

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on

Wednesday 8th October 2025, commencing at 19:30 hours

Present: Cllrs Stamp (Chair), Debenham, Hardy-Giles, Monteith and Letch.

In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), 0 members of the public.

Item		Action
1	Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Sadler, Debenham and Letch.	
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 10 th September, and matters arising. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by Cllr Stamp.	
4	Public participation There were no members of the public present.	
5	Borough Councillor's Report Cllr Izett reported that the DCC had met that evening to discuss the 2 nd site visit to Strattons Farm regarding the solar farm proposal. He reported that the proposal had been recommended for approval by BDBC Planning officers and had been approved earlier this evening. Catesby Estates developers have submitted an outline proposal for a development of 60 houses in the same area as the previous 2020 proposal. BDBC do not have a 5 year housing land supply in place, so there is a presumption in favour of planning. Having a strong Neighbourhood Plan in place, and the Rooksfield site identified, along with the BDBC draft Local Plan assigning zero houses to Bishops Green may help. The parish council advised they intend to take the same stance as before, objecting strongly. The food waste bins have been rolled out and weekly collections have started. There is a programme in place for the borough to provide free energy assessments to households, and advice on grants available and saving measures. Full details will be shared with the public. There being nothing else to report, Cllr Izett left the meeting at 7.43pm.	SJ
6	County Councillor's Report. Cllr Thacker was not present so there was no report.	
7	Planning a) New applications: 25/02205/LDPO Village Hall Beech Road Bishops Green Hampshire RG20 4AD Certificate of lawful development for the proposed installation of 24 solar PV panels on the south elevation pitched roof with a micro generation of 11.04kw. ES&BG Parish Council supports this application in principle, although several supportive documents or statements are not provided at this time as identified in the review. The application for LDPO status is presumably to be obtained prior to grant funding from BDBC and/or other sources. The missing documentation should be required prior to approval 25/02228/FUL 22 Beech Road Bishops Green Hampshire RG20 4AD Replacement of 2 no windows to front and side elevation ES&BG Parish Council supports this application in principle, although advice as to whether the new windows are more insulating and energy efficient would be important. The missing documentation should be required prior to approval. 25/02322/HSE Ash Lodge Hydes Platt Ecchinswell Hampshire RG20 4UH Proposed outbuilding ancillary to main dwelling for use as annex	

	<p>ES&BG Parish Council considers this Annex proposal as acceptable as it falls within the ESB. However, as it also falls within the ECA, its design may need to change to address any Conservation Officer's requirements. They would prefer that the Annex had a barn-styling horizontal boarding rather than the vertical boarding proposed</p> <p>b) Decisions: None</p>	
8	<p>New Business</p> <p>a) <u>Catesby development information</u> This item was discussed under Item 5 above and Cllrs agreed that correspondence would be sent to Catesby Estates advising them the parish council will object to this proposal as strongly as they did the previous one. The clerk will draft a message for Cllrs agreement before sending to Catesby.</p> <p>b) <u>Naming of roads for development land rear of Bishops Green Cottage</u> Cllrs had reviewed the information circulated relating to road names and agreed their preference was for Hedgerow Lane. The clerk will advise accordingly.</p> <p>c) <u>Remembrance Day arrangements</u> The clerk has been unable to find out the arrangements for Remembrance Day. She will contact the church warden. Cllrs agreed that a resident will be asked to lay the wreath as usual, and if he cannot, they will ask ex-PC Chair Cllr Dain.</p> <p>d) <u>Strattons Farm (24/00852/FUL) update following second DCC meeting</u> This planning application has been approved by BDBC, as reported under Item 5 above.</p> <p>e) <u>Litterwarden resignation</u> The clerk reported that the Bishops Green litterwarden has resigned after many years of dedicated service. He is thanked for all his efforts and wished all the best for the future. The litterwarden who currently only covers Ecchinswell will be asked if he wishes to extend the area and include Bishops Green.</p> <p>f) <u>Cllrs areas of responsibility</u> Cllrs areas were agreed and will be circulated and published on the website.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>PD/SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
9	<p>Matters for Discussion:</p> <p>a) <u>Website upgrade progress</u> Photos are still needed and then this project can move forward in conjunction with establishing the new email addresses.</p> <p>b) <u>CIL money project ideas</u> A spreadsheet of proposed projects has been circulated and Cllrs agreed to defer any decisions to the November meeting when it is hoped more Cllrs will be in attendance.</p> <p>c) <u>SID purchase choices</u> The clerk has been given 3 other parish councils to contact for references; she will do this and once all received, and assuming all positive, the SIDs can be ordered.</p> <p>d) <u>Neighbourhood Plan Review Process</u> There was no update as Cllr Debenham was not present.</p> <p>e) <u>Email changes update and progress</u> The domain owner needs to be established; once this has been done, the clerk will defer to Cllr Stamp to move the project forward.</p> <p>f) <u>Sustainability and Environmental working party update</u> Cllr Sadler has sent some information relating to this but it was agreed further discussion would be deferred to the November meeting as she was not present.</p> <p>g) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u> Liaison for EVH has moved from Cllr Debenham to Cllr Hardy-Giles. There were no further updates as both Cllrs Debenham and Sadler were not at the meeting.</p> <p>h) <u>Pond clearance day report and thank you to Basingstoke Volunteers</u> The pond clearance day took place on 4th October and went well. The pond looks healthy and is in good order. The Basingstoke Volunteers and other volunteers are thanked for all their help. Cllrs agreed to give a donation of £75 to the Basingstoke Volunteers.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ/MS</p> <p>SJ</p>

