



+ **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 to be held at

8.00 pm on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**At the EYSC**

**Present:** Cllr N Clowes (in the chair) Cllrs J Bloomsfield, V Henry, M Higgins, J Lilley, J Mitchell,  
L Tingley, M White  
County Cllr L Townsend  
Members of the public  
**In attendance** The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

134(2023) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr T Bloomfield

135 (2023) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none were made

136 (2023) **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

137 (2023) **MATTERS ARISING**

*120(2023)a: acoustics in the Centre:* with thanks to Cllr Clowes and to Cllr Higgins for transporting them, 3 acoustic screens have been installed in the Glebe. This item was deferred to the adjournment.

*120(2023)c: Field next to Pennings, Plough Lane:* a mobile home has been added to the site. Cllr Higgins has raised this apparent breach with WBC. This item was deferred to the adjournment.

*120(2023)f: Water leak on the Green:* with the permission of the Countryside Ranger, the area was excavated and evidence found that the heavy leak emanates from a mains water pipe. Thames Water have been advised yet again but still have taken no action.

*132(2023)Defibrillators:* a map has been posted on the noticeboard advising of the whereabouts of defibrillators. The Ellens Green noticeboard is signed from the road.

*129(2023) Footpath 512:* Members were very pleased to note that the clearing of this footpath and the spreading of scalping will be carried out by Sayers Croft volunteers during half term week at the end of October.

138 (2023) **ADJOURNMENT:** - During the adjournment members of the public may speak on matters of concern

a) *Field next to Pennings:* Cllr Higgins advised that the owner had told him that the mobile home installed on the site was for the upkeep of animals. He is chasing WBC for a response. A resident reminded members that a number of applications for various size of house on this property had been rejected by WBC. 4 years ago the current owner had felled a number of trees and removed hedges and then put in an application for a property which was refused by WBC and again at appeal. An application for hard standing and a container to enable upkeep of sheep had also been refused. Water and electricity have been installed in the field, as well as two entrances and a drive across the verge. WBC enforcement officer will be asked to visit this property and to take appropriate action.

b) *The Glebe:* residents thanked the parish council for the acoustic screens, which have helped the noise, but asked for more to be done as the elderly, who value the Wednesday coffee morning so much, are still struggling. A Glebe users meeting will be held shortly to discuss next steps, but residents were reminded that the lease is up for renewal next year and a decision has to be made the future of the Glebe.

- c) *Glebe surrounds*: it was noted that WBC, who are responsible for the grassland and trees around the Glebe, are not keeping them in good order. In addition, the lights around the Glebe are not all working, which is dangerous for the elderly. It was noted that these are also WBC's responsibility.
- d) *Defibrillator training*: Cllr White advised that Weinerberger had offered free defibrillator training.
- e) Cllr Townsend reported as follows:
  - i. Bostocks Close: drains and verges: there had been no response from the developers.
  - ii. 20 is plenty: the rural road review has taken place and the proposed speed limit reductions will be implemented, starting at the end of the year. The government's lack of support for 20mph speed zones will have an as yet unknown effect on plans in this respect, but it is clear that Ewhurst will need traffic calming devices to implement a 20mph zone. Cllr Townsend and the Clerk had met with Highways officers on a number of occasions and reviewed a number of proposals, none of which it would be possible to introduce for various reasons, including sight lines.
  - iii. Smithwood Common: the 5 month closure from the end of October is due to a need to install new pipes to increase the water supply in this area.
  - iv. Review of Local Plan: parish councils are invited to be involved.
- f) *Planning*: a resident drew members attention to Section 10 of the Neighbourhood Plan, where the Council commits to ensuring that the NP policies are considered with reference to planning applications. She did not consider that this was happening at present, and referred to the application for self build homes near Sayers Croft, where the parish council's objection did not refer the NP, when it might usefully have done so.

139 (2023) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE :**

- a) *Minutes of planning meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> September*: were noted and approved.
- b) *Planning update on meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> October*:
  - i. *Land at Pennings*: more than 70 objections had been received at WBC
  - ii. *PRA 01917*: refused as not a GPDO.
  - iii. *Lake House*: refused
  - iv. *Coophurst Farm*: refused
  - v. *Garlands*: granted
  - vi. *Downhurst Road, detached dwelling*: refused.

140 (2023) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- a) expenditure for Sept 2023 of £8,335.64 was noted and approved.
- b) cost centre report to end Sept 2023: noted and approved.
- c) bank reconciliation statement to end Sept 2023: noted and approved
- d) Interim audit: has been arranged for 28<sup>th</sup> November

141 (2023) **ALLOTMENTS:**

The new agreement and regulations have been sent to all allotment holders bar two, who have not responded to the Clerk's email asking for confirmation of the address for service. The Clerk advised that she would attempt to contact them again and if she still received no reply would advised them that she would take back the allotments for another user.

142 (2023) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

- i. *Website*: a meeting had been held between the webmaster, the Clerk and the resident who is assisting with updates and a number of improvements and updates have been made. All village groups and societies have been asked if they would like a link to their website and/or a few words on the Society and a number have welcomed this. The Clerk plans to put current news on the home page and has asked societies to let her know if they would like an event advertised.
- ii. *Facebook*: Cllr Higgins is taking this forward.
- iii. *Log in protocol*: Cllr Mitchell will draw this up.
- iv. *Box broadband contract*: Members gave their permission for the contract to be signed by the Clerk.

143 (2023) **EWHURST PLAYERS 50th Anniversary 2024**

- a) members considered the request to allow the Players free use of the hall for their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration party: agreed.
- b) Members considered the Players request for a concession on hall hire fees for their prestigious production of *Beauty and the Beast* and agreed to waive the cost of hiring the hall for the 8 performance nights. Proposed by Cllr Tingley, Seconded by Cllr J Bloomfield, all in favour. The Players would be asked to acknowledge the Council's gift in their programme.

144 (2023) **TENNIS COURTS**

- a) The Clerk advised that she would meet with a representative from Turners, who serviced the security equipment, who would advise on new equipment and she will report at the November meeting.
- b) Data protection: Cllr Mitchell had sent the Clerk a data protection check list and it was agreed that she would maintain this and send the findings to Cllrs Higgins and Mitchell on a quarterly basis for review.

145 (2023) **PARISH UPDATE FROM CLERK**

The Clerk had nothing further to report.

146 (2023) **PARISH BUSINESS:** other matters to be noted or included on a future agendaEwhuts

- a) *Monitoring of Ewhurst Green:* Cllr J Bloomfield and the Clerk will undertake a site meeting to discuss.
- b) *Ewhurst Green phone box:* members noted that BT had agreed that the phone box should not have been removed without consultation, and it would be replaced with a modern glass one. They had also offered to try and source a K6 phone box, but would not install phone equipment in this. Members agreed that a traditional K6 phone box with no phone, to be used to house a defibrillator, was the only option and that a glass box would be out of keeping on the Green. It was therefore **agreed** to request a traditional phone box from BT and to adopt it once it was installed. Thanks were recorded to Jill Iles from the Sunday Times for her help in progressing this.
- c) *Phone box on Ellens Green:* the phone box had been removed some time ago, without consultation. Cllr White would try to source a K6 box for this site.
- d) *Bowls Club car park:* this is in a very poor state of repair. It was noted that it had scored highly in the CIL scoring exercise undertaken earlier in the year.
- e) *80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D Day:* 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. It was agreed to observe this anniversary by considering refurbishing the memorial plaque on the recreation ground.

147 (2023) **NEXT FULL MEETING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at the EYSC  
To be preceded by a Planning Meeting at 7.30 pm**

The meeting closed at 22.04.