ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall
Wednesday 12 July 2017, commencing at 19.30 hours

Present: Councillors Bate, Bayliss, Dain, Keyse, Lowrie, Owen,

In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), County Cllr Mellor, Borough Cllr Izett, 8 members of the public

Item		Action
1	**Apologies** Cllr Hall.	
2	**Declarations of interests** There were no declarations of interests.	
3	**Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising** **18/17 Resolved** To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 June 2017. Signed by the Vice Chair (Cllr Dain) as a true record. **Actions arising:** All Cllrs to provide information regarding what they view their roles to be, for discussion at the September meeting. The assets register and insurance schedule need to be reviewed and updated.	**ALL** **TH**
4	**Public participation** A resident attended to advise Cllrs of her objections to the planning application from Yew Tree Cottage. She raised 3 main issues; • that the proposed extension to the drive would encroach on her land, • highway safety including the possibility of increased collision due to the sight line from the proposed new driveway onto the main highway, • flood risk.	
5	**Borough Councillor's Report** Cllr Izett advised that negotiations were taking place with the short-listed developers about the Manydown development project which proposes to build 3200 houses in Basingstoke. The neighbourhood plan in St Mary Bourne is in the final stages. A new cabinet member (Hannah Golding) for digital innovation has been appointed. A representative survey has been carried out re potential refuse collection changes. No decision will be made until September so any comments can still be sent to the communication team.	
6	**County Councillor's Report** Cllr Mellor advised that after the May elections 2 parties are no longer part of the county council, Labour (with only 2 seats) and UKIP. There has been a complete reconstitution. Cllr Mellor sits on the Pension board. The County Council needs to save £140m by 2020. A consultation period is commencing this week and PCs and individuals are encouraged to respond. The PC will consider bringing the 13th September meeting forward a week so they can discuss the proposals before the deadline in mid-September. Cllr Mellor asked if fly tipping is a problem in the parish. Other areas have recruited dedicated officers which has helped. Speeding remains an issue in the area. HCCs assessment of speeding issues is casualty based and generally related to more densely populated areas.	**ALL**

	HCC has been working hard to keep the roads in good condition. There have been many education successes within HCC.	
7	**Planning** **19/17 Resolved** a) New applications **17/02061/HSE** Yew Tree Cottage, Ecchinswell Road, Ecchinswell. Erection of a single storey extension to southern elevation and two storey extension to eastern elevation with new bay window. Erection of detached two storey carport. No objections to the proposal for the house. Objection to the proposed driveway and carport for 3 reasons: potential boundary dispute, highway access and safety, and flood risk. **17/02128/HSE** Hyde House, Hyde Lane Demolition of two existing stable blocks and an outbuilding and the erection of an annex pavilion and open fronted storage shelter with associated landscaping and blocking up of existing access point. No objections subject to the road being made good after the works are completed. b) Decisions None.	
8	**Finance** **20/17 Resolved** a) Financial Report and Payments Payments for July **Cheque payments:** None **Electronic payments:** D Gascoine — Clerk's salary (June) — £444.89 D Gascoine — Clerk's expenses (June) — £ 41.88 R Wherry — Litter warden – (June) — £108.00 D McClelland — Litter warden – (June) — £176.50 HMRC — PAYE – DG, RW, DM, SJ — £250.00 S Jones — Clerk's salary (June) — £403.36 S Jones — Clerk's expenses (June) — £ 55.35 Premier Grounds Maint — Maintenance June — £324.00 Newbury News Ltd — Clerk Advertisement, 2nd week — £100.15 John K Murray — Annual audit — £190.00 The clerk advised Cllrs that both the out-going and new clerk were on the payroll for this month. **21/17 Resolved** b) The internal audits were completed by John K Murray. The issue of full compliancy with the Transparency Protocol was raised. This will be reviewed in the September meeting. There is a discrepancy with the assets register which needs to be reviewed and advised to BDO before final sign off.	**ALL** **TH**
9	**Correspondence** **22/17 Resolved:** 21/6/17: Data Protection Renewal reminder – completed and cheque to be sent.	**SJ**

