

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on
Wednesday 7th July 2021, commencing at 19.30 hours

Present: Cllrs Dain (Chair), Bayliss (Vice Chair), Kearney, Debenham and Coward.

In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), County Cllr Mellor (part), Borough Councillor Izett (part), 0 members of the public.

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Stamp and County Cllr Thacker.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising To receive and confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 9th June 2021. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by the Chair.</p>	
4	<p>Public participation There were no members of the public present.</p>	
5	<p>Borough Councillor's Report Borough Cllr Izett was unable to attend the meeting so there was no report.</p>	
6	<p>County Councillor's Report. County Cllr Thacker was unable to attend the meeting but sent a report to Cllr Dain which she read out. The report advised Cllr Thacker supports the PC's push for the 30 mph zone on the Kingsclere Road to be extended to the Ecchinswell sign. He advised there may be monies available for traffic calming measures in the CFI (Community Funded Initiative) pot. This item will be discussed further under item 12(d).</p> <p>The Newtown Recycling Centre was discussed as residents of Hampshire would no longer be able to use the site after 31st July 2021. This has caused a public backlash. The HCC decision day was 17th. Cllr Humby who is responsible for this area felt he was unable to make a decision on this matter which has been ongoing and therefore passed it on to the Leader of HCC for his decision; this effectively means at present there is no decision. Unless a resolution is achieved soon, it is understood West Berkshire Council and therefore the Newtown Road site will not accept Hampshire residents after 31st July. Further clarity is being sought urgently.</p>	
7	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) Planning applications: 21/01764/ROC The Hollies Ecchinswell Road Ecchinswell RG20 4TU Variation of conditions 1 and 3 of permission 18/01294/HSE for erection of two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and detached garden Loggia, to allow change of external materials (part retrospective) No objections.</p> <p>b) Decisions: T/00097/21/TPO Timberline Rooksfield Bishops Green Newbury Hampshire RG20 9JJ 1 Horse chestnut: remove Decision: refused</p> <p>T/00241/21/TCA Woodpecker Cottage Ecchinswell Road Ecchinswell RG20 4UA Leyland Cypress - fell because of excessive shading, danger to nearby overhead telephone cables, and low amenity value. Replant with more appropriate Beech in same position. One trunk is leaning excessively towards the road and main telephone cable to the area. Decision: No objections</p>	

8	<p>Finance Electronic Payments:</p> <p>(a) The following payments were agreed for June, and the bank reconciliation was signed by the Chair:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's salary (June)</td> <td>£623.37</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's expenses (June)</td> <td>£10.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (June)</td> <td>£222.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (June)</td> <td>£128.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td>£41.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Stream</td> <td>Allotment water</td> <td>£85.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Premier Grounds</td> <td>Village maintenance</td> <td>£616.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>£1,727.48</td> </tr> </table> <p>ICO Data Protection renewal will be paid by DD on 2/8/21, the amount will be £35.00</p> <p>(b) The actual/against budget for June 2021 was circulated and agreed.</p>	S Jones	Clerk's salary (June)	£623.37	S Jones	Clerk's expenses (June)	£10.98	D McClelland	Litter warden – (June)	£222.55	R Wherry	Litter warden - (June)	£128.18	HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ		£41.20	Business Stream	Allotment water	£85.00	Premier Grounds	Village maintenance	£616.20	Total		£1,727.48	
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9	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>16th June – resident, cut around the pond and damage to flowers; this was a shame but the weather this year has been very untypical and the pond maintenance programme, which was set with help from the Basingstoke Volunteers, has been adhered too. A further correspondence suggested the cut may have been done by another resident. The PC agreed to consider ways of preventing this from occurring in future, perhaps by signage explaining that the pond is a wild area. This will be an agenda item for September.</p> <p>30th June – resident, Hyde Lane potholes have been reported by them to HCC; it is requested that any potholes be reported directly or via the clerk.</p> <p>2nd July – 4 residents, support of the kissing gate project</p> <p>6th July – BDBC Planning, Darling Buds of May planning application 21/01307/FUL: Darling Buds of May Newbury Road Headley RG19 8LA Proposal: Material change of use from horticultural business to mixed use horticultural businesses. (Retrospective) Change of use of part of land to dog exercise paddock and use a portion of the Farm Shop as a cafe (no cooked food on site). No objections but there appeared to be inconsistencies on the report which will be raised with BDBC.</p>	SJ																								
10	<p>Highways and Rights of Way</p> <p>The general state of the footpaths was discussed; some are so overgrown they are impassable. It was agreed to use 2 of the lengthsman hours to cut back the footpath in Bishops Green near the stables which is the worst affected.</p> <p>The new kissing gate project has had 4 letters of support. Cllr Bayliss is continuing her efforts on this, and the clerk will apply for the grant.</p>	JB/SJ																								
11	<p>New Business</p> <p>a) <u>EVH grass cutting grant</u> Cllr Dain proposed, and Cllr Coward seconded the continued grant of £550 to EVH for grass cutting; the clerk will arrange the payment.</p> <p>b) <u>Allotment maintenance review</u> Cllr Dain reported that a resident who has provided lots of much needed maintenance help at the allotments has been unable to do this. It has become apparent how much work he did. It was agreed that the clerk will write to the allotment holders to see if there are any volunteers who would be able to help with the maintenance. In the meantime,</p>																									

