

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Tuesday 20th October 2015. **Time:** 8:00pm

Venue: Memorial Hall, Ellisfield

Present: Tim Guinness Chairman
Caroline Cazenove Vice Chair
Gavin Park-Weir
Victoria Reed
David Richards
Rose Taplin Clerk
Wendy Simson
PC Reid
Four members of the public

Apologise: None

23 Apologies for Absence
None

24 Minutes of the previous meeting
The Chairman asked the Councillor to confirm that they had read and approved the minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2015. They were agreed and the Chairman signed the copy for the records.

25 Matters arising
Register of member interest – The Clerk confirmed that a register of member's interest had now been submitted by all Councillors and Councillor Taplin's form was the only one which needed to be sent to Basingstoke & Deane.

Action: Clerk to scan and email form to B&D

Return of Parish Council property – Councillor Cazenove gave the Parish Council an update of the communication between the Parish Council and the previous Clerk. The current position is that the previous Clerk is not prepared to return the Parish Council's property until she has received payment of the £150.80 which she states is still outstanding in large part for work done since she resigned. The Parish Council have not received any of the work completed following the previous Clerk's resignation. It was agreed that the Parish Council would consider the option of arranging a meeting so that goods could be collected and payment made simultaneously.

Flagpole in Churchyard - Councillor Cazenove had spoken to the church warden about the Parish Council potentially making a contribution to the replacement of the pole, however the price has increase so the church would be requesting a donation of £300. The Councillors agreed to look at an application if the church were to submit one.

Goal nets – Councillor Park-Weir informed the Council that the nets are in place and the spare set held by Tony Matthews.

Litter pickers –The Clerk is going to meet the new litter picker, Harry Frankham, on Saturday 24th October to complete the paperwork and provide him with the tools. Councillor Cazenove walked the route past White Hill and found a number of items.

Action: Clerk to provide all Councillors with a copy of the map showing the routes the two pickers should cover.

VAT refund – The Clerk has investigated the payment from HMRC and believes it is the VAT refund from 2014/15.

Swing brackets – The Clerk has spoken to Ludus who have agreed to take back the brackets which were ordered in error. There may be a delivery charge to cover but provided Ludus are satisfied that the brackets are in good order a credit will be raised against the account.

Action: Clerk to post back brackets

Missing sign – Councillor Richards informed the Council that he had spoken to the Highways team about the sign at Bell Lane and College Lane and reported that the sign and posts were still in place and just needed re-connecting.

Action: Councillor Richards to chase again

Broadband speed – Councillor Park-Weir informed the Parish Council that he did not have an update but would look into progress with broadband speed. Following the meeting he reported *"As phase 2 of the project to increase broadband speeds in rural areas will not include Lower Ellisfield CPW has chased CMR for an update on what funds B&DBC are prepared to make available to help Lower Ellisfield fund a new Cabinet which would solve this problem. CMR has not given any clarity on the amount B&DBC might contribute from the fund they have for this purpose. It was agreed CPW would continue to chase for this."*

Action: Councillor Park-Weir to bring update to next meeting

The Clerk informed the Council that an email had been received from Glen Horgan in Lower Ellisfield asking for an update on Mobile speeds.

Action: Clerk to forward email to Councillor Park-Weir to respond.

Welcome packs – The Chairman delivered a welcome pack and cake to the new residents at Acorns last month. Councillor Reed agreed to deliver a pack and cake to Patches.

Action: Councillor Reed to bake a cake and take the pack round to the Patches

26 **Police Update (reported as part of Public Forum to allow PC Reid to continue his rounds)**

PC Reid informed the Parish Council that there had been two incidents since the 7th September meeting, these were:-

- 11/9 – a suspicious car seen in Berrydown Lane
- 10/10 – a missing child reported lost but found later all in order

PC Reid reported that there had been nine crimes in Ellisfield to date in 2015 which was seven more than 2014. These include four counts of criminal damage (three to crops and one to a fence), two counts of drug possession, one theft from a motor vehicle, one non-dwelling burglary to Merritt's Farm and one theft of a pheasant feeder on Axford Road.

