

**ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Bishops Green Village Hall on

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023, commencing at 19:30 hours

**Present:** Cllrs Dain (Chair), Stamp, Coward and Parkes.

**In attendance:** Sarah Jones (Clerk), Borough Cllr Izett (part), 2 members of the public (part)

Item		Action
1	<p><b>Apologies:</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Bayliss. She will not be able to attend meetings until April 2023 but has good reason and given prior notice and therefore will remain on the parish council. Apologies were also received from Cllr Debenham and County Cllr Mellor.</p>	
2	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising</b> To receive and confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising.</p>	
4	<p><b>Public participation</b> 2 members of the public were present. They advised they are Governors at the primary school and are looking to get the local community and parish council's involvement with the school. They advised the school is under-resourced and they have various projects in mind and need to find funding. The projects include:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Continuing to complete the new library – Cllr Thacker has been involved with HCC grants towards this.</li> <li>2) Tablets – currently 5 tablets are needed at the cost of approx. £1000.</li> <li>3) The boys' bathrooms need work and costs are expected to reach £20k.</li> <li>4) Fencing needs replacing.</li> </ol>                     The Governors also want to increase the profile of the school as currently pupil numbers are low.                      Borough Cllr Izett responded that there are BDBC Cllr grants and there is up to £2k to allocate in the ward; the governors should contact him directly as soon as possible as there is a deadline for possible financial assistance.                      Cllr Dain advised the parish council is not a grant awarding body but has in the past made discretionary payments to assist local projects and may be able to do so in the case of a one-off specific project brought to the council.                      Various other funding initiatives were discussed including S106 monies and CIL monies which come in after developments. There is currently no money available from CIL and S106 for the projects suggested.                      Cllr Dain advised the parish council is supportive of the school's ambitions and within the limitations of what they can do, willing to help.                      The Governors thanked the parish council for their time and left the meeting at 8pm.</p>	
5	<p><b>Borough Councillor's Report</b> Cllr Izett advised that he was investigating the size and type of the financial benefits for the parish from the CIL/S106 monies to come from the Woodside View planning approval.                      He was pleased it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan should continue as is, and had not been completely invalidated by the Woodside View approval. Cllr Dain reported that BDBC has supported the Neighbourhood Plan continuing in its current form. The 42 new houses are in addition to those in the Neighbourhood Plan so the parish will be over-supplied. This should help in the fight against further development proposals.                      Cllr Izett reiterated the Neighbourhood Plan is the main defense against other development proposals.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Izett raised BGCA and the youth club. There is need for a part time coordinator, so funding is needed. He was aware that work was being done by BDBC, Sovereign, Greenham Trust and BGCA to procure this funding. He suggested Vivid should also be involved.</p> <p>Item 12(e) was raised up the agenda to discuss in conjunction with Cllr Izett's comments. Cllr Dain advised there is now a new Chair and 3 other trustees. It is hoped a part-time member of staff would be able to help increase the hall revenue and extend the youth club projects. BDBC may be able to help fund a coordinator position. There will be a consultative visit from BDBC centre manager to ascertain the maximum income generation and assess the scope of the new role. The hope is the re-generation of the hall will progress with the help of a centre coordinator.</p> <p>Cllrs Izett and Dain agreed to discuss the project further.</p> <p>There being nothing else to report, Cllr Izett left the meeting at 8.25pm.</p>													
6	<p><b>County Councillor's Report.</b> Cllrs Mellor and Thacker were not present so there was no report.</p>													
7	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>a) Planning applications:</b></p> <p><b>22/03312/HSE</b> Ash Lodge Hydes Platt Ecchinswell Hampshire RG20 4UH First floor extension over garage, front 2 storey extension, rear single storey extension and general re- modelling. <b>No objections</b></p> <p><b>22/03414/RET</b> Mill View Mill Lane Ecchinswell Hampshire RG20 4UA Proposal: Replacement of external boiler (retrospective) <b>No objections</b></p> <p><b>22/02762/FUL</b> Dores Hill Cow House Lane North Sydmonton RG20 9AF Construction of a swimming pool within the garden together with associated landscaping, plant and equipment including air source heat pump, holding tank and plant shed <b>No objections</b></p> <p><b>22/03413/HSE</b> 3 Quarry Cottages Sydmonton Road Burghclere RG20 9NL Removal of existing conservatory and infill with new single storey extension with associated internal works <b>No objections subject to conformance with the bat restrictions</b></p> <p><b>b) Decisions:</b></p> <p><b>22/02535/RET</b> North Sydmonton House North Sydmonton Newbury Hampshire RG20 4UL Change of use of three interlinking barns. Barn 1 for use as an ancillary workshop and plant room, toilets and a self-contained first floor residential flat, barn 2 for ancillary residential uses together with periodic cookery classes and as a function room and barn 3 for use as storage in association with a cookery school and a garage and vehicle workshop <b>Decision: Granted</b></p>													
8	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p><b>Electronic Payments:</b></p> <p>(a) The following payments were agreed for December:</p> <table> <tr> <td>S Jones Clerk's salary (Dec)</td> <td>£825.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland Litter warden – (Dec)</td> <td>£194.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry Litter warden - (Dec)</td> <td>£121.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td>£126.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland Litterwarden expenses</td> <td>£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BGCA Room hire costs</td> <td>£48.00</td> </tr> </table>	S Jones Clerk's salary (Dec)	£825.20	D McClelland Litter warden – (Dec)	£194.00	R Wherry Litter warden - (Dec)	£121.60	HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ	£126.20	D McClelland Litterwarden expenses	£20.00	BGCA Room hire costs	£48.00	
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	<b>Total £1,335.00</b>	
	(b) The actual/against budget up to January 2023 was agreed.	
9	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>19.12.22 – HALC EGM 23rd Feb – Cllrs noted the proposed changes but have no further comments.</p> <p>23.12.22 – WBC Local Plan Review Consultation launches 6 Jan; details will be added to the website and Facebook.</p> <p>03.01.23 – Gift box of chocolates collected by Cllr Dain from ET Planning. The chocolates were shared between the parish council and visitors at the January meeting.</p> <p>04.01.23 – BDBC Complaint reference 2622165 response – Cllrs agreed to send a thank you response but request to see details of the new process to make it more transparent.</p> <p>09.01.23 – Dept for Levelling Up, Proposed changes to National Planning Policy – Cllr Debenham is drafting a response and will circulate to Cllrs.</p> <p>09.01.23 – Burghclere NP final consultation has been sent in, which is noted by Cllrs.</p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>PD</b></p>
10	<p><b>Highways and Rights of Way</b></p> <p>Cllr Stamp raised Hyde Lane as the large pothole has reopened.</p> <p>The proposed new road signage concerning the length limit on the bridge at Ecchinswell was discussed. Cllrs agreed the suggestions were an improvement but had concerns over the removal of warning signs at Featherbed Lane. The PC stressed the need for a warning on this N-S road as well as nearer the bridge. The clerk will contact HCC with the PC response and to request the sign south of Bishops Green be reinstated.</p> <p>Ecchinswell House residents have been contacted and asked to fix the stile on their land which is broken. Their land agent has also confirmed that the wall is in the process of being surveyed so it can be repaired to make it safe for passing traffic and pedestrians.</p> <p>The graffiti on the Bishops Green sign to the shop and car park has not been removed and HCC need to be reminded to do this.</p> <p>HCC needs reminding that the damage to the bridge in Ecchinswell was temporarily repaired by a resident but a full repair is still awaited.</p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p>
11	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>a) <u>Hedge cutting – Sydmonton to Old Burghclere</u> A resident had emailed regarding the hedge and asking for it to be cut back further. Upon review, it looks like the hedge is cut back to the road edge and does not need further cutting. The clerk will advise the landowner of the comments from the member of the public.</p> <p>b) <u>Fitness area for adults using S106 monies update</u> Costing for this project has been reviewed and all Cllrs agreed it is too expensive to proceed with at present.</p> <p>c) <u>Allotment renewals</u> Allotment rental renewal notices are being sent out during January and the clerk will report back should there be any changes.</p> <p>d) <u>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Safety Review</u> The review was circulated, and no items flagged. The trees at the pond are being pollarded by a volunteer on 12<sup>th</sup> January. The ash tree at the allotments has been established as Vivid's responsibility.</p> <p>e) <u>Pond Clearance Date</u> The Basingstoke Volunteers have been contacted and the date set for 15<sup>th</sup> October, with 22<sup>nd</sup> in reserve. All other details will be arranged nearer the time.</p> <p>f) <u>Report bank on HCC Transport Forum</u></p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p>

