



EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN

Locum Clerk of the Council: Joanna Cadman

Tel: 01483 268627

email: clerk.epc@btinternet.com

MINUTES OF THE EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.
held at 7.45 pm on MONDAY 18th February 2019 at the EYSC

Attendance: Parish Councillors: Mike Turner (chair), Elaine Benson, Mike Benoy, Ian Davis, Tom Fawcett, Julie Francis, Mike White.

County Cllr A Povey

4 members of the public

In attendance: The Locum Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

019 (2019) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Parish Councillor Val Henry

020 (2019) **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.** Cllr White declared a personal interest I agenda item 028 (2019) Bowls Club.

021 (2019) **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on 21st January 2019m Members resolved to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting and they were signed by the chairman.

022 (2019) **CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE:**

Financial councillors and formation of finance committee: following the death of Richard Cleaves, who had always been in control of finances, it was now necessary to set up a finance committee. The Clerk will draw up terms of reference and the members will be agreed at the March full council meeting.

23 (2019) **ADJOURNMENT:**

1. Cllr Povey reported as follows:

i. Recycling centre: the Cranleigh centre has received a temporary reprieve. a task group has been set up to look at all recycling centres, Cllr Povey sits on that committee and asked for input on how to cut the costs of recycling centres, or to make them better used. Defra has started a consultation on waste and intend to require all authorities to carry out food waste collections, and to make garden waste a free collection.

Cllr Turner believed that one of the reasons footfall is low is because it is inefficient. Cllr Povey was of the view that the Cranleigh centre was too small for investment, but noted the argument that the road to the nearest centre, if Cranleigh is closed, is very unsuitable for more traffic.

Cllr Povey advised that the savings gained by closing Cranleigh would be in the region of £150,000 pa. It was noted that, although Cranleigh may less used at present, there will shortly be 6,000 new houses in the area.

The question of charging for use of the centre was discussed and noted, although it is currently illegal to charge for household waste.

A member of the public expressed concern about a potential increase in fly tipping.

ii. A new director of childrens services has been appointed, a person who is well respected in the country for his expertise.

iii. SCC will move out of County Hall, most probably to the centre of Woking. The new SCC building will be smaller, as more employees now 'hot desk' and work partly from home or off site.

iv. Highways: there will be a small allocation of money for Waverley over the new financial year - capital rather than revenue, which will rule out some smaller maintenance. Potholes are a separate issue. There will be a small allocation of money for ditch work.

v. CIL money will be available from April/May of this year. Over the next two years, £8m a year will come into WBC for infrastructure projects. Community involvement needs to be invited in decisions on how it is spent.

2. A resident commented on the road between Ewhurst Green and Somersbury Lane: some repairs have been done, not very well, but there are still more that need to be done.
3. A resident made a statement regarding the Neighbourhood Plan: a letter had been sent to the Steering group setting out comments made by residents, and the Council's comments. Assurances were sought that these would be taken into account. Assurances were also sought that discussions would be more public as there was still a feeling of secrecy around the Neighbourhood Plan, which should be a community led initiative. Cllr Davis confirmed that comments had gone to the Steering Group, who have been working on them. It would be possible to move to the Regulation 14 stage very shortly
4. Mrs Allen was concerned that the update on the NP in the Newsletter referred to the Regulation 14 village referendum. She pointed out that this is not the referendum stage, but a consultation. After the draft plan has been amended and submitted to WBC, the next move will be to Regulation 16, the formal examination and referendum.
In her view, the draft plan had been kept secret from the public, against all official guidance. She also considered that site assessments had not followed guidance as results should have been shared with the public, either through a leaflet drop, a survey or a public meeting.
Cllr Turner apologised for referring to a referendum rather than a consultation, which was an error, and a correction will be published in the next village bulletin.
5. Lighting: Cllr Turner advised that, in December, a resident had been hit by a car when crossing the road from the Baptist church, due to poor lighting. Cllr White said that a visitor to the Glebe had tripped over the kerb, again due to lack of lighting. Cllr Povey would take these comments back to SCC.
6. Cllr Turner reported that Thames Water repair trucks, driving through the Glebe to access Mapledrakes road, had run over the pavement near the Glebe centre, which is now breaking up. Cllr Povey would refer this back to SCC.

024(2019) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE:** members noted the observations recorded in the minutes of the meetings held on the 5th February. The Chairman advised that Cllr Henry wished to step down as chair of the planning Committee from the beginning of the new parish council year and he asked Cllr Davis if he would take the chair, to which Cllr Davis agreed.

025 (2019) **RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS** for January and monthly budget against expenditure statement. Members resolved to note and agree the financial reports.

The Chairman advised that cash for use of the tennis courts has historically been left at Richard Cleaves' house. He was pleased to report that Jane Cleaves was prepared to continue to collect this on behalf of the Parish Council.

