



+ **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 **TUESDAY 19th September 2023**

At the GLEBE CENTRE

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

116(2023) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr N Clowes

117 (2023) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none were made

118 (2023) **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 17th July 2023** were agreed after an amendment to item 104(2023) Box Broadband: Cllr Higgins advised concerning the delay to installing broadband to the Glebe, not Cllr Mitchell. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

119 (2023) **MATTERS ARISING**

067 (2023)a: Bowls Club re-wiring: members to receive a report from the Clerk: a quotation has been supplied which deals with the matter of the heating through the re-wiring. She will now apply for the CIL for this project.

099 (2023) Phone box on Green: members to receive a report: thanks to Jill Iles at the Sunday Times, and accepting that Ofcom regulations require a consultation before a phone box is removed, BT have agreed to replace the phone box, but will only supply a new glass one. Cllr Higgins proposes to object to this, as a new box would not be in keeping with the village and a conservation area, and this was agreed.

109 (2023) noticeboards: a new quotation was sought from Earth Anchors as agreed at the previous meeting and agreed out of meeting. Members ratified this agreement, with a total cost of £3017.00. Proposed by Cllr Henry, Seconded by Cllr Lilley, all in favour.

110 (2023) Carnival: Cllr J Bloomfield collected 2 wheely bins of recycled material but the initiative would need policing on another occasion, as there was a lot of contamination. There was also a lot of food waste and a facility needs to be found to deal with this on another occasion.

The Clerk reported that the day had gone well, despite the very poor weather, and there had been a steady stream of attendees and a good selection of stalls and food outlets. She had not yet been advised of the total amount raised. Thanks was recorded to Hannah and the carnival committee, for all their incredibly hard work to enable this lovely community day.

120 (2023) **ADJOURNMENT:** - During the adjournment members of the public may speak on matters of concern

- a) *Acoustics in the Glebe Centre:* the acoustics in the centre are particularly bad at the Wednesday coffee morning. The Parish Council were asked to take steps to address this problem.
- b) *Speed limits:* the speed limit on the Green should be seriously reduced from 40mph, which is dangerous to all users of the road.
- c) *Field next to Pennings, Plough Lane:* a second gate has been erected into the field. Cllrs J Bloomfield and V Henry will investigate.
- d) *Stile on Ockley Road:* this has rotted.
- e) *Bridge on footpath off Plough Lane:* a central plank has broken.
- f) *Water leak on Green:* this has been reported to Thames Water on a number of occasions, but they say

there is none. The Clerk will ask the Countryside Ranger for his help and also get the grass cut in this area, as the contractor was unable to do so, due to the wetness of the ground. Cllr J Bloomfield suggested that the Parish Council devise a sign that can be put over all water leaks, so they can be easily identified.

- g) Allotment agreement:** a member of the public complained that the draft agreement had not been sent to him. The Clerk confirmed that she had sent it to the email address she had for him, and followed it up, but acknowledged that she hadn't received a reply.

121 (2023) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE :**

a) Minutes of planning meeting held 17th July and 21st August:

- i. Furzens: granted
- ii. Land at Maybanks: granted with a number of conditions
- iii. 01367, 01416, 01446, 01544 granted.

b) Planning update on meeting held 19th September: Cllr Henry updated those present with the decisions made at the earlier planning meeting, minutes separate.

122 (2023) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- a)* expenditure for July/August 2023 of £34,829.57 was noted and approved.
- b)* cost centre report to end August 2023: noted and approved.
- c)* bank reconciliation statement to end August 2023: noted and approved
- d)* external auditors report. The AGAR sections 1,2 and 3, together with the notification of public rights, have been uploaded to the website and placed on the main noticeboard. Noted.

123 (2023) **ALLOTMENTS:**

Cllr Mitchell took members through the proposed amendments suggested by Cllr Lilley, and it was agreed to add that all trees on the allotments should be of the dwarf variety.

Clause 8: it was noted that a tenant may have to make a rapid repair to a fence and should not have to wait for council permission to do so.

Clause 13: wording to be clearer as to a tenant's responsibility.

