

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF **EVERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL** HELD BY VIDEOCONFERENCE AT 7.30pm ON **TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2021.**

PRESENT:

Cllr A McNeil	(Chairman, AM)
Cllr D Deane	(DD)
Cllr S Dickens	(SD)
Cllr E Dixon	(ED)
Cllr C Edge	(CE)
Cllr S Hughes	(SH)
Cllr K Neville	(KN)
Cllr P Todd	(PT)

ALSO PRESENT: 1 member of the public, J. Routley (Clerk) and Dr. A. Crampton (HCllr) (arrived at 8.43pm)

*Abbreviations:*

HDC – Hart District Council

HCC – Hampshire County Council

EPC – Eversley Parish Council

**ACTIONS**

111 Apologies for Absence

None.

112 Declarations of Interest

None.

113 Minutes of the Last Meeting

Receipt of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of Eversley Parish Council held on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021**, including the confidential note, had been previously circulated to all Councillors.

Errors

Min 107: 'Blackbushe Car Auctions' to be corrected to 'British Car Auctions'

Min 108 i) line 8: delete 'it' and replace with 'if'.

Min 108 ii) a) line 8 delete 'conservation' and replace with 'countryside'. The Clerk will also contact HDC Planning department to explain this error.

**RESOLVED**

That with these amendments, the Minutes, including the confidential note, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

*(note these will be signed electronically and signed in person at the next Council meeting held in person).*

**AM**

114 Public Questions and Comments

Flooding A resident raised a number of issues in relation to flooding in Warbrook Lane and the A327. The resident had met an officer from HCC onsite and would circulate a note of the meeting.

The Chairman had written to D. Simpson (HCllr) to ask that urgent action is now taken to resolve a number of long-standing issues in Eversley, including flooding. It was also noted that EPC had cleared the ditch on its land on the western side of St. Neots Road. EPC would remind residents to keep ditches clear and ask D. Simpson (HCllr) to press Hampshire to pursue landowners to discharge their riparian responsibility to clear all watercourses on their land, and to take enforcement action where necessary. EPC had asked D Simpson (HCllr) to convene a meeting with senior officers so that parish councillors could address these substantial issues directly with them.

A councillor noted that the flooding of a section of the footway on the B3272 at Eversley Cross had again rendered it impassable for a stretch of 100 yards or so: this had been an ongoing problem for many years and it was now time for HCC to take urgent action to resolve it.

Road Safety Working Group A resident asked if there had been any progress since the meeting in September. The Chairman said that this hadn't been progressed other than to contact a neighbouring parish to learn how it was dealing with traffic and to speak with someone from HCC Highways. The working group would be reconvened to discuss what could be done to reduce speed in the village.

Speedwatch A resident has contacted EPC to draw attention to a street sign pole on The Street that had recently been destroyed by a car. This could have been a very near miss, both for the driver and a pedestrian who might have been on the pavement. She remarked that it had been a very long time since a speed indicator device was seen on The Street; and, given this recent incident, asked the Parish Council to include The Street as a location to be monitored, and to explore the options for locating a permanent device or devices on The Street. The Clerk noted that the damaged pole had been reported to Highways. The Speedwatch team had explained that a device was not operated on The Street because it was too dangerous to do so. It will also be noted on EPC's website that Speedwatch cannot currently operate anywhere due to Covid-19 restrictions. **Clerk**

Neighbourhood Plan (NP) A member of the public had contacted EPC to ask how many people needed to show an interest before a NP could be started; and why, given its importance, it was not a standing item on the Agenda. The Council noted that Finchampstead had 36 on their NP committee and Yateley Town Council had 3 different streams of activity, each with its own sub-committee. It was acknowledged that a NP for Eversley could concentrate on three or four key areas only, but each would require a sub-committee consisting of 3 or 4 people. Thus, 12-15 people in total might be required, even for a very limited Neighbourhood Plan. EPC was clear that there would have to be a much greater level of interest in the Village before it felt confident of pursuing development of a NP. When residents were canvassed two years ago, only 45 attended the open day, of which two were willing to get involved. It was noted that this could not be a standing item as council meetings were to decide issues rather than simply be a forum for debate. It was agreed to decide at the next meeting if it was desirable, and practicable, to develop a NP.

*At 8.15pm the member of the public left the meeting.*

115 Annual Parish Assembly of Electors The Council considered a date for the Annual Parish Assembly of Electors, which pre-Covid guidance requires must be held between 1st March and 1st June each year. As yet, there had been no advice as to whether the Annual Parish Assembly had to be held this year and the current Coronavirus legislation which allows for virtual meetings is currently due to expire on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

**RESOLVED**

To hold the Annual Parish Assembly on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 subject to coronavirus legislation or pandemic restrictions.

