

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on
 Wednesday 7th January 2026, commencing at 19:00 hours
Present: Cllrs Stamp (Chair), Sadler (Vice Chair), Debenham, Monteith and Letch.
In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), 12 members of the public

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hardy-Giles.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3	<p>Public Participation The 12 members of public present were unanimous in their opinion that they were not in favour of the planning application captioned below going ahead. There were many concerns raised including the road infrastructure, sewerage works, local community, schools, and the environment. The residents present asked if the Neighbourhood Plan would be able to prevent this type of planning going ahead and the council answered that they hoped this would be the case. Numerous objections have been sent in already and a number of resident’s present advised they would be sending in objections. The council advised they would put their comments in relation to this onto the website.</p>	
3	<p>Planning</p> <p>25/02815/OUT Land East Of Ecchinswell Road Bishops Green Hampshire Outline planning application with all matters reserved except for pedestrian and vehicle access (excluding internal estates roads) from Ecchinswell Road, for the erection of up to 50 dwellings (Class C3); open space and service infrastructure and associated works.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed that they would STRONGLY OBJECT to this application. The application was reviewed in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Plan checklist and the attached document sent to BDBC, as well as the following list of objections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BDBC Draft Local Plan has assessed there is no housing need in Bishops Green and assigned ZERO houses to this area. • Bishops Green is classified as a settlement of low sustainability under many B&D BC Policies and is therefore unsuited to any further significant development. • Wildlife and environment in the area - a bird conservation project in the area has identified 96 different species, 18 of which are on the RED list. • A 42 house development was granted before the Neighbourhood Plan was made; this is now in the final stages of build. The increased traffic with this new development will produce serious issues with the roads. There are pinch points for traffic on every exit from the area and any further development will exacerbate this already difficult problem. • The main road (A339) is already overused, crowded and not fit for the traffic that uses it. With another large development already being developed on this road (in West Berkshire, but only 1 mile away), this is going to make this situation much worse. • There is a noticeable increase in the number of sewage tankers on the roads, the sewage infrastructure is already inadequate as Thames Water try to manage this excess. Thames Water have objected to this application. • The developer behind this application made an application for a much bigger development in the same location in 2021 (21/03598/OUT). This created massive 	

	<p>objections from Parish residents. This new application, which is for one field only, could well be part of a plan to re-pursue extensive and inappropriate development in the land east of Ecchinswell Road.</p>	
4	<p>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7.30pm at Ecchinswell Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.49pm.</p>	