

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018, commencing at 19.30 hours

**Present:** Councillors Hall (Chair), Dain (Vice Chair), Bayliss and Sparrow.

**In attendance:** Sarah Jones (Clerk), County Cllr Mellor, 0 members of the public

Item		Action
1	<p><b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Owen.</p>	
2	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b> Cllr Bayliss advised she has an allotment, and Cllr Hall that he has association with Malcolm Jones who will be mentioned below.</p>	
3	<p><b>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising</b> <b>82/18 Resolved</b> To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Signed by Cllr Hall (Chair) as a true record. <b>Actions arising:</b> The actions have either been addressed or are dealt with under Agenda items below.</p>	
4	<p><b>Public participation</b> There were no members of the public present.</p>	
5	<p><b>Borough Councillor's Report</b> There was no report as the Borough Cllr was not present.</p>	
6	<p><b>County Councillor's Report</b> County Cllr Mellor advised HCC has been under pressure to save monies and have saved £500m since 2013. The big expense is adult social care which costs approx £1.3m per day. HCC are building and trying to manage places to save costs. The roads have had extra money spent on them, some of it from Central Government. Overall road maintenance has improved and 1million square metres of road surface including potholes have been filled. The county is investing in more dragon blaster equipment. High friction surfaces are still creating problems, but the situation is generally improving. There are developments planned at Thatcham, Greenham and Manydown over the next few years and there is concern about the impact this will have on the A339. Cllr Mellor outlined initial concepts such as improving the crossing/ access at key points such as Kingsclere and Ashford Hill . There are also plans to re-develop the A34 which could impact traffic in the area. There is anticipated a 10-15% growth in traffic. A consultation is due to start any day which the Parish Council will respond to. The household waste recycling centre remains an issue and a decision on any changes to the system going forward will be made on 29th October. Schools in Hampshire are doing well and have performed approximately 4% above the national average. Cllr Mellor advised he went out on drives with local police teams who have an impressive knowledge of the local area.</p>	
7	<p><b>Planning</b> <b>83/18 Resolved</b> <b>a) 17/03807/FUL-</b> Appeal Ref: APP/H1705/W/18/3204515 Rooksfield Bishops Green Newbury Hampshire RG20 9JJ Erection of 2 no. three bed dwellings with new vehicular access Appeal start date: 24 September 2018  The Parish Council unanimously agreed their original objections still stand and the Clerk will report this to BDBC Planning.</p> <p><b>b) Decisions - None.</b></p>	<b>SJ</b>
8	<p><b>Finance</b> <b>84/18 Resolved</b> <b>Electronic Payments:</b></p>	

	<p>a) Financial Report and Payments</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">S Jones</td> <td style="width: 60%;">Clerk's salary (September)</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: right;">£496.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerks Expenses (September)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (September)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£195.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (September)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£100.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£47.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Premier Grounds September maintenance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£607.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,447.52</td> </tr> </table> <p>Cllr Bayliss handed the Clerk a cheque for £500 which is a donation from the May Faye committee. The Parish Council expressed their thanks, and Cllr Hall will write a letter to thank them. Plans for the use of the monies will be discussed under item 12c below.</p> <p><b>85/18 Resolved</b></p> <p>b) The actual/against budget for the period to the end of September 2018 was noted and agreed. The Clerk has revised the Actual/Against budget to highlight the donated monies but further amendments may be required and will be presented at the next meeting.</p>	S Jones	Clerk's salary (September)	£496.69	S Jones	Clerks Expenses (September)	£0.00	D McClelland	Litter warden – (September)	£195.75	R Wherry	Litter warden - (September)	£100.28		HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ	£47.60		Premier Grounds September maintenance	£607.20		Total	£1,447.52	<p style="text-align: center;">TH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SJ</p>
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9	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p><b>86/18 Resolved:</b></p> <p><b>25/9</b> – Alfred Nortey – proposed works are with contractors, but their backlog is causing the delay.</p> <p><b>26/9 – Hampshire Highways</b> – Licence Fee increases for hanging baskets/lights etc. This was noted</p>																						
10	<p><b>Highways and Rights of Way</b></p> <p><b>87/18 Resolved</b></p> <p>Cllr Dain advised the project to change some stiles to kissing gates is still moving forward.</p> <p>The footbridge at Digweeds was discussed, it was replaced by HCC but is now much narrower than it was originally, and only has 1 handrail. This makes it difficult for older people, children and dog walkers to use, and there have been requests from residents to see if the footbridge can be returned to its previous size. The Clerk will approach HCC and report back.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SJ</p>																					
11	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>a) <u>Cllr Vacancies</u> At present there are still 2 vacancies. This item will remain on the agenda.</p> <p>b) <u>3rd Quarter Risk Assessment</u></p> <p><b>88/18 Resolved</b></p> <p>The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter risk assessment has been circulated by Cllr Dain. The Digweeds bench has been mended and replaced – this will be discussed further under item 12e below. The Clerk will chase SSE again re the power cables growing into the trees</p> <p>c) <u>Allotment update and rental review</u></p> <p><b>89/18 Resolved</b></p> <p>4 new allotments have been rented this year, and there are now only 3 free. The Parish Council are very grateful and want to recognise the work Malcolm Jones does, and has</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SJ</p>																					