The Clerk will provisionally book the Village Hall.

**Clerk**

116 Financial report  
Schedule of Accounts

The Responsible Financial Officer's reconciliation for December 2020 had been previously circulated along with copies of the bank statements. (See Appendix A)

**RESOLVED**

- The reconciliation for December 2020 was accepted.

### Payments

#### **RESOLVED**

- To approve the cost of training courses for 2 councillors.
- To authorise the schedule of payments for February 2021 and to include a Grant payment to FOCKSA subject to a decision at item 10, Min: 119 (See Appendix B).

### Year to Date

#### **RESOLVED**

The Year to Date report for December 2020 was accepted (See Appendix C)

### Emergency Spend

None.

#### 117 Office Equipment

I.T. office equipment was over 7 years old and required updating.

#### **RESOLVED**

- To approve the cost of office equipment up to £2,500+VAT under the EPC Projects and new equipment budget line.
- Agreed in principle to donate the old laptop to organisations that repurpose laptops for families.
- To research ergonomic desk set up and bring to a future meeting.

#### 118 EPC policies

Due to recent changes, the Council reviewed the following policies.

#### **RESOLVED**

To adopt the following policies:

1. Code of Conduct – as per NALC’s latest version
2. Freedom of Information Policy - Publication scheme (costs) – To amend the costs to *‘photocopying cost at 15p per sheet, for black and white or colour, except where fewer than 50 sheets are required, when the cost will be waived.’*

At 8.43pm Dr A. Crampton (HDCllr) arrived.

#### 119 Burial Ground Fees

The Council considered making an amendment to the Fees in line with legislation.

#### **RESOLVED**

To amend the Burial Fees - to not charge families when the deceased is 24 months- under 18 years of age and instead to reclaim these fees from the Government.

#### 120 Grant application

#### **RESOLVED**

To award a grant to The Friends of Charles Kingsley’s School Association (FOCKSA) of £950.00, this being the total remaining allocation available from the Grants budget for this financial year.

This will be added to the payment schedule this evening and paid by bank transfer.

121 Annual Play Area Inspections

The Council reviewed and accepted the Annual Play Area Inspections. It was noted that the only observations were low risk.

**RESOLVED**

- i) The Clerk would ask the inspectors to say if the absence of BS standard would be material in the event of an injury. **Clerk**
- ii) To ask Open Spaces Committee to decide any further action, including priority for repair work and approval of costs; and to make recommendations to Full Council where appropriate. **OSC**

122 Affordable Housing

It was noted that there had been no response to the call for sites.

**RESOLVED**

- i) To run the 'Call for Sites' advert for another month in the Parish Magazine
- ii) To arrange a meeting with Hampshire Homes Hub to discuss a way forward and to ask them to approach landowners who had previously shown an interest.
- iii) To nominate Cllr Dickens, Cllr Neville and Cllr Hughes to take part in the meeting.

**SD/KN/SH**

123 HCC Transport consultation

**RESOLVED**

Councillors to send their comments regarding the New Hampshire Local Transport Plan to the Chairman by 19<sup>th</sup> February. EPC will then send a response by the closing date of 28<sup>th</sup> February.

**Clerk**

124 Enforcement

i) EPC expressed disappointment that standing enforcements are no longer circulated or published as this would be of benefit.

**RESOLVED**

- The Clerk will continue to ask Enforcement at HDC for updates. **Clerk**
- EPC will arrange, through Cllr Crampton, for a Councillor Briefing with officers from HDC Enforcement. **Clerk**
- Each Councillor is to send their thoughts to the Clerk about what topics they would like to be briefed on. **All**

Update on any outstanding cases

Chantryland – Affordable Housing and Entrance Gates

A High Court case in relation to the interpretation of the S106 had been lodged. Court directions are being discussed, but a date for a hearing has yet to be listed. A Breach of Condition Notice has been issued in respect of the development, as it has not been delivered in accordance with the approved plans.

Safari Engineering - Erection of a large mobile home.

HDC Enforcement are investigating an unauthorised siting of a structure at this property. Due to movement restrictions, they cannot currently enter the site to establish if it is being occupied and for what purpose. They are also investigating other matters in relation to this site including unauthorised use of land and operational developments.

Yaldens Farm – Large barn structure erected without planning permission.

