

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018, commencing at 19.30 hours

**Present:** Councillors Hall, Dain, Bayliss, Owen

**In attendance:** Sarah Jones (Clerk), 4 members of the public

Item		Action
1	<p><b>Apologies</b> Borough Cllr Izett, County Cllr Thacker, Cllr Bate</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> <b>1/18 Resolved</b> To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Signed by the Vice Chair (Cllr Dain) as a true record.</p> <p><b>Actions arising:</b> The actions have either been addressed or are dealt with under Agenda items below, or as detailed below: Oakfields Road parking – the Clerk is awaiting a suitable response from BDBC. Residents will be asked to attend the next meeting to continue this discussion. The Deer fencing grant is being looked into by Cllrs Bayliss and Owen</p> <p><b>2/18 Resolved</b> Cllr Hall requested that item 11(a) be moved up the Agenda. Mike Sparrow and Kathy Wander had both come forward as prospective Cllrs to fill the vacancies on the Council. Cllr Hall proposed that both were co-opted and there were no objections. Cllr Hall proposed Kathy Wander, seconded by Cllr Bayliss and agreed unanimously. Cllr Dain proposed Mike Sparrow, seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed unanimously. Cllrs Sparrow and Wander were invited to join the Council at the table.</p>	<p><b>SJ</b> <b>JB/NO</b></p>
4	<p><b>Public participation</b> 4 members of the public attended. A resident of Ecchinswell attended the meeting to express his concerns over the condition of the village, particularly in relation to cleanliness, concerns including fly tipping and litter. He is looking to gather a group of volunteers who will attend to various maintenance and litter picking issues around the Parish. The resident would be willing to attend the Annual Assembly in May and present his ideas. The Parish Council gratefully received the offer of assistance and the only issue raised was insurance, however it was confirmed by the Clerk that the proposed activities would be included within the Parish Council's insurance without any impact as long as the Parish Council oversee the activities. Cllr Dain agreed to lead this project.</p> <p>The second resident advised he was attending in case there were any questions relating to the 1<sup>st</sup> planning application detailed in Section 7 below.</p>	
5	<p><b>Borough Councillor's Report</b> There was no Borough Cllrs Report as Cllr Izett was unable to attend the meeting.</p>	
6	<p><b>County Councillor's Report</b> County Cllr Mellor attended the meeting and advised the offices were closed over the Christmas period so it has been quiet but he could report the following: Recycling Centre - HCC has finalised the continuation of the temporary arrangement with West Berks DC to allow local residents in Ecchinswell and other areas to continue using the Newtown Road facilities. The cost is not sustainable and in 2018 HCC will with WB and other adjacent authorities be looking for more reciprocity on services in during 2019. Community Transport/ Bus Concessions – HCC wish to retain the community transport (limited in Ecchinswell) beyond 2018. The HCC focus was to ensure that bus subsidies and concessionary fares were restructured so that savings could be steered into</p>	

