



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 17th July 2023**

At Ellens Green Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr N Clowes (in the chair), Cllrs J Bloomfield, T Bloomfield, V Henry, M Higgins, J Mitchell, L Tingley, M White
County Cllr L Townsend
8 members of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

100(2023) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr J Lilley

101 (2023) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** Cllr White declared a non-pecuniary interest in 103 (2023) 067 (2023)a: Bowls Club re-wiring.

102 (2023) **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19th June 2023:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting after an addition to item 097 (2023) *Carnival:* to include: 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.

103 (2023) **MATTERS ARISING**

067 (2023)a: Bowls Club re-wiring: the Clerk advised that it was not possible to amend the designation of the S106 money to pay for new heating at the Bowls Club. If an application was made to change the designation, the funding could be lost. It was agreed to investigate how best to use the available funds within the scope of re-wiring and lighting, as it was acknowledged that a high proportion of the current installation was old.

076 (2023): Coronation mugs: mugs have been given to the children at the Infant school, at a specially arranged assembly on the 6th July. The Rainbows End children will receive theirs on the 18th July.

098 (2023)b: dog glove dispenser: the dispenser at the Glebe has been removed

098 (2023)c: Baby Grand Piano: this is now in place at the Glebe Centre

099 (2023) Phone box on Green: Cllr Mitchell had talked to his contact at the Sunday Times, who was happy to help again. Currently he and the Clerk were collating the history of the incident and subsequent action by BT. Cllr J Bloomfield suggested involving WBC, who should be advised of any phone box removals, as this box contained a working phone.

104 (2023) **ADJOURNMENT:** - During the adjournment members of the public may speak on matters of concern

- a) *Baby grand piano:* in response to a question by a resident, the Clerk confirmed that the piano had been a gift to the Parish Council, that everyone was welcome to play it but not to move it or place objects on it, and that the old piano would be removed.
- b) *Box Broadband at the Glebe:* Cllr Higgins advised that the delay to installing broadband at the Glebe was caused by blocked ducts owned by BT, who were not prepared to take any action. It seemed that this had now been resolved, Cllr Higgins will pursue.
- c) *Allotment agreement:* A resident asked for clarification of this agenda item. Cllr Mitchell explained that the agreement needed updating.

Cllr Townsend:

- a) *Build out on the Green:* Cllr Townsend had asked for 'new road layout' signs and these had been installed, but were not very prominent.
- b) *Verge at Ewhurst Green:* SCC are taking legal action against the developers of Bostocks Close, but Cllr Townsend had heard nothing recently.
- c) *Shere Road:* is in a poor state. It is now on Horizon's list for re-surfacing in the next financial year.
- d) *S106 money from developments:* is still awaited.
- e) *Speed through the village:* Cllr Townsend had been contacted by 8 residents about speed through the village. SCC are now considering reducing speed through towns and villages to 20mph. Cllr T Bloomfield advised that today he and the Clerk had discussed this and intended to propose a motion in support of this at the September meeting.
- f) *Rural safety review:* the review had agreed to reduce the speed on a number of Surrey Roads, with that on Shere Road being reduced to 30mph. Full details of the roads affected will be sent to the Clerk.
- g) *Re-surfacing of road from Ellens Green to Cranleigh:* would happen in the second half of this year.

105 (2023) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE :**

- a) *Minutes of planning meeting held 19th June:* Cllr Henry gave an update on determined applications, included in the minutes of the meeting held earlier in the evening.
- b) *Planning update on meeting held 17th July:* Cllr Henry summarised the discussions regarding the applications on the agenda, included in the minutes of the meeting.
- c) *Maple Stud:* Cllr Henry asked our Borough Cllr, Cllr Higgins, to call in this application to committee.

106 (2023) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- a) Expenditure for June 2023: the expenditure for the period of £15, 983.55 was noted and agreed
- b) Cost centre report to end June 2023: noted.
- c) Bank reconciliation statement to end June 2023: noted.

