

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
 Minutes of meeting held at Bishops Green Village Hall
 Wednesday 13th February 2019, commencing at 19.30 hours
Present: Cllrs Hall (Chair), Dain (Vice Chair), Bayliss and Sparrow.
In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), County Cllr Mellor and 4 members of the public.

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Kearney.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of interest Cllr Hall advised that he knows 2 parties relating to the planning application so would not participate in that discussion nor decision.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising 8/19 Resolved To receive and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th January 2019. Signed by Cllr Dain (Vice Chair) as a true record. Actions arising: The actions have either been addressed or are dealt with under Agenda items below, except pond clearance day which has been confirmed as Sunday 13th October by all parties.</p>	
4	<p>Public participation 3 of the members of the public advised they are present to express their views relating to item 7 so would provide their comments when the council review the planning application.</p>	
5	<p>Borough Councillor's Report Borough Cllr Izett was not present so there was no report.</p>	
6	<p>County Councillor's Report County Cllr Mellor reported that budget for 19/20 will be voted on at next Thursday's (14/02) Full Council meeting. Council Tax will increase at 2.99%. The biggest Issue has been the enormous increase in Adult and Social Care, one example being the additional £47M on salaries due to law changes and wage increase and more care workers. Ensuring HCC has the right infrastructure means that over the next 3 years, some £480M (£194.7 in 2019/20) will be spent on roads in the county. However, there will be a marginal decrease in Highways Maintenance but this should not affect the substantial performance improvement as the Capital Expenditure in 2018/9 on such as Dragon Blasters will realise big efficiency/ productivity improvements. Hampshire has the second lowest County Council Tax in the country - currently just £5 more than financially troubled Somerset. Highways – the past two weeks have been challenging with the heavy snowfall. 5000 tons of gritting was undertaken using on a 24/7 basis 43 trucks. However, best laid plans were hit by the two major lorry jack-knifing incidents on the M3 which lead to virtual gridlock in Basingstoke as traffic was diverted, and there was an incident at Headley on the A339. Fortunately the fast thaw that followed the snow did not realise much flooding at all and this was due to good gully clearance by local council and HCC. Cllr Mellor advised too of the provision of small snow plough attachments that HCC had provided to some farmers in rural areas with some 100 throughout the county assisting in clearing their own accesses. Cllr Mellor was very pleased to see that Ecchinswell PC had participated in the discussions at Kingsclere re the future of the A339 in the light of the planned massive expansions for Sandleford, Greenham Common and even Thatcham adding to the growth of traffic generated by the Manydown project. Whilst the meeting gave those attending an opportunity to air their issues, the next report from HCC Transport Strategy in 6 months will realise some ideas/plans for tackling the problems of estimated volumes of traffic, inability to right turn on the A339, West Berks plans to route traffic not through Newbury etc.</p>	

	Cllr Mellor was very pleased with the meeting being held at Bishops Green and happy to support the efforts of Cllr Dain in making this hall viable.																						
7	<p>Planning 9/19 Resolved</p> <p>a) Planning applications – 19/00163/FUL Watership Down Stud, Cow House Lane, North Sydmonton Replacement stable and hay barn, new foaling building along with new groom’s house and staff accommodation. Cllr Dain took over the Chair for this discussion. The residents present advised they have sent letters of objection to BDBC and during the meeting they circulated photos of the area. Their objections lie with the timescale the information was presented, the documents at BDBC being difficult to access, but mainly in what they feel is the intrusive nature of the planning application on their properties, the concern relating to potential increased traffic on a small country lane, and the change of use of the land. Cllrs reviewed the planning application at length and unanimously agreed that they would not object to the planning application in principle, however they requested clarification or responses to the following issues prior to planning permission being granted by BDBC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Concern is raised relating to the increase in traffic on the lane and in particular horse box movement on a single track lane. There should be no access from the north as the road would not be able to bear it. 2) More work needs to be done and plans modified to address the concerns of neighbours relating to the impact the plans would have on their properties, particularly in relation to the horse walker. 3) Concern re the change of use of the land; residential properties are being built and assurance is needed that these will be utilised by estate workers only. <p>b) Decisions - None.</p>																						
8	<p>Finance 10/19 Resolved Electronic Payments:</p> <p>a) Financial Report and Payments The following payments were approved:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">S Jones</td> <td style="width: 65%;">Clerk’s salary (January)</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">£496.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerks Expenses (January)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (January)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£156.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (January)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£100.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 47.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">BDBC New bin</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£240.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,041.17</td> </tr> </table> <p>11/19 Resolved b) The actual/against budget for the period to the end of January 2019 was noted and agreed.</p>	S Jones	Clerk’s salary (January)	£496.69	S Jones	Clerks Expenses (January)	£ 0.00	D McClelland	Litter warden – (January)	£156.60	R Wherry	Litter warden - (January)	£100.08	HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ		£ 47.80	BDBC New bin		£240.00	Total		£1,041.17	
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9	<p>Correspondence 12/19 Resolved: 20/12 – Letter from former residents re the graveyard. A response will be sent and forwarded on to the vicar. 28/1 – HALC Annual conference invitation, £75 per ticket. It was agreed 2 Cllrs would attend and the Clerk will book another place. 30/1 – Email from resident raising objections to the Woodside Farm planning application. Discussed under item 7 above. 8/2 – findings from preliminary review of Oakfields Road. A map of findings has been circulated and proposals drawn up, this will be distributed to residents by BDBC. 11/2 – lengthsman jobs, 1 whole day is available in March. Tasks for the lengthsman were agreed which all relate to the area near the old telephone box and preparing that area for planting etc with the May Fayre donation (per item 12b below). Cllrs also discussed removing the concrete posts as part of the improvements to this area.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>
10	<p>Highways and Rights of Way 13/19 Resolved Cllr Dain advised she has spoken to a local landowner who is happy for the stile on his land to be changed to a kissing gate, so she is moving forward with that project. A resident in Bishops Green has requested HCC are approached re installing traffic calming measures in Ash Road, this is a police matter and the resident will be advised to approach them directly. Fly-tipping of a sofa has occurred and been reported by Cllr Sparrow, unfortunately as it is partially on private land, BDBC are unable to remove it at present. The road from the Royal Oak to the Sydmonton crossroads will be closed from 10th March for several days. A resident has advised that a tree has fallen over the footpath at Digweeds, Cllrs will ask the volunteer group to remove this.</p>	
11	<p>New Business a) <u>Basingstoke Volunteers report</u> Cllr Bayliss circulated a report from Basingstoke Volunteers detailing how the pond should be managed over the year. It was agreed that she will meet with the Parish maintenance team to go through the information with him. b) <u>Allotment Renewals</u> 14/19 Resolved The clerk reported that all the allotments have renewed; there is now only 1 free. c) <u>May Assembly discussion points to be agreed</u> 15/19 Resolved Cllrs agreed that the May Assembly should include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) police 2) affordable housing and the need for it. 3) Some of the surplus funds being used on a project to make the parish 'prettier'. 4) A local history story if possible. 5) The questionnaire as in previous years. 	<p>SJ/JB</p>
12	<p>Matters for discussion a) <u>Council Vacancies</u> A resident had attended the meeting to see how the council works, she is going to decide whether she wants to join and will respond to the council. Another possible candidate is being considered. b) <u>May Fayre donation and works update</u> The process of clearing the weeds in the area has been finalised and the lengthsman asked to do more jobs to make good the area. Cllr Hall will speak to the members of the May Fayre committee so they can clearly see the plans and how they are progressing. c) <u>Affordable Housing meeting report</u></p>	