HDC Enforcement action had been in abeyance pending determination of an application that had been submitted for retention of this unauthorised building. However, action would now proceed as Enforcement had recently been advised that the application had been refused.

ii) There were no new potential enforcement issues to report.

125 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER 3 (X)

At 9.29pm the Chairman requested that Standing Orders be suspended in order to conclude the remaining items on the Agenda.

**RESOLVED**

To continue the meeting until all agenda items had been dealt with.

126 Planning

i) Land South Of Eversley Road And East Of Marsh Lane Marsh Lane 20/02308/FUL

Change of use from agricultural land to deliver 16.0 hectares of public open space and habitat land with associated landscaping including a circular walkway, hedge planting and boundary works, new access works, cycle and car parking, height restrictor barrier, interpretation point, benches and bins to facilitate a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG)

**RESOLVED**

- In light of wide public interest, EPC asked the District Ward Cllrs to request that this application be considered by HDC's Planning Committee.
- EPC to inform residents via the website, Parish Magazine and Eversley Matters, that the application is still open for submissions. **Clerk**
- In the light of the new application documents submitted, EPC agreed to submit the following consultee response:

EPC notes that various new application documents have been submitted and that the consultation period has been extended. EPC also notes that the applicant has chosen not to address any of the Parish Council's objections, submitted on 5th November 2020, in the new documents. Those objections are maintained and supplemented as follows:

- EPC objects on the grounds that there are contradictions between the original and new application documents; and It fully supports the cogent objections submitted by a member of the public on 16th December 2020 in which he points out how the piecemeal alterations to the plans that try to accommodate off-site pedestrian safety concerns have knock-on effects on other aspects, such as site screening, habitat loss, and the adverse impacts on Castle Bottom Stream.
- EPC objects to the proposed permanent loss of the gateway treatment at the entrance to Eversley Cross. This was installed as a traffic calming measure to help control the speed of traffic as it enters the Conservation Area by emphasising the distinction between the open countryside and the residential area. The proposed change is likely to increase the danger to residents, thereby totally negating any small safety benefit to pedestrian users of the proposed SANG.

ii) Planning Applications

**RESOLVED**

To note receipt of the following and, where appropriate, to forward the comments listed below to HDC or HCC. **Clerk**

a) 21/00180/HOU 44 Kingsley Road Eversley

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

EPC consultee comment: No comment

There being no further items for discussion the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.53pm

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

**The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021**

**Forward Plan**

Date	Meeting	Draft Items
23 Feb 2021 To be held virtually	Open Spaces Committee	
2 Mar 2021 To be held virtually	Full Council	

## Appendix A

<b>Eversley Parish Council</b>	<b>Bank Reconciliation</b>			
<b>31st December 2020</b>				
<b>Prepared by</b>		<b>J. Routley, Clerk/RFO</b>		
<b>Date</b>				
<b>Approved by</b>		<b>A. McNeil, Chairman</b>		
<b>Date</b>				
<b>Approved by</b>		<b>Councillor</b>		
<b>Signed</b>				
<b>Date</b>				
<b>Current Account No.</b>	<b>37685868</b>			
<b>Brought forward as per Bank Statement</b>	<b>as at 30th November 2020</b>			
	<b>Lloyds sheet</b>			
				84,627.38
			<b>Invoice no.</b>	
02-Dec-2020	Staff	Salaries - Nov		-1,500.49
02-Dec-2020	J Routley, Clerk	Expenses/Admin - Nov		-104.82
02-Dec-2020	Hampshire Pension Fund	Nov contribution		-372.36
02-Dec-2020	Nick Robins Ltd	Grounds maintenance - Nov	13690	-1,098.00
02-Dec-2020	Basingstoke Skip Hire	Skip hire Nov		-128.82
02-Dec-2020	Nick Robins Ltd	removal of silver birch from pond	13684	-228.00
02-Dec-2020	NALC	Training course S Hughes	1537663991	-38.93
	Lloyds Bank	Bank Fees	327062956	-7.00
000043	ICO	Annual Data Protection Fee		-40.00
<b>Lodgements</b>			<b>Invoice no.</b>	
<b>Total movement</b>	<b>as per cashbook</b>			<b>81,108.96</b>
<b>Unpresented cheques/payments</b>	<b>as at 31st December 2020</b>			
<b>Chq no.</b>				
02-Dec-2020	NALC	Training course D Deane	38.93	
<b>Bank Balance as at</b>	<b>31st December 2020 as per Sheet</b>			81,108.96
<b>Balance Reserve Account</b>	<b>38770268</b>			32,740.41
	09-Dec-2020	Interest		<u>0.27</u>
				32,740.68
<b>Total funds held by EPC</b>	<b>as at 31st December 2020</b>			<b>113,849.64</b>