107 (2023) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Most councillors now have their new Parish Council email address.
- The new website is nearing completion and will be up and running shortly.
- Facebook – the Parish Council Facebook page, created by Cllr Higgins, will be promoted through the website, enabling people to sign up to receive Parish Council information.

108 (2023) **TENNIS COURTS:**

At present no money is being collected for use of the tennis courts. There used to be an honesty box at the past Chairman's house at the end of Broomers Lane, which ceased when Covid started and has not been re-introduced, as the house has changed hands.

Members considered the following proposals:

- Accept that this is a free facility for all. This clearly will incentivize the casual player, particularly from the younger generation. However the downside is that the council will not receive any income to offset maintenance costs, or build up any hypothecated reserves towards future resurfacing.
- Introduce a proper payments system with disadvantages and benefits opposite to the aforementioned. This could take the form of either payments, keys with a deposit etc via the village shop or a digital system with an App whereby in return for payment the user is given a one off code to open a combination lock.

A third option was considered, of offering the facility free of charge, but with an honesty box at the court so that players could make a contribution if they wished. This was agreed to be the preferred option, Proposed by Cllr Clowes, Seconded by Cllr Higgins, all in favour.

Members also discussed the possibility of raising funds for future maintenance by letting the courts for tennis lessons.

Cllr T Bloomfield advised that the courts are in good condition, but that the fencing needs re-tensioning, a job that can be done by our handyman. The courts must also be kept clear of leaves in the autumn, as they tend to break down the surface.

109 (2023) **NOTICEBOARDS:**

Members reviewed the options offered by three companies and agreed to purchase 3 oak notice boards from Earth Anchors, one to be wall mounted for the village hall, and two on posts for the Green and the Memorial Hall at Ellens Green. The following criteria was agreed:

- i. Each board would have a header with the legend: Ewhurst and Ellens Green Parish Council. Font to be agreed.
- ii. Each board would be capable of displaying 8 x A4 sheets.
- iii. The backing would take drawing pins, not magnets.

The Clerk will seek a new quotation from Earth Anchors to take account of the above, to be agreed outside meeting and ratified at the next meeting.

Members noted the current costing of £845 per board on posts (taking 4 x A4) and £1059 for the wall mounted board (taking 8 x A4), with an additional £60 per board for black in-fill for sign writing. Delivery is £88.00.

110 (2023) **CARNIVAL:**

The Clerk advised that the Carnival committee would welcome Marshalls and Programme sellers and members were happy to take on these roles. The Clerk will ask the committee for a rota and discuss with members.

In previous years, the Parish Council has given a grant to the Carnival Committee of £100 for the raffle and £100 for cleaning the toilets in the EYSC. Members agreed to give this grant again this year.

111 (2023) **ALLOTMENTS:**

The Clerk had circulated a proposed addition to the allotment agreement, requiring allotment holders to keep their plots in good order or risk losing them. Cllr Mitchell proposed re-writing the agreement which was dated, having been used for some years now, and had anomalies. This was agreed.

112 (2023) **PARISH UPDATE FROM CLERK**

Speedwatch: the Clerk advised that Ewhurst Speedwatch were looking for new volunteers. It was agreed to suggest that this be advertised through the ebulletin and the website.

113 (2023) **PARISH BUSINESS:** other matters to be noted or included on a future agenda

- a) *Planning meeting in August:* a meeting will be called if it is necessary, the Clerk and the Chairman of planning will liaise.
- b) *Box broadband:* Cllr Mitchell advised that he is in discussion with Box about the Parish Council's current contract and will report further in September.
- c) *Glebe pavement:* Cllr J Bloomfield reported that the pavement is damaged outside the Glebe centre. Cllr Townsend advised that she had reported this on a number of occasions.
- d) *Carnival recycling:* Cllr J Bloomfield wishes to pursue this. Cllr White will obtain 4 dustbins for this purpose.

114 (2023) **NEXT FULL MEETING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL: Annual Meeting: Monday 18th September 2023 at the EYSC
To be preceded by a Planning Meeting at 7.30 pm**

115 (2023) **EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Motion: "In accordance with the provisions of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted: staffing matters

The meeting closed at 21.22.