	<p>done for many years, in keeping the whole area neat and tidy. It was agreed by all Cllrs to give Malcolm a donation to cover his annual fuel costs for his lawnmower. Cllrs agreed £50 was an appropriate amount and the Clerk will draw a cheque for him, to be signed at the next meeting. This will continue to be reviewed annually at the November meetings. All Cllrs agreed that rental costs of £30 per annum per allotment were appropriate and cover the costs generated by the allotments and on that basis, rental costs should not be increased.</p> <p>d) <u>Village maintenance – posts opposite the school</u>  <b>90/18 Resolved</b>  A resident had raised the wonky post opposite the school which looks unsightly. It was agreed this will be discussed within the works proposed for that area under item 12c below.</p> <p>e) <u>Assets Register update</u>  <b>91/18 Resolved</b>  The assets register was updated to include the soldier silhouettes and was signed off.</p> <p>f) <u>North Wessex Downs management plans response</u>  <b>92/18 Resolved</b>  This lengthy document has been reviewed by Cllr Dain and circulated to all Cllrs. Cllr Dain recommended a response is sent to say the report has been read and is supported by the Council. The clerk will send this response.</p> <p>g) <u>HARAH Update</u>  <b>93/18</b>  Cllrs agreed that this needs to be pursued, the Clerk will chase for results from the survey and details of the next steps to be taken. .</p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p>
12	<p><b>Matters for discussion</b></p> <p>a) <u>War memorial update</u>  Cllr Hall advised he has been in contact with stonemasons with regard to getting the additional name included on the war memorial. They have advised they are unable to add the name at the top or bottom of the memorial, so it will need to be added by using a plaque. This will be in granite as near to the colour of the memorial as possible. Cllrs agreed on raised lead lettering. Cllr Hall will confirm the costs. £216 is left from the donated money; it is anticipated costs will be near this amount and Cllrs were all in agreement that if it is higher than this amount, the works will go ahead, and the Parish Council will pay any extra costs out of the future projects fund.  The wreath has been purchased and will be laid by Malcolm Jones.  A resident very kindly donated daffodil bulbs which have been planted around the war memorial.  The lengthsman has been asked to ensure the area is neat and tidy for the commemoration.</p> <p>b) <u>Pond clearance day</u>  A first aid kit and hand sanitizer need to be purchased, the clerk will buy this. A resident has donated some frankfurters which are gratefully received. Cllr Bayliss will shop for the other food required and cater for 30. Cllr Hall is the Health and Safety officer.</p> <p>c) <u>Telephone Box update and May Fayre monies</u>  The old phone box has been removed from the area. The whole area needs to be weeded and Cllrs discussed the use of weed killer. It was agreed by all Cllrs there are hazards with using chemicals in a public area and so Cllrs Dain and Bayliss confirmed they will speak to the volunteer group and ask if they will be willing to help dig out the weeds.  Plans have been drawn up and the generous donations from the May Fayre committee, along with a resident providing a bench and sleepers, should enable the area to be made very attractive.</p> <p>d) <u>School lighting update</u>  The school has been sent a letter regarding their overnight lighting, but no response has been received so far.</p> <p>e) <u>Digweeds bench update</u>  The bench has been repaired and re-installed. This took time and incurred costs to purchase materials. The Council are grateful to Malcolm Jones for his efforts on this project. A donation of £75 to Malcolm for his time and expenses was agreed unanimously</p>	<p><b>TH</b></p> <p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>MD/JB</b></p>

	<p>and a cheque will be raised to be signed at next months meeting.</p> <p>f) <u>Bishops Green Community Hall update</u>  Cllr Dain attended a meeting last night. There are presently 11 on the committee and it is moving forward.  Cllr Dain advised she had done a walkthrough of the hall looking at the state of repair. There are some maintenance issues which will need to be addressed. They are putting together a business plan but hiring out will be difficult until the plumbing has been improved. Cllr Hall advised the PC are supportive and will offer help if asked in the future.</p> <p>g) <u>Parish Magazine</u>  Content for the Parish Magazine article was agreed. Cllr Bayliss will write the article this month.</p>	<b>SJ</b>
13	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b>  Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at Echinswell Village Hall at 7.30pm.  There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm.</p>	

## ACTIONS:

The Parish Council unanimously agreed their original objections still stand and the Clerk will report this to BDBC Planning.

The Parish Council expressed their thanks to the May Faye committee for their donation, and Cllr Hall will write a letter to thank them.

The Clerk has revised the Actual/Against budget to highlight the donated monies but further amendments may be required and will be presented at the next meeting.

The Clerk will approach HCC and see if they will come back and widen the bridge again.

At present there are still 2 vacancies. This item will remain on the agenda.

The Clerk will chase SSE again re the power cables growing into the trees.

It was agreed to by all Cllrs to give Malcolm a donation to cover his fuel costs for his lawnmower. Cllrs agreed £50 was an appropriate amount and the Clerk will draw a cheque for him, to be signed at the next meeting.

Cllr Dain recommended a response is sent to say the report has been read and is supported by the Council. The clerk will send this response.

Cllrs agreed that HARAH needs to be pursued, the Clerk will chase for results from the survey and details of the next steps to be taken.

Cllr Hall will confirm the costs of getting the name included on the war memorial.

A first aid kit and hand sanitizer need to be purchased for the pond clearance day, the clerk with organise this.

Cllrs Dain and Bayliss confirmed they will speak to the volunteer group and ask if they will be willing to help dig out the weeds in the area where the phone box was.

A donation of £75 to Malcolm for his time and expenses was agreed unanimously and a cheque will be raised to be signed at next months meeting.