

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on
Wednesday 8th January 2025, commencing at 19:30 hours
Present: Cllrs Stamp (Chair), Sadler (Vice Chair), and Debenham.
In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), 1 member of the public.

Item		Action																					
1	Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Parkes, Monteith and Hardy-Giles																						
2	Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.																						
3	Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising To receive and confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 11 th December and matters arising. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by Cllr Stamp.																						
4	Public participation The member of the public raised flooded roads at the southern end of the parish where ditches in the fields have been filled in so the water is running into the road. Cllrs agreed this would be reported to the landowner and HCC who may be able to help with this issue.																						
5	Borough Councillor's Report Borough Cllr Izett was not present but had sent a written report which was circulated prior to the meeting. No questions were raised.																						
6	County Councillor's Report. County Cllr Thacker was not present so there was no report.																						
7	Planning a) New applications: none b) Decisions: none c) Unauthorised planning update There has been no further action on this item.																						
8	Finance (a) Electronic payments made in January: <table> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's salary (December)</td> <td>£898.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (December)</td> <td>£241.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (December)</td> <td>£127.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td></td> <td>£94.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenses</td> <td>MD leaving gift</td> <td>£33.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total</td> <td>£1,414.26</td> </tr> </table> (b) The next actual/against budget will be reviewed in February.	S Jones	Clerk's salary (December)	£898.30	D McClelland	Litter warden – (December)	£241.00	R Wherry	Litter warden - (December)	£127.96	HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ		£94.00	D McClelland	Expenses	£20.00	Expenses	MD leaving gift	£33.00	Total		£1,414.26	
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9	New Business a) <u>Review of Cllrs areas of responsibility</u> This item was postponed until the February meeting when all Cllrs will be present. b) <u>Allotment renewals</u> This is in hand, the renewal notices will be sent out in January. 2 holders have advised they will not renew but the allotments have already been filled. The clerk reported that she will pay the £50 lease to the landowner per the terms of the allotment land rental.	SJ																					

	<p>c) <u>Fly tipping and general rubbish maintenance in the parish</u> A report has been sent in with regards to areas of the parish that have lots of rubbish and fly tipping. An incidence of fly tipping, reported before Christmas, has not been removed by BDBC as yet. A meeting will be arranged to discuss this issue further.</p> <p>d) <u>New NPPF Review</u> The new housing number has been decided by Central Government and the call for sites was sent out on 6th January. Cllrs agreed they will seek an update from BDBC council leaders which Cllr Debenham will draft.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>PD</p>
10	<p>Matters for Discussion:</p> <p>a) <u>Website and phone upgrade progress</u> The website is progressing and all the relevant information sent over. The new phone app needs to be put into place and the clerk will follow this up.</p> <p>b) <u>Email changeover – times to be decided</u> Meetings have been set up and the change over should move forward week commencing 13th January.</p> <p>c) <u>School lighting request update</u> This needs to be discussed with County Cllr Mellor, who will be at the February meeting.</p> <p>d) <u>Pothole audit update</u> Half the parish has been audited and the other half will be done over the next week or so, so a full report will be ready for the February meeting to present to County Cllr Mellor.</p> <p>e) <u>SID purchase update</u> The clerk has looked into possible leasing and ascertained lease payments for 3 years would cost the same as a purchase. Warranties are usually for 3-5 years, so Cllrs agreed unanimously to purchase the SID as originally planned. The business plan will be presented at the February meeting.</p> <p>f) <u>Sustainability and Environmental working party</u> The survey is ready to send out. This will be sent to the Cllrs new email addresses and to the residents email list. Cllr Sadler discussed EV charging points as the rules are changing to ensure they are accessible for wheelchair users. If charging points are to be installed, they need to be the correct ones.</p> <p>g) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u> Cllr Sadler reported that there have been a few issues relating to opening and closing of the hall. More volunteers are needed. There is no progress on the pre-school. There were a few complaints due to the cancellation of bingo due to the weather. EVH – Cllr Debenham reported that the next meeting is on Tuesday 14th Jan. Finances continue to look healthy.</p> <p>h) <u>New dog waste bin at EVH</u> There are 2 new bins but the parish council need to organise signs.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
11	<p>Correspondence 13.12.24 and 20.12.24 – Andy Konieczko, BDBC; The new NPPF - what it means for us 06.01.25 – Resident, support for housing in Bishops Green; unfortunately the parish council has no say in housing allocation and the resident will be advised accordingly. 06.01.25 – BDBC Local Plan Update - call for sites (January 2025)</p>	<p>SJ</p>
12	<p>Highways and Rights of Way The area outside the new development at Woodside View is very messy and muddy and needs to be cleared up. The clerk will contact the relevant parties.</p>	<p>SJ</p>
13	<p>Communications – newsletter (Clerk) and other media output It was agreed the draft minutes do not need to be published this month.</p>	

	Items for the magazine were agreed.	
14	Review of calendar items Calendar items for February 2025 were noted.	
15	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12 th February 2025 at 7.30pm at Bishops Green Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm.	

ACTIONS:

The clerk reported that she will pay the £50 lease to the landowner per the terms of the allotment land rental

A meeting will be arranged to discuss the issue with rubbish and fly tipping further.

Cllrs agreed they will seek an update from BDBC on the NPPF which Cllr Debenham will draft

The new phone app needs to be put into place and the clerk will follow this up

The SID purchase business plan will be presented at the February meeting.

There are 2 new bins at EVH but the parish council need to organise signs re dog waste.

A resident email re support for housing in Bishops Green; unfortunately the parish council has no say in housing allocation and the resident will be advised accordingly

The area outside the new development at Woodside View is very messy and muddy and needs to be cleared up. The clerk will contact the relevant parties