	<p>Cllr Bayliss will meet the lengthsman there on 21st July and he will spend 5.5 hours tidying the area. There is a possibility, if a permanent solution cannot be found, that allotment rental and/or the precept will have to increase to take into account increased expenses in maintaining this area. This item will be on the September agenda to assess the progress in finding volunteers.</p> <p>c) <u>Review of Standing Orders</u> The Standing Orders were reviewed prior to the meeting and have been agreed unanimously and signed off.</p> <p>d) <u>EVH AGM Report and tree works assistance request</u> Cllr Bayliss has circulated the EVH AGM report. She advised that, in spite of no revenue since restrictions have been imposed, the hall has received grants from Government so financially is OK. The coffee morning resumed on 6th July and was well attended with approximately 20 people. A meeting will take place next week to discuss moving forward with things opening up again. Plans are in place for the pantomime to take place in January.</p> <p>A request has been sent in for financial assistance in planned tree works. The cost is approximately £15k to remove 27 trees. As yet, there are no plans or details of which trees the work would be carried out on. Cllr Dain proposed, and Cllr Bayliss seconded that this could only be considered once a detailed planning application has been put in. Cllrs agreed unanimously. The clerk will write to the EVH committee advising accordingly.</p> <p>e) <u>Ashford Hill/Headley Neighbourhood Plan</u> The plan was circulated and read by Cllrs, who have no comments to make.</p> <p>f) <u>2nd quarter risk assessment</u> The 2nd quarter risk assessment was carried out and circulated prior to the meeting. The only work required is timber treatment of some benches and noticeboards. Cllr Kearney has agreed to do this. As Cllr Kearney will be stepping down because of her imminent move, this will be an agenda item in September to discuss who will take over from her.</p> <p>g) <u>Bus stop at Bishops Green – potential hazard, report and progress</u> There has been no further news on this. The clerk will continue to chase, and unless there is any progress in the meantime, will report back at the November meeting.</p> <p>h) <u>HCC Balance the Budget Consultation</u> It was agreed the questions in this survey are personal and therefore it is not appropriate for the Parish Council to respond. The survey will be circulated to the email list and put on Facebook.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>EK</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ/RC</p>
12	<p>Matters for discussion</p> <p>a) <u>Bishops Green development update</u> A meeting took place recently which was set up by Catesby Estates and attended by Cllrs Dain and Debenham. Catesby Estates advised they are continuing with their plan for 400 homes. The PC representatives and residents reiterated their objections to the development. Catesby Estates informed us that will be consulting locally and then submitting a planning application for this development. Cllr Dain advised the PC that the SHELAA proforma for the site (EC003) completed by BDBC concluded this type of development does not fit in with the current local plan. She proposed, and Cllr Kearney seconded (with all Cllrs agreeing unanimously) that a formal letter is written to BDBC to reinforce this conclusion with the planning department.</p> <p>b) <u>Neighbourhood Plan and Planning – update and discussion</u> Cllr Dain reported the logo has been chosen. 2 consultants are being interviewed and one should be in place by the end of August. The 24/25 September is the big consultation weekend. There are a number of informal events before then.</p> <p>c) <u>Parish S106 monies update</u> A response it awaited from BDBC about proposed projects for the Sports and Playing Field element of this money. This item will remain on the agenda.</p>	<p>MD</p>

	<p>d) <u>Speeding working party update including SIDs</u> Cllr Bayliss reported she had met with a representative from HCC who has toured the area with her. He identified 4 areas which could have signage added, as follows: In Bishops Green; the right hand turn into Ash Road – ‘SLOW’ painted on the road Brocks Green from Ecchinswell – ‘SLOW’ painted on the road below the 30 mph sign. Kingsclere Road, by the Ecchinswell sign, dragon’s teeth and ‘SLOW’ painted on the road The road into Ecchinswell from Sydmonton by the old churchyard, dragon’s teeth and ‘SLOW’ painted on the road. Costings will be approximately £1400. Cllr Dain proposed, and Cllr Debenham seconded that the monies be spent on this road painting. The SID is still needed, and it was agreed this will be purchased at a later date once the issues regarding attaching the SID to posts, is resolved.</p> <p>e) <u>Abandoned cars in Bishops Green – police update</u> There has been no feedback from the police on this so at present there is nothing further to report. The clerk will continue to chase. and this will be on the agenda again in November unless there is something to report in the meantime.</p> <p>f) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u> EVH was reported under Item 11(d) and there was no update from BGCA this month.</p> <p>g) <u>Communications – newsletter (Cllr Debenham) and other media output</u> Items for the magazine were agreed and Cllr Debenham will write the article this month.</p>	
13	<p>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th September 2021 at 7.30pm at Bishops Green Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.</p>	

ACTIONS:

The PC agreed to consider ways of preventing this from occurring in future, perhaps by signage explaining that the pond is a wild area. This will be an agenda item for September

The new kissing gate project has had 4 letters of support. Cllr Bayliss is continuing her efforts on this, and the clerk will apply for the grant.

The allotment maintenance will be on the September agenda to assess the progress in finding volunteers.

Cllr Dain proposed, and Cllr Bayliss seconded that this could only be considered once a detailed planning application has been put in. Cllrs agreed unanimously. The clerk will write to the EVH committee advising accordingly.

The 2nd quarter risk assessment was carried out and circulated prior to the meeting. The only work required is timber treatment of some benches and noticeboards. Cllr Kearney has agreed to do this. As Cllr Kearney will be stepping down with her imminent move, this will be an agenda item in September to discuss who will take over from her.

Cllr Dain will write to BDBC about the conclusions from the SHELAA proforma for the land at Bishops Green Farm.