Clause 20: 4 rabbits to be added to the schedule

Members noted that allotments will firstly be offered to residents of Ewhurst and Ellens Green and will only be offered outside the parish if there is no resident on the waiting list when an allotment comes free.

Cllr Mitchell Proposed that the tenancy agreement and schedule to the agreement be accepted, subject to the amendments discussed. Seconded by Cllr Henry, all in favour.

Thanks were recorded to Cllr Mitchell for this work.

124 (2023) **BOX BROADBAND**

Box Broadband will provide, install and maintain (without an installation charge) a 1GB/s symmetrical fibre-optic broadband service, currently to the EYSC and when able to the Glebe and Village Hall. The Council will pay a monthly fee equal to that charged by Box for a 100Mb/s connection.

As the Council has been overcharged to date for the EYSC connection, a refund will be due, probably taken as a credit on future invoices, and will receive a wayleave payment of £599.50.

Members agreed that the Agreement should be signed and progressed. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, Seconded by Cllr J Bloomfield, all in favour.

Thanks were recorded to Cllr Mitchell for achieving this contract.

125 (2023) **COMMUNICATIONS:**

The Clerk and the resident who assists with Website updates will meet with the webmaster on Friday to learn how to manage and update the website. It will then be possible to keep it up to date and relevant.

126 (2023) **TENNIS COURTS:**

After discussion, it was agreed not to take further action at present, but to ask all residents to keep an eye on the courts, and on the playground, and to report any potential vandalism to the Clerk. Members were also asked to make regular visits to the recreation ground for this purpose.

The Clerk will investigate a stronger CCTV camera.
Cllr Mitchell will explore data protection with regard to the CCTV.

127 (2023) **BANNER BOARDS ON BULLS HEAD GREEN:**

The Clerk had received a complaint about the banner boards on the Green, which proliferate from time to time. It was noted that they were appreciated by local societies and no action will be taken at this time.

128 (2023) **20mph SPEED LIMIT**

Motion: members agreed to support/welcome SCC's shifting stance towards 20mph limits in towns and villages and look forward to engagement between SCC and the county's towns and villages on relaxing the rules on introducing 20 mph limits whilst retaining the environment of our rural villages.

129 (2023) **FOOTPATH 512 BETWEEN WYKEHURST LANE AND CONEYHURST LANE**

Sayers Croft are able to supply volunteers in October to clear and lay scalplings the length of this path, which is eroded and dangerous in wet weather. The cost of the scalplings is £480. Members welcomed this initiative and valuable support from Sayers Croft and approved this expenditure.

130 (2023) **THE GLEBE CENTRE:** A meeting was agreed to discuss a potential future lease agreement with WBC. Cllrs Higgins and Mitchell would both attend the meeting, a date to be arranged.

131 (2023) **PARISH UPDATE FROM CLERK**

- a) *Cricket Green:* WBC have carried out the work to install a soakaway adjacent to the pond to deal with the water arising from a suspected leak and also replaced the outflow pipe along most of its length.
- b) *ERTA Voluntary Transport:* invites people to join as members and to help with tasks, with the aim of getting support to re-open the Guildford/Horsham railway line.
- c) *Tree trunk at cemetery:* this has now been removed.

132 (2023) **PARISH BUSINESS:** other matters to be noted or included on a future agenda

- a) *Fly tipping on Ewhurst Green:* Cllr Bloomfield has reported this.
- b) *Area around pond:* further discussion needed with WBC ranger to progress this pond surround management over the winter.
- c) *Ewhurst Players anniversary:* The Players have requested free use of the hall for their 50th birthday celebrations. **Agenda item:** October meeting.
- d) *Footpath at Ellens Green:* the footpath sign has gone and the gate is locked. Cllr Bloomfield will seek more information and investigate.
- e) *Defibrillators:* the Clerk will put a map on the noticeboards showing where the defibrillators are and, also purchase a sign for Ellens Green memorial hall defibrillator, to sign it from the main road.

133 (2023) **NEXT FULL MEETING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL: Monday 16th October 2023 at the EYSC**
To be preceded by a Planning Meeting at 7.30 pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10pm