



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 18th March 2024 At the EYSC**

Present: Cllr M Higgins (in the chair), Cllrs T Bloomfield, J Bloomfield,, J Lilley, J Mitchell, M White
County Cllr L Townsend
3 members of the public
In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

PUBLIC SESSION:

- i. *Footpath 362:* a member of the public raised the matter of this footpath, which is becoming impassable because of the ditch, which is blocked. Cllr J Bloomfield advised that this had been raised at the previous meeting, and that he was attempting to meet with the owner of part of the path to see what could be done. SCC took the view that landowners were responsible for the ditches on their property and this owner was doing that, the problem occurred further down where one owner was disputing they were responsible for maintaining the ditch. It was possible that LEAP might be able to help, although it was a big job for volunteers. It was agreed to explore whether funding was available from Surrey Hills. Cllr Townsend would speak to SCC Rights of Way officers.
- ii. *Report from County Cllr:*
 - a) SCC is undertaking a lot of work with children with SEN. A number of parents are waiting to see if their children have school places.
 - b) The Local Enterprise Partnership has now become the responsibility of SCC. This enterprise works on skills and connectivity.
 - c) The state of roads is an ongoing battle. Ockley Road has been completed. The work has failed on Bookhurst Road and will be done again.
 - d) Footpath between Ewhurst and Cranleigh: Cllr Townsend has put it on the work schedule to be cleared.
 - e) Ditches: SCC have agreed to clear the ditches on Pitch Hill.

029 (2024) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** were received from Cllrs N Clowes V Henry and L Tingley.

030 (2024) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none were made.

031 (2024) **MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19th February 2024:** were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

032 (2024) **ACTION LIST:**

Date of meeting	Minute no	Action	responsibility	outcome
Feb 24	019	Box Broadband: more detail on provision for Glebe and Hall	JM	The village hall is to be connected. There is no possibility of the Glebe being connected in the near future. Completed
Feb 24	019 (005)	Footpath 362 – to arrange a meeting with the owner	JB	Pending – to remain on list
Feb 24	022	Communications – Cllrs Mitchell and Higgins to meet re Facebook	MH/JM	A number of articles had been published in the last month, this is progressing well. The Annual meeting to be published Completed
Feb 24	022	EYSC Wifi – secure sign in	JM	Cllr Mitchell had investigated two systems which balanced accessibility with accountability, using a captive portal solution. Agenda item: April meeting
Feb 24	027c	Coneyhurst Lane – letter to Project Horizon	TB	Written and delivered, and this is now on the Project Horizon list. Completed
Feb 24	027d	Refurbishments to memorial in rec	Clerk	Pending – to remain on list
Feb 24	027e	Quotes for Bowls Club car park resurfacing	MW	Two quotes had been received and passed to the CIL working group Completed
Feb 24	027g	Damaged memorial bench - investigate repairs	JB/Clerk	Pending – to remain on list
Feb 24	027h	Unresolved water leak - legal action	MH/JM	Action: To write a legal letter – JM To talk to Jill Insley – JM To talk to our MP – TB

033 (2024) **MATTERS ARISING not covered by the Action List**

- *Field next to Pennings:* Cllr Higgins reported that an enforcement notice had been drafted, following the expiration of the deadline to remove the caravan, but there were now pigs on the field and the caravan's status has been changed to agricultural storage. This is lawful, but a visit will be made to inspect.
- *Electricity costs at Glebe:* the electrician who had put a trace on the electric output advised that 50amps were being used each night between midnight and 3am. He would examine all the storage heaters and reduce their output. Cllr White to take readings once a month from now on. **Action: MW**
- *Glebe Lease:* to be added to the **Action List. JM/MH.**

034 (2024) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE :**

- a) *Minutes of planning meeting held 19th February:* were noted and agreed.

035 (2024) **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- a) expenditure for February 2024 of £10,176 was noted and agreed.
b) cost centre report to end February 24: noted and agreed.
c) bank reconciliation statement to end February 24: noted and agreed.

036 (2024) **CIL MONIES :**

The CIL working group of Cllrs Clowes, T Bloomfield, and Higgins had met. The Clerk had given her apologies.