## **Appendix B**

<b>Eversley Parish Council</b>		
<b>Payments for approval</b>	<b>2.2.2021</b>	
<b>Prepared by</b>		<b>J. Routley, Clerk/RFO</b>
<b>Date</b>		
<b>Approved by</b>		<b>A.McNeil, Chairman</b>
<b>Date</b>		
<b>Approved by</b>		<b>Councillor</b>
<b>Signed</b>		
<b>Date</b>		
Lloyds Bank	Bank Fees	7.00
Staff	Salaries - Jan	1,500.75
J Routley, Clerk	Expenses/Admin - Jan	119.94
Hampshire Pension Fund	Jan contribution	372.36
Nick Robins Ltd	Grounds maintenance - Jan	1,098.00
Nick Robins Ltd	For removal of fallen tree in Cross Green Pond	150.00
Nick Robins Ltd	Construction of earth bund at Firgrove lay-by	708.00
Nick Robins Ltd	For clearance of ditch at St Neots Road	270.00
Basingstoke Skip Hire	Skip hire Jan	86.35
Hampshire Association of Local Councils Ltd	Councillor Development - The Knowledge - 19th Jan & 2 Feb for Des Deane & Susan Hughes.	228.00
The Friends of Charles Kingsley's School Association	Grant - for laptops for remote learning	950.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>5,490.40</u></b>



## **Appendix C**

<b>Year to Date</b>			
at 31st Dec 2020			
	<b>FY 20-21</b>	<b>Budget 20-21</b>	<b>% of budget used</b>
	<b>YEAR</b>		
	<b>to date</b>		
<b>Income</b>			
Precept (split into 2 payments)	78,977.00	78,977	
HDC Council Tax Support Grant	0.00	0	
Bank Interest (on reserve acc)	7.71	10	
Garden Plot Rents	666.00	500	
S106 Funds	0.00	0	
Burial Ground Fees	1,920.00	1,017	
Donations/Grants	2,560.20	1,000	
other income	1,650.00	0	
Insurance claim	649.00	0	
VAT Reclaim	0.00		
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>86,429.91</b>	<b>81,504</b>	
<b>Expense</b>			
Staff Remuneration + Pension +HMRC	21,491.39	28,382	75.7
Admin/Office Costs	1,066.40	1,458	73.1
Hall Rental	65.00	550	11.8
Chair/Cllr Expenses	0.00	350	0.0
Bank Charges	59.65	64	93.2
Subscriptions/Publications	1,169.69	1,017	115.0
Insurance/Audit Fees	2,130.25	2,237	95.2
Election costs (every 4 years unless by-election called)	0.00	0	0.0
<b>Admin Sub Total</b>	<b>25,982.38</b>	<b>34,059</b>	76.3
Rights of Way booklet	0.00	349	0.0
Grounds Maintenance	6,479.73	8,830	73.4
Repairs/Maintenance	4,753.50	11,455	41.5
conservation volunteers	0.00	509	0.0
Tackling Flooding	0.00	1,526	0.0
Tree Work	1,565.00	3,051	51.3
Bin emptying	2,344.97	2,860	82.0
Waste Management	895.10	1,405	63.7

Annual Playground Inspection	0.00	350	0.0
EPC projects + new equipment	1,238.20	11,976	10.3
Bus Shelters	0.00	0	0.0
Payback team	90.00	2,125	4.2
Clearing allotments	250.00	500	50.0
Emergency Plan	0.00	0	0.0
<b>OS Sub Total</b>	<b>17,616.50</b>	<b>44,936</b>	39.2
Website	376.90	1,000	37.7
Training	64.88	509	12.8
Grants	50.00	1,000	5.0
Section 137 Payments/now GPC and not a limit	0.00	0	
VAT	3,725.13		
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,216.91</b>	<b>2,509</b>	168.1
	<b>47,815.79</b>	<b>81,504</b>	58.7
<b>Income - Expenditure</b>	<b>38,614.12</b>	<b>0</b>	
Funds carried over from Current Account	42,463.62	42,464	
Funds carried over from Reserve Account	32,732.97	32,733	
Plus Income-expenditure	38,614.12	0	
unpresented cheque	38.93		
<b>Total Funds remaining</b>	<b>113,849.64</b>	<b>75,197</b>	
<b>Earmarked Reserves 2020-21</b>			
6 months running costs	21,600		
Project: New Play Area Cross Green	20,000		
Project: Burial Ground Extension	5,000		
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,600</b>		