	21/6/17: Michelle Leadbitter – Rural Communities Fund countryside access grants can be applied for to improve stiles etc. To be reviewed to see if the PC is eligible for a grant. 19/6/17: Local Plan email – sites to consider for future development. To be circulated 19/6/17: Community Safety July Newsletter, amended. To be circulated. 4/7/17: Damon Hope, Monthly Beat Report. To be circulated. The clerk also read out an email from a resident received on 9th July regarding the degree of grass cutting around the pond and its effect on the wildlife by the pond. It was decided to discuss this with the Lengthsman and see if the grass is being cut shorter than usual. Also, to ensure that if the grass is not cut as short, that the pathway to the bench is still cleared.	**MD** **SJ** **SJ**
10	**Highways and Rights of Way** a) <u>Survey of paths and stiles</u> The problems around the Mill Lane footpath have been reported and seem fine now. There are no new incidents. c) <u>New issues</u> Cllr Dain is now an HCC volunteer path warden. She is looking to set up a volunteer group and will get advice from the Kingsclere volunteer group about this.	 **MD**
11	**New Business** **23/17 Resolved** a) <u>Ecchinswell Village Hall AGM</u> Cllr Bayliss advised that the existing committee had been re-elected. Chris Headlong was welcomed as the new caretaker. The EVH funds are sufficient to complete the remaining refurbishment projects. A new floor has been laid and it was agreed this should be advertised in the PC newsletter. Work has been done on the alarm system because the new windows affected the old system wires. Booking for football pitches are down but 18 matches are still booked for July and August. b) <u>Quarterly risk assessment</u> **24/17 Resolved** Cllr Dain advised that the trip hazards have been removed from the War Memorial site and Digweeds. After discussion, it was agreed that the broken fencing at the War Memorial will be replaced.	 **SK** **TH**
12	**Matters for discussion** a) <u>Parish Lengthsman</u> **25/17 Resolved** The Lengthsman has cleared the drain by the entrance to Digweeds and will have work orders for the drain rodding, Digweeds hedge cutting and earth removal from the ditch opposite the old graveyard. It was advised that the 30mph sign in Brocks Green has been vandalised. This will be investigated. b) <u>C57</u> Cllr Hall had a meeting with Alfred Nortey from HCC. Various ideas were discussed including white lines, reviewing the existing horse signs and a pedestrian sign by the footpath. A speed and volume survey needs to be carried out at the cost of £240. Options for funding this will be investigated. c) <u>Litter Wardens</u> Cllr Bayliss asked the Clerk to clarify which roads in the Parish are currently being cleared.	 **SJ** **TH** **SJ**

	d) Oak Tree **26/17 Resolved** The oak tree has transplanted well and the preparation and nurturing it has received provide a good chance of successful growth to maturity. The final payment to the horticulturalist is due for payment. The funds donated for the tree have now been used up. The new EVH Caretaker volunteered to water the tree when necessary. He was thanked for this. e) Community Plan Update Cllr Bate circulated a guide to setting up a community plan which is to be reviewed and then discussed in the September meeting. f) Pond Clearance Cllr Bayliss met with Mike Norman from the Basingstoke Volunteers who had raised the issue re the license for Great Crested Newts. An egg check has been done and the newts are present. The clerk to contact the Hampshire Wildlife Trust for advice on how to proceed with the pond clearance schedule. g) Broadband progress **27/17 Resolved** The BT cabinet in Ecchinswell has now been connected. Residents within 1.5km of it will benefit from this and can now apply to their provider for higher speed broadband. There will still be properties in the parish which will not get increased speed broadband and the PC is continuing to explore options to help these residents. h) Parish Magazine Items for inclusion in the parish magazine were agreed.	**SJ** **TH/MD**
13	**Date of next meeting** Wednesday 13 September 2017 at Ecchinswell Village Hall at 7.30pm. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.25 pm.	