The draft CIL application form, guidance notes and CIL Policy had been circulated to all councillors, who were

asked to send their comments to the Clerk.

The working group had put forward one project: Speed indicator displays, which record speeds as well as displaying them. Cllr T Bloomfield had met with the councillor in Rudgwick who had been in charge of this project and was advised that SCC would need to agree on their positions.

County Cllr Townsend advised that she planned to meet with Adrian Selby shortly to revisit traffic calming in the Street, based on new thresholds. They are now more open about potential 20mph speed limits and a consultation called 'Vision Zero' is currently happening.

CIL funding would be on the agenda at the Annual Parish Meeting, and people asked to suggest projects. The intention was that Parish Council would not fund 100% of a project put forward, both to encourage community engagement and to ensure that CIL funding went further.

This item to remain on the agenda.

037 (2024) **KEY CHANGES TO THE NPPF**

Waverley's recent guidance was that under paragraph 14 of the amended NPPF, Neighbourhood Plans would be protected for 5 years where the plan allocated a site. However, Ewhurst and Ellens Green's Neighbourhood Plan would not receive protection because they did not allocate a housing site.

Cllr Higgins explained that he had queried this with Waverley because the NPPF does not specifically state a requirement to allocate housing sites and he was directed to answers the Government had given in response to the Levelling-up Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy which did make reference to a requirement to allocate a housing site.

Cllr T Bloomfield suggested that the Parish Council should consider obtaining advice from Alison Eardley who had been involved with the Neighbourhood Plan previously and suggested a budget of £1,000.

Cllr Townsend advised that, although current planning applications more than covered the Borough's quota, the houses were not being built, and so Government would be in favour of development. Where sites have been allocated, the five year rule applies. However, her view was that Ewhurst and Ellens Green's Neighbourhood Plan did not allocate a housing site and therefore would not receive protection under paragraph 14. She did not believe that we should spend money on obtaining external advice and offered to facilitate a meeting with Waverley officers that could help with advice.

Cllr Townsend also recommended that the Parish Council involve itself in the WBC Call for Sites but could withdraw at anytime. Cllr J Bloomfield sought reassurance from Cllr Townsend on this point which was given.

After some consideration, Members agreed to engage with a Call for Sites, and to review the Neighbourhood Plan in reflection of the changes to the NPPF using, in the first instance, WBC officers for assistance. **Action: NP working party.**

038 (2024) **MEMORIAL REFURBISHMENT**

The Clerk is in discussion with Haven Memorials, who have expressed an interest in the work at the World War II memorial at the Recreation Ground, but they have not yet quoted. The plinths are brick build, on broken paving, with metal plaques and we are looking at cleaning the brickwork, renovating the name plaques and to considering work on the broken paving for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day in June..

039 (2024) **PARISH UPDATE FROM CLERK**

Following almost a whole year of the previous contractor being unable to fulfil his contract, the Clerk has engaged a new company. The major tidy, including around trees and common edges, should have been carried out last September by the previous contractor, and has now been done by the new one. Residents of the common had expressed their support of the result. The common will now be maintained on a monthly basis during the growing months, with the major tidy taking place after the common is cut in August.

040 (2024) **PARISH BUSINESS:** other matters to be noted or included on a future agenda

- i. *Compost heap in cemetery:* Cllr J Bloomfield reported that household items are being put into this heap. It was agreed that there was no action to be taken, but the situation to be monitored.

- ii. *Telephone box on Ewhurst Green:* a small piece of glass was broken, possibly as a result of strimming. The Clerk will arrange for the area around to be cleared of grass, after discussion with Cllr J Bloomfield
Action JB/Clerk. Cllr Higgins will establish from BT when it is to be commissioned **Action MH**
- iii. *Area outside hall:* there are some sandbags and wood outside the hall, presumably belonging to the Players. The Clerk will ask them to remove them. **Action: Clerk**
- iv. *New Recreation Ground CCTV:* A quote for new CCTV had previously been agreed by members and the Clerk was due to meet the contractors on Wednesday

041(2024) **NEXT FULL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: Monday 15TH April 2024 at the EYSC**
To be preceded by a Planning Meeting

Annual Parish Meeting:29th April.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.