The Chairman asked for an update on the rural policing strategy and PC Reid informed the Council that the community funding had been rejected by the Police and Crimes Commissioner. Councillor Ruffell is looking to meet with the Police again as there has been a number of examples of local communities funding the Police.

PC Reid explained that he and two colleagues were now responsible for all the rural policing. PC Reid's area was from Whitchurch to Hook, however he needed to drive to Tadley at the

start of each shift to collect his vehicle. The shifts cover 9 hours, so if two PCs were on duty one after the other then there would be a 6 hour gap before the next shift started again. The Chairman thanked PC Reid for all his hard work in the area. The Chairman suggested to the Council that Ellisfield Parish Council should write to express the Parish concern over the changes to rural policing in the area.

Action: Chairman to draft a letter and forward to all Councillors

27 Previous Clerk and Parish Council property

Covered under Matters Arising

28 Financial Standing Orders

The Financial Standing Orders require review but it was agreed that this would be deferred until current issues with Council property are resolved.

29 Allotments

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that rent was due on the allotments. The current list of residents is as follows:-

- Unit 1 – Neville
- Unit 2 – Neville
- Unit 3 – Duncan
- Unit 4 – Gould
- Unit 5 – Lucas
- Unit 6 – Gould
- Unit 7 – Gilvear
- Unit 8 – Lucas
- Unit 9 – Gilvear
- Unit 10 – Vacant
- Unit 11 – Gilvear
- Unit 12 – Gilvear
- Unit 13 – Simmons
- Unit 14 – Gilvear

It appears that Adam Gilvear is looking to give up unit 14 and his father Terry Gilvear would like to take Unit 10. This leaves Unit 14 vacant from October 2015.

Action: Clerk to send invoices to all residents for the rental

30 Financial update

The Clerk circulated a simple financial statement to the Parish Council showing the income and expenditure to date for 2015/16. There are 9 payments which can't be identified without either the old chequebook or visiting the bank to see copies of the cheques. It is believed that three of the payments are known but once the Council property has been collected then the cheque numbers can be correctly referenced.

31 Planning

Walnut Cottage, Bell Lane – to fell a walnut tree (No objections)

32 Localism/HALC/Local Business Liaison

There has been a complaint made about the noise from the solar farm, it appears that the buffers which originally reduced the sound are no longer working. The Chairman has put the owner/operator of the farm in touch with the resident.

Barfoots were included on one of three television programmes called "Harvest 2015".

33 Highways

Councillor Richards reported that while one of the pot holes on the Axford Road had been the other two hadn't.

Action: Councillor Richards to chase up with Highways Team

The Chairman asked for it to be included in the minutes that the runners in the Basingstoke Marathon had made some lovely comments about the welcome they received as they ran through the village and they really appreciated the scarecrows.

34 Broadband Speed

Nothing further to report

35 Land & Property

Councillor Park-Weir has inspected the site of the notice board at Bell Lane and believes that the easiest way to solve the issue is to move the slabs. Councillor Park-Weir is to contact Roger to discuss the way forward

Action: Councillor Park-Weir to report at next meeting

36 Footpaths & Rights of Way

Nothing to report

37 Memorial Hall

Mr Ray Reed, as a member of the public, was asked to update the Council on the Memorial Hall renovation work. The electrics are the next project for the committee and a quote has been obtained, however a further quote is required. The ceiling mounted heaters require replacement and two new units are being trailed. Work is also required in the kitchen.

The Chairman commented on the excellent new door.

38 New residents and welcome packs

Nothing further to report

39 Any Other Business

None

40 Dates of next meetings

Wednesday 2nd December at 8pm in Memorial Hall

Matters discussed at Open Forum

Vacant property at 4 Farriers Field – The Chairman had been made aware that this property was vacant and as a section 106 home should have been offered to a local resident or someone with a tie to Ellisfield. It is believed that there were two residents who should have been offered the property but instead Basingstoke and Deane had filled the house. The new tenant however did not wish to stay and so have been re-homed and one of the two local people has been offered the home. It appears that not all residents got the Chairman's email about the vacancy. The Chairman was asked if the criteria for the section 106 housing be put on the website.

Action: Clerk to confirm this information has been posted

DRAFT