	<p>Cllr Dain circulated the report and advised the report surmised that 57% of services in the area were not viable as the buses are mainly empty. The report suggested there will inevitably be further cuts and rural areas will be worst affected but at present there are no plans to close the Bishops Green route.</p> <p>The Transport office is looking to work closer with local communities and parish councils to establish a new service model. A volunteer is sought from the parish council to take on this project.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
12	<p><b>Matters for discussion</b></p> <p>a) <u>Bishops Green planning application update</u> There is nothing new to report on this item.</p> <p>b) <u>Neighbourhood Plan update</u> Cllr Dain reported that the Neighbourhood Plan has now reached the stage of examination. The Steering Group has responded on behalf of the parish council to any questions raised. All documents have been submitted and the examiner's report will be published in due course. The draft will need fact-checking. The parish council agreed to defer all responses to the examiner to the Steering Group which will respond on its behalf and report back.</p> <p>c) <u>Tree survey update and costings per budget</u> The clerk is in the process of sourcing 2 alternative quotes and will report back at the February meeting.</p> <p>d) <u>Speeding working party update</u> Cllr Stamp reported that the SID has been purchased but a delivery date is still awaited. HCC has confirmed the post order. Cllr Stamp is ready with a team of helpers and once the SID arrives will proceed with the installation at the designated first position.</p> <p>e) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u> BGCA was dealt with under Item 5. Cllr Dain reported she will be attending the EVH meeting which is due to take place next week, in Cllr Bayliss's absence. The playpark has been raised by the EVH committee; in the past, ESG PC have donated funds and EVH wish to discuss any funding available. Cllrs agreed that a decision had been made at a previous meeting to support the play park maintenance but no actual level of support has yet been finalised. It was agreed that the S106 monies available for playparks, which totals £684, can be offered to be used and Cllr Dain will advise EVH accordingly.</p> <p>f) <u>Communications</u> – newsletter (Cllr Coward) and other media output Items for the magazine were agreed and Cllr Coward will write the article this month.</p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>MD</b></p>
13	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm at Bishops Green Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25pm.</p>	

## ACTIONS:

WBC Local Plan Review Consultation launches 6 Jan; details will be added to the website and Facebook

BDBC Complaint reference 2622165 response – Cllrs agreed to send a thank you response but request to see details of the new process to make it more transparent.

Dept for Levelling Up, Proposed changes to National Planning Policy – Cllr Debenham is drafting a response and will circulate to Cllrs

The proposed new road signage concerning the length limit on the bridge at Ecchinswell was discussed. Cllrs agreed the suggestions were an improvement but had concerns over the removal of warning signs at Featherbed Lane. The PC stressed the need for a warning on this N-S road as well as nearer the bridge. The clerk will contact HCC with the PC response and to request the sign south of Bishops Green be reinstated.

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A volunteer is sought from the parish council to take on this project (Transport Forum).

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