	<p>community transport. The same would apply to savings made on Home to School Transport which is protected by a 1948 law whereby HCC has to supply the service even if the children do not need or utilise it.</p> <p>Education – within Cllr Mellor’s division all the schools are 'OFSTED 'Good' or 'Outstanding'. However the per pupil funding received in this part of Hampshire is less than 50% of what some Metropolitan authorities receive. HCC is leading the way in trying to secure fairer funding. All schools in Hampshire have been part of the consultation process and their budget is ring fenced. Hants continues to outperform most authorities in exam results.</p> <p>Council Tax - residents can expect an increase somewhere above 5%, but less than 6%; this will include 3% for social care where Hampshire has moved towards employing many more social workers to ensure people can be cared for in their own home rather than in care homes. Over the last 7 years Council Tax has still been below inflation and Hampshire has still the second lowest per household billing of all the shires in the country.</p> <p>Broadband – this is still on target for 96% of all households to be receiving a reasonable Superfast service; some remote areas may be a concern. HCC has been making grants to facilitate the service. Cllr Hall mentioned that there is one area of the Parish not covered under the current scheme.</p> <p>Roads - 2018/9 will see a big increase in expenditure on major road projects in the county and the government have now pledged to fund some improvement on A roads. However road maintenance is needed and the cut in budget in this area will hopefully be countered by the new capital equipment and efficiency.</p>																			
7	<p><b>Planning</b>  <b>3/18 Resolved</b>  a) New applications  <b>17/04047/HSE</b> – Brook Cottage, Hydes Platt, Ecchinswell RG20 4UH  Erection of single storey rear extension and single storey front extension. Conversion of loft to living accommodation with alterations to rear gable and rooflights to front, rear and side elevations  No objections subject to the resident, who was present and in agreement, to address the neighbour’s concerns regarding the south elevation window.</p> <p><b>17/04079/LDEO</b> - Water Tower Eagle Road Bishops Green Hampshire  Certificate of lawfulness for confirmation of works having been implemented lawfully before expiry date of planning permission 14/01363/FUL.  Noted by Councillors. Councillors received notice of S106 funds relating to this planning application last month and would like further information as to how the above will impact this and when the funds may be forthcoming.</p> <p><b>b) Decisions</b>  No decisions.</p>	SJ																		
8	<p><b>Finance</b>  <b>4/18 Resolved</b>  a) Financial Report and Payments  Payments for December:</p> <p><b>Cheque payments:</b>  None</p> <p><b>Electronic payments:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk’s salary (December)</td> <td>£403.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerks Expenses (December)</td> <td>£4.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (December)</td> <td>£176.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (December)</td> <td>£96.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td>£136.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>£816.06</b></td> </tr> </table>	S Jones	Clerk’s salary (December)	£403.16	S Jones	Clerks Expenses (December)	£4.40	D McClelland	Litter warden – (December)	£176.50	R Wherry	Litter warden - (December)	£96.00	HMRC	PAYE – RW, DM, SJ	£136.00		<b>Total</b>	<b>£816.06</b>	
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	<p><b>5/18 Resolved</b> b) The final draft budget was agreed and the precept amount agreed at £12,842.00, a 1.9% increase.</p> <p><b>6/18 Resolved</b> Cllr Bayliss handed the Clerk the cheque for £500 from The May Fayre organisers for the donation discussed in the November meeting.</p>	
9	<p><b>Correspondence</b> <b>7/18 Resolved:</b> 20th December 2017 – Crookham Village request for support - planning applications to include adequate parking consideration. Cllrs agreed that they have no evidence to support this survey however going forward parking will be considered on planning applications. The Clerk is to advise HALC accordingly. 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 – Email from resident providing details of her experience of Neighbourhood Watch. She has subsequently advised she has emailed residents to try and restart the programme in her area. 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2018 – Litter warden advises on rubbish. The clerk is to write to Macdonalds at Tot Hill and Newbury regarding any help they can provide and also chase BDBC re the provision of more litter bins. 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 – HALC – Sustainable Communities Act Legislation support sought. Again Cllrs were in agreement that they have no evidence to support this from this Parish. The Clerk is to advise HALC accordingly. A member of the public has written to the Chair advising they have concerns relating to items not being put on the website in a timely manner. Their comments have been noted and the Council will endeavour to ensure items are published as soon as possible.</p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p>
10	<p><b>Highways and Rights of Way</b> <b>8/18 Resolved</b> Cllr Dain advised the Council that there are a number of volunteers showing interest in establishing a footpath group. This is in conjunction with the issues raised by the resident in Section 4 above. It has been confirmed that the insurance would cover this, and Cllr Dain asked for confirmation that the Council are happy that a footpath maintenance group is started up. She advised there is a team of people ready and willing to help. Cllr Hall, Cllr Dain and the volunteer from the public are to model the idea together, and the group will be called the ESGP Parish Volunteer Group.</p>	<b>TH/MD</b>
12	<p><b>New Business</b> a) <u>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Risk Assessment</u> <b>9/18 Resolved</b> Cllr Dain has completed the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter risk assessment and no issues have been raised, however the trees growing into the power cables round the pond remain an issue and the Clerk is to chase up SSE. b) <u>Grass cutting grant</u> <b>10/18 Resolved</b> EVH provided the Council with the relevant information and Cllrs agreed to continue with the grant. This will be reviewed next year. . c) <u>War Memorial centenary and stonemasons work report</u> <b>11/18 Resolved</b> Cllr Bayliss had met with the stonemason and received a quote for £384 to clean the war memorial. All Cllrs agreed it should be cleaned for the centenary. All Cllrs also agreed to seek a way of adding the missing name to the memorial, preferably in the same style as the rest of the memorial. Cllr Bayliss will seek another quote for cleaning. Cllrs Bayliss and Wander will approach the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for advice on cleaning and adding the name. Cllr Wander agreed to liaise with Kingsclere about joint centenary commemorations and lead ESGP initiatives. Cllrs Wander and Hall will try to attend the next Kingsclere Centenary Group meeting. d) <u>New Cllrs</u></p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>JB</b></p> <p><b>JB/KW</b></p>



#### ACTIONS:

Oakfields Road parking – the Clerk is awaiting a suitable response from BDBC. Residents will be asked to attend the next meeting to continue this discussion.

The deer fencing grant is being looked into by Cllrs Bayliss and Owen.

Councillors received notice of S106 funds relating to the water tower planning application last month and the Clerk is to obtain information as to how the above will impact this and when the funds may be forthcoming.

The Clerk is to write to Macdonalds at Tot Hill and Newbury regarding any help they can provide with the litter issue which includes many of their items, and also chase BDBC re the provision of more litter bins.

Crookham Village request for support - planning apps to include adequate parking consideration. Cllrs agreed that they have no evidence to support this and the Clerk is to advise HALC accordingly.

Sustainable Communities Act Legislation support sort. Cllrs were in agreement that they could not support this. The Clerk is to advise HALC accordingly.

Cllr Hall, Cllr Dain and the volunteer from the public are to model the idea together, and the group will be called the ESBG Parish Volunteer Group.

The trees growing into the power cables is still an issue and the Clerk is to chase up SSE.

Another quote for cleaning the war memorial needs to be obtained and the War Graves Commission contacted with regard to the additional name. Discussions with Kingsclere relating to a joint centenary celebration continue and Cllrs Bayliss and Wander are going to try and attend the next meeting relating to this in Kingsclere.

Cllr Owen will look into producing a small questionnaire for the public to complete at the assembly so Cllrs can assess who attended the meeting and what their primary interests are.

The Clerk is to send this to HARA in order to get the survey finalised and sent out to residents

The Basingstoke Volunteers have offered to review the wording of the contract so the right wording is used for the pond maintenance plan. A meeting is to be organised by Cllr Bayliss and include Premier Maintenance.

It was agreed that the date of the pay review would be amended to 1<sup>st</sup> April to tie in with the financial year. The Clerk is to include this in the March Agenda..

Cllr Owen will bring ideas for the best email systems to the February meeting,