Bowls Club: Cllr White reminded members that the Parish Council had approved the cost of the double glazing, but the quotation had been withdrawn due to the additional cost of the aluminium door. The new quotation was for a total of £4,903, an additional £800. This was approved by all present.

026 (2019) **REPORTS:**

Julie Francis - Ground Maintenance: Cllr Francis asked for confirmation that contracts had been renewed, which was given by the chairman and clerk, noting that no changes had been requested this year, due to the change of personnel.

Val Dixon Henry – Planning: no report had been received.

Elaine Benson – Community: the Annual Parish meeting deferred to agenda item 033(2019).

Mike Turner – Neighbourhood Plan, Website, Communications and Highways:

All items covered elsewhere on the agenda, apart from the website, which continued to be populated.

Tom Fawcett – Highways:

- i. Footpath onto road at the end of the school playing field: this is very dangerous, as the steps come straight onto the road, at a steep angle. Cllr Povey agreed to refer this to Countryside Access at SCC.
- ii. VAS: the Parish Council are seeking one that has automatic number plate recognition, at a cost of £5,000, slightly less than estimated. It will have additional features, such as remote access. The insurance claim for the stolen VAS will cover the majority of this cost.

Mike Benoy – Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Benoy had no further comments to add.

Mike White – Community Buildings: Cllr White is overseeing routine maintenance, but no new work will be undertaken until the new financial year. He had circulated to all members the new price list for hirings, pointing out that fixed prices make it possible to advertise the facilities. He suggested that a small promotional leaflet should be considered, as well as a greater presence on the parish council website.

Cllr White was thanked for all his work on the Glebe building in particular.

Cllr White will organise a meeting of the village hall users shortly.

Cllr White will liaise with the football club over the proposed net behind the goal.

Cllr *Davies:* currently no portfolio.

027 (2019) **SURREY HILLS HIGHWAYS WORKING GROUP**

Members agreed that some good ideas for Ewhurst's particular traffic situation had emerged from this report, particularly those put forward by Holmbury St Mary. Colin Davis, the Surrey Hills Traffic Advisor, had visited Ewhurst and had made some suggestions on traffic calming. Members agreed that the Chairman would ask Mr Davis for a report and members were requested to put forward ideas to feed into this. Cllr Povey agreed to support this.

Cllr Davis suggested that a good use of future CIL money might be for traffic calming measures.

028 (2019) **BOWLS CLUB UPDATE ON LEASE RENEWAL**

The clerk advised that the Bowls Club is insured by the Parish Council. She had asked the solicitor to issue a new draft lease, but this had not yet been received. Deferred to March meeting

029 (2019) **GLEBE CENTRE – ACTION ON INSULATION**

The Glebe lease has now been completed.

Cllr White has asked the contractor to split the cost of installing the proposed roof insulation between labour and materials, as the contractor is not VAT registered and the Parish Council can claim back the VAT if it purchases the materials.

Members agreed that the roof insulation should be installed.

030 (2019) **ALLOTMENT ROAD**

The borough dustcart had created significant damage to the allotment access road, and although accepting responsibility the road had not been properly repaired. Cllr Henry is seeking redress. Members noted that the borough council are now using a smaller vehicle to service this road.

Deferred to April meeting

031 (2019) **CHURCH RAILINGS**

Cllr White was asked to look at what is required.

Deferred to March meeting

032(2019) **NEW CLERK RECRUITMENT:** It was agreed that this council is in need of an experienced clerk. The latest applicant had a great deal of potential for the future, once she had received training and experience at a different level. Trevor Leggo had advised the Chairman that the salary would need to be more attractive to invite applications from suitable candidates. He recommended an hourly rate of no less than between £14, £16 and £20, depending on experience. The chairman confirmed that the budget allowed for an increase in salary for the clerk.

The Chairman recommended that he would ask SSALC to re-advertise the post with a better salary package, specifying a negotiable salary of up to £20 per hour. This was seconded by Cllr White, with all in agreement.

033 (2019) **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING:** Plans to date:

- Cllr Turner to give a brief overview of the year and a few words about Cllr Richard Cleaves.
- WBC have advised of the per-election purdah commencing 26th March. The choice of speakers would have to be carefully considered.
- Surrey Air Ambulance will speak. It was agreed that they should be able to put collection boxes out at the end of the hall.
- Cllr Benson hoped for a second speaker from WBC to talk about CAB. The clerk will investigate.
- The Council owned PA system in the hall was discussed. It is currently missing, but once it is located it will be brought back to the EYSC for safe keeping. The parish council now has an additional PA system in the form of the portable equipment purchased for the EYSC.

034 (2019) **PARISH BUSINESS**

Cllr White advised that he had attended the Councillors Briefing at WBC and had found it helpful

035 (2019) **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING** of the Parish Council, 19th March 2019

No further matters were raised. **Members were asked to note the change of day from the Monday to the following day, Tuesday 19th**

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.