using some of the trim trail as jumps. This had caused much disruption with children and dogs that were also using the park. It was noted that horses should not be in there at all and that signage might be required. Councillors are to speak to the rider concerned.

SD

Hollybush Lane It was noted that the bushes are very overgrown. The Chairman is to speak with the tenant's agents to see what can be done.

SD

Footpath 15 It was noted that there should be a stile on this footpath but instead walkers have to climb over a fence. Cllr K Neville offered to investigate.

KN

Footpath 17 It was noticed that the hedges from 2 properties are overhanging this footpath by Charles Kingsley's School. Cllr S Miller is to investigate.

SM

**APPENDIX B
Draft Budget**

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 YTD*	<i>*up to 4.10.16 - 5 months left</i>	Draft Budget 2017-18
Repairs/Maint	3,229.00	2,705.00	4,272	13,133		11,000.00
Grounds Maint	7,435.00	7,460.00	7,755	4,337		8,755.00
Tree work	1,755.00	0.00	480	600		1,000.00
Litter Picker	2,767.00	3,039.00	2,751	1,762		5,000.00
Waste Management	678.00	760.00	786	346		800.00
Annual Play Inspection	236.00	236.00	236	0		236.00
EPC Projects	4,239.00	2,623.00	11,729	552		1,300.00
TOTAL	20,339.00	16,823.00	28,008	20,730		28,091.00

Notes

Precept (to cover all Council expenditure) 30,000 37,500 44700

2015-16 Grants for picnic benches and bin - under EPC projects

APPENDIX C

Playground Equipment Report

Open Spaces Update

It has been a busy summer of fundraising events and I would just like to say “What a great community we live in”. This summer showed a real feel for our community spirit here in Eversley with all the support of local businesses and residents coming together for fundraising events to raise money to buy new equipment for Centre Green. The good news is you all did it! We made our fundraising target and we have now installed the new swing trail at Centre Green. I would like to thank everybody who got involved by giving their time, money, and donations of prizes for auctions, jumble and toys for us to sell. I did manage to sneak many of Jacobs’s toys out under cover of night for the toy sale stall, but he still managed to buy them all back and much more ☺

This is a fantastic achievement for all involved and I would like to thank everybody for their hard work, dedication & determination. It’s times like this that make me really proud to be part of such a great community. Well done Eversley !!

Sandra Miller Eversley Parish Council Open Spaces

Tesco Bags of Help

After a small hiccup with the bags of help funding competition last month (as our local Yateley store was closed for refurbishment on the first set of dates voting was due to start) the new dates were announced to **be 31st October until the 9th November.**

Voting booths will also be in the Meadows Tesco and Tesco express in Fleet. We will be going against two other projects, which we will not find out who they are until the first day of voting. Please spare the time to pop in to one of our local Tesco Stores and vote for Eversley Parish Councils project “ Eversley Outdoors” First prize is £12,000, second prize £10,000 and third prize £8,000. With the money we receive we will be able to add more equipment to Centre Green to make it an open space the whole community can enjoy for years to come.

Damage to open spaces equipment

Unfortunately, over the summer months much of our equipment in Eversley has been vandalised. Two of the new benches at the Pond area were destroyed. Chequers Green has had damage to the basketball courts, swings and the new benches have been broken. The amount of damage totals nearly £2,000. It is sad that a small minority spoil it for others. All of the benches were lottery funded as part of the Eversley Outdoors Project and we work hard to secure funding for better facilities for residents to enjoy.

If you see anyone causing damage to any of the equipment around Eversley please report it immediately to 101 with a full description of the offenders then the police can get an idea of the times that the damage is being caused and be able to take the action that is needed.