



+ **EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL**
WITH **ELLENS GREEN**

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EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

Minutes of the **Meeting** of the Parish Council held at

8.00 pm on **Monday 19th June 2023**

At The EYSC

Due to the over-run of the planning meeting, the meeting commenced at 20.20.

Present: Cllr V Henry (in the chair), Cllrs J Bloomfield, T Bloomfield, J Lilley, M Higgins,
L Tingley, M White

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

- 085(2023) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** were received from Cllr Clowes and Cllr Mitchell. (Cllr Mitchell attended later in the meeting).
Apologies had also been received from County Cllr L Townsend.
- 086 (2023) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none were made.
- 087 (2023) **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 15th May 2023:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Henry, Seconded by Cllr Lilley, all in favour.
- 088 (2023) **MATTERS ARISING**
067 (2023)a: Bowls Club re-wiring: The Clerk had requested clarification but the officer was currently away.
076 (2023): Coronation mugs: visits will be made to the School and Rainbows End in the coming month.
- 089 (2023) **ADJOURNMENT:** - During the adjournment members of the public may speak on matters of concern
No members of the public were present.
- 090 (2023) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE :**
- a) **Appendix 2 : Minutes of planning meeting held 15th May:** Cllr Henry reported that she was still awaiting an update from WBC on the action they intended to take against the developers of Bostocks Close with regard to the statutory requirement to produce a drainage plan, which had not been done.
 - b) **Planning update on meeting held 19th June**
 - i. *Land west of Pennings:* refused
 - ii. *12 Larkfield:* granted.
 - iii. *High Broom:* withdrawn
 - iv. *Hurtwood House:* granted
 - v. *Land at Long Meadows Barn:* refused.
- 091(2023) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**
- a) **Internal Audit Report 2021/22.** Members reviewed and discussed the internal report, and received a report from the Clerk on advisory matters, as follows:
 - i. *Email addresses:* to be used by all councillors: this is in progress.
 - ii. *Accessibility arrangements for website:* this is being progressed with the new website.
 - iii. *Supporting documentation with agenda:* as from this meeting, supporting documentation will be posted with the agenda on the website
 - iv. *General Power of Competence:* As 2/3rd of the Council were elected, the council can now adopt this power, which gives more flexibility to its spending decisions. The Clerk will progress.
 - v. *Income:* currently annual charges are agreed with the budget, but will be stated separately dur-

ing the next budget process.

vi. *Payroll*: copy payroll information to be kept separately from main expenditure documents.
A vote of thanks was recorded to the Clerk for an excellent report.

b) Annual Governance Statement: members considered and responded to the statements as set out, in conjunction with the internal Auditors report.

c) Accounting statements 2022/23: were approved in conjunction with the Internal Auditors report.

d) expenditure for May 2023 of £8022.69 was noted and approved

e) cost centre report to end May 2023 was noted and approved.

f) bank reconciliation statement to end May 2023: for current and savings account was noted.

g) Financial Risk Assessment members adopted the Financial Risk assessment for the coming year.

h) Coronation concert stage: the Clerk reported that a company had been engaged to supply a stage at a cost of £900. The stage was erected in the morning when it was raining and it continued to rain all day. The stage covering leaked from the beginning but the contractor had given no indication that this would be the case. For health and safety reasons, not least the electricians on stage, it was abandoned and the concert held from the balcony of the EYSC. Following a letter written on the Council's behalf by Cllr Mitchell, the company agreed to accept £450 as full and final payment.
Members thanked Cllr Mitchell and the Clerk for resolving this and agreed that, as the balcony had worked well, it should be used in future for this purpose.

092 (2023) **COMMUNICATIONS:** Cllr Clowes has not been able to pursue this over the last month.

Website: the Clerk asked all members who had not yet done so to look at the new website and give her their comments, so that it could be up and running within the month.

Email addresses: Mr Bevan was not able to attend this meeting as originally planned, due to a working trip abroad, but will attend the July meeting to assist members to set up their email addresses.

093 (2023) **CEMETERY:** The Clerk had received a very advantageous price for this work, of £350, and it had been agreed to progress with this. She understood that the work would be carried out in the next few days.

094 (2023) **EWHURST GREEN POND:** Members received the investigative report and a summary of the action taken and planned, as follows:

Two operatives attended, one from a drainage company and the other representing WBC. A camera was used to investigate the outflow pipe and its direction and it was established that the pipe runs into the ditch close to the cricket pavilion. There is some damage to this pipe near to the pond.

WBC propose to replace the damaged length of pipe, and to install a perforated pipe parallel to the pond to take the water seeping from the pond onto the outfield. The cause of the seepage is not known, but is likely to be damage to the pond wall, possibly caused by a root.

Cllr J Bloomfield is concerned that this remedy may cause the pond to empty more quickly and would like this monitored and, if possible, an expert pond company to give advice.

095 (2023) **NOTICEBOARDS:** members considered potential designs and prices to replace the noticeboard on the village hall and the noticeboard on the Green.

Deferred to the July meeting for more consideration.

096 (2023) **COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION:** The Commission have identified 5 war graves in the churchyard and wish to put up 3 plaques to advise the public of their existence: one on the lych gate, one on the gate to the Old Rectory and one on the Parish noticeboard next to the footpath from the car park.
Members **agreed** to allow a plaque on the noticeboard.

097 (2023) **PARISH UPDATE FROM CLERK**

a) Carnival: The Clerk had met with the carnival organisers and the football club to agree on a strategy in the event of rain. The following was agreed:

i. no rain, and the carnival would continue as normal, using all of the recreation ground

- ii. light but persistent rain, making the ground softer than now, the carnival would continue as normal but all cars will be parked at the perimeter of the field and the footballers will assist stallholders in bringing their stock to their pitches.
- iii. Heavy rain and the carnival will be confined to the upper recreation ground, curtailing the number of stalls, but keeping the food outlets and childrens entertainment where possible. The marquee for the evening concert will be relocated from the lower to the upper recreation ground.
- iv. The concert will continue whatever the weather conditions, as it is the main source of income for the carnival.

Cllr Bloomfield was concerned about the disposal of rubbish and recycling on the day and offered to take charge of disposal points. Cllr Higgins would investigate possibilities.

- b) *Dog glove dispenser at the Glebe:* the Clerk requested agreement to remove this, as it is used as a rubbish receptacle, including for filled dog gloves. This was agreed.
- c) *Baby grand piano:* the Clerk was pleased to report that the Council have been given a baby grand piano, which will be situated at the Glebe Centre. The cost of moving it there will be £340.00.

098 (2023) **PARISH BUSINESS:** other matters to be noted or included on a future agenda

- a) *Potholes in Bowls Club car park:* Cllr White will obtain quotes for temporary filling of the potholes and discuss with the Clerk.
- b) *Bowls Club fence:* Cllr White will obtain quotes to replace the fence and discuss with the Clerk.
- c) *Hall car park litter bin:* Cllr Tingley advised that this is often very full.
- d) *Tennis Courts:* Cllr T Bloomfield offered to take on responsibility for the tennis courts and this was gratefully accepted.
- e) *Phone box on Green:* Cllr Mitchell confirmed that he and the Clerk are dealing with this.

099 (2023) **NEXT FULL MEETING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL: Annual Meeting: Monday 17th July: Ellens Green Memorial Hall. 8pm**
To be preceded by a Planning Meeting at 7.30 pm
And followed by refreshments.

The meeting closed at 21.20