	<p>Cllrs Dain and Sparrow have attended a meeting with BDBC, and circulated a report of the meeting. They advised that the meeting was useful but that any request for affordable housing needs to come from the actual people in need. BDBC have advised they feel that the survey did not sufficiently demonstrate the 'type of need' for housing within the parish. Cllr Dain is contacting HARAH again re the data which was collected by them via the surveys, to see if they have information to make it easier to identify the type of need.</p> <p>Cllrs Dain, Hall and Sparrow will then review the information provided to assess the process and see if there is any benefit in pursuing this.</p> <p>d) <u>S106 monies – allotments</u> Cllr Bayliss advised the allotments need some black plastic for the ground, and a long pole electric head-trimmer. A Bosch version has been quoted at £150. Also fencing between the allotments and the play park needs to be replaced. The clerk will advise BDBC accordingly.</p> <p>e) <u>EVH Zip wire/playpark update</u> The parish council have confirmed they will contribute to the fixing of the zip wire, but no invoice has been received yet. Cllrs are awaiting a response from EVH Committee to form a joint group to investigate possible ways forward for maintaining the play park.</p> <p>f) <u>Website update</u> The clerk advised that due to the change of year and limited expertise with the website, it was once again out of date for a short time. It has now been rectified and is once again up to date.</p> <p>g) <u>School lighting update</u> No response has been received regarding this so Cllr Hall has advised he will go and visit the school.</p> <p>h) <u>Oakfields Close lighting update</u> No response has been received from Vivid yet regarding switching off the street lights overnight. The clerk will chase.</p> <p>i) <u>Bishops Green Community Association update</u> Cllr Dain reported that the number of children at the pre-school has increased. More bookings are being received and Cllr Kearney is also helping so it is all looking positive.</p> <p>j) <u>Parish Magazine</u> Content for the Parish Magazine article was agreed. Cllr Hall will write the article this month.</p>	<p>MD</p> <p>MD/MS/TH</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>TH</p>
13	<p>Date of next meeting Wednesday 13th March 2019 at Ecchinswell Village Hall at 7.30pm. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm.</p>	

ACTIONS:

HALC Annual conference invitation, £75 per ticket. It was agreed 2 Cllrs would attend and the Clerk will book another place.

Cllr Bayliss circulated a report from Basingstoke Volunteers detailing how the pond should be managed over the year. It was agreed that she will meet with the lengthsman to go through the information with him.

Cllr Dain is contacting HARAHA again re the data which was collected by them via the surveys, to see if they have information to make it easier to identify the need.

Cllrs Dain and Sparrow will review the HARAHA information provided to assess the process and see if there is any benefit in pursuing.

Cllr Bayliss advised the allotments need some black plastic for the ground, and a long pole electric head-trimmer. A Bosch version has been quoted at £150. Also fencing between the allotments and the play park needs to be replaced. The clerk will advise BDBC accordingly.

No response has been received regarding the lighting, so Cllr Hall has advised he will go and visit the school.