10	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Electronic payments made in October:</p> <table> <tr> <td>S Jones</td><td>Clerk's salary (September)</td><td>£817.75</td></tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td><td>Litter warden – (September)</td><td>£248.25</td></tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td><td>Litter warden - (September) FINAL</td><td>£39.24</td></tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td><td>PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td><td>£191.40</td></tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td><td>Expenses</td><td>£20.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Wreath</td><td>Remembrance Day</td><td>£24.49</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pond clearance day</td><td>Catering expenses</td><td>£36.63</td></tr> <tr> <td>S Jones</td><td>Expenses</td><td>£38.79</td></tr> <tr> <td>BDO</td><td>External audit</td><td>£252.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Premier Grounds</td><td>Maintenance inv 3307</td><td>£655.80</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Total</td><td>£2,324.35</td></tr> </table> <p>b) 3 Year Forecast The 3 year forecast is being reviewed and updated and will be presented at the next meeting.</p> <p>c) External Audit conclusion The external audit has been concluded and signed off. Papers are ready for review if required.</p>	S Jones	Clerk's salary (September)	£817.75	D McClelland	Litter warden – (September)	£248.25	R Wherry	Litter warden - (September) FINAL	£39.24	HMRC	PAYE – RW, DM, SJ	£191.40	D McClelland	Expenses	£20.00	Wreath	Remembrance Day	£24.49	Pond clearance day	Catering expenses	£36.63	S Jones	Expenses	£38.79	BDO	External audit	£252.00	Premier Grounds	Maintenance inv 3307	£655.80	Total		£2,324.35	
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11	<p>Correspondence There was no correspondence list this month.</p>																																		
12	<p>Highways and Rights of Way It has been noted that the road through Bishops Green is closed again over the next week. The signs by the pond are in disrepair and this needs to be reported to HCC.</p>	SJ																																	
13	<p>Communications – newsletter (Cllr Stamp) and other media output It was agreed the draft minutes do not need to be published this month. Items for the magazine were agreed.</p>																																		
14	<p>Review of calendar items Calendar items for November 2025 were noted.</p>																																		
15	<p>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 7.30pm at Bishops Green Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.16pm.</p>																																		

ACTIONS:

There is a programme in place for the borough to provide free energy assessments to households, and advice on grants available and saving measures. Full details will be shared with the public

Cllrs agreed that a response would be sent to Catesby Estates advising them the parish council will object to this proposal as strongly as they did the previous one. The clerk will draft a message to be agreed by Cllrs before sending to Catesby.

Cllrs had reviewed the information circulated relating to road names and agreed their preference was for Hedgerow Lane. The clerk will advise accordingly

Cllrs agreed that a resident will be asked to lay the wreath as usual, and if he cannot, they will ask ex-Pc Chair Cllr Dain.

The litterwarden who currently only covers Ecchinswell will be asked if he wishes to extend the area and include Bishops Green

Cllrs areas were agreed and will be circulated and published on the website

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The domain owner needs to be established; once this has been done, the clerk will defer to Cllr Stamp to move the project forward

Cllrs agreed to give a donation of £75 to the Basingstoke Volunteers.

The signs by the pond are in disrepair and this needs to be reported to HCC