

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 29th February 2016. **Time:** 8:00pm

Venue: Memorial Hall, Ellisfield

Present: Tim Guinness Chairman
Caroline Cazenove Vice-Chair
Gavin Park-Weir
Victoria Reed
David Richards
Wendy Simson Clerk
PC Reid
Councillor Anna McNair Scott
Five members of the public

Apologise: Rose Taplin

69 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Taplin sent her apologies as she was busy with work on the farm.

70 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 11th January 2016. They were agreed and the Chairman signed the copy for the records.

71 Matters arising

Notice Board at Bell Lane – it was agreed where the slabs needed to be moved to and that an additional slab to be added.

Action – Chairman to speak to Ed Fellows about carrying out the work.

Missing Minutes – Mrs Matthews has written up the minutes of the AGM so it is just the June meeting which is missing

Action – Chairman to speak to Paul Turner about content

Internal audit – The Clerk reported that John Murray is going to audit the accounts on Friday 20th May, the cost will be £120.

Guidelines for Funeral Directors – The Vice Chair confirmed that Mrs Matthews has sent these once again.

72 Police Update (reported as part of Public Forum to allow PC Reid to continue is rounds)

PC Reid informed the Parish Council that there had been four incidents since the 11th January meeting, these were:-

- 11/1 – request to HCC re cleaning road surface
- 7/2 – severe flooding in Berrydown Lane and Axford Road
- 8/2 – Tree across Green Lane

- 12/2 – abandoned 999 call from resident which turned out to be a “pocket dial”
PC Reid reported that there had been no crimes in Ellisfield to date in 2016.

73 **Flooding issues**

The Parish Council and members of the public discussed the flooding which occurred in the village as part of the public forum and the following actions were agreed:-

Action: Councillor McNair Scott to put pressure in Highways to clear debris from the roads, Councillor Richards to follow this up.

Action: Chairman to chase up meeting with Jessica Rowlett, Emergency Planning & Resilience Officer and if required conduct as conference call.

Action: Councillor Park Weir to order more sandbags and store in Cannon Close garage

74 **Allotments**

The vacant allotment has not yet been rented but it is hoped that in the spring someone will step forward to take it on.

75 **Financial update**

The Clerk presented two invoices for payment, they were:-

- £300 – grant for flagpole in churchyard
- £342 – work carried out by “Digger Dave” in clearing grips and ditches

Both payments were approved and the cheques signed by the Vice Chair and Councillor Richards.

Two cheques have been received for the burial ground, the details are:-

- £25 – Dignity Funerals Ltd
- £70 – Spencer & Peyton Ltd

Action: Clerk to bank payments

The Queen’s 90th Birthday celebrations for the weekend of 10th to 12th June have been agreed by a small committee, they include:-

- Friday 10th June – Wine Walk
- Saturday 11th June – Children’s party with fancy dress
- Sunday 12th June – church service and lunch/street party

The Vice Chairman asked about a budget for a commemorative gift for the children, the Clerk confirmed that £250 had been put aside for the event and that a sample of a special coin had been received which costs £1.99 each and may fit the bill.

Action: Clerk to pass on coin and details to Vice Chair

Following the enquiry about a speed survey at the last meeting the Clerk has received the following from Andrew Kettlewell, Team Leader in the Highways, Traffic and Transport department at HCC:-

“The current situation is all traffic management work is now focused on casualty reduction due to successive rounds of funding cuts for local authorities. This means any traffic calming or traffic restriction will only be implemented to address and resolve an evidenced injury accident problem. I am happy to complete an injury accident search of the village, but I am afraid I can’t support the cost of a speed survey in response to your request.”

If a speed data is desired, then I suggest the Parish Council consider the Police Community Speed Watch initiative where local people volunteer to support the Police with enforcement duties. Speed data is collected as part of this initiative.

<http://www.hampshire.police.uk/internet/advice-and-information/crime-prevention/community-speedwatch>”

Action: Clerk to draft letter to resident to inform them of the feedback

Councillor Park Weir suggested that the Parish Council may look to purchase some speed guns to use within the community.

Action: Councillor Park Weir to report to next meeting

76 Planning

The Old Manor – repair to render and brickwork on east and north elevations – no objections.

Church Cottage – The Parish Council had been asked to look at provisional changes to the approved application to install larger and more modern windows to the rear elevation. The Councillors looked at the plans and whilst it was agreed that the design was no in keeping with the traditional feel of the cottage that the initial feedback was that no objections would be raised.

77 Burial Ground

No new memorials have been applied for at this time.

78 Localism/HALC/Local Business Liaison

Councillor Park Weir attended Community liaison meeting on 19th January, the main points discussed were:-

- Traffic movement – to be reduced by pipes being installed to take waste away from the unit and onto the fields. Movement is high at some times but as it is maze and taken by agricultural vehicles it be similar to any other farm.
- Litter – much better
- Run off from the site – working well
- Lighting & noise – lights are being turned off at night
- A new exit onto B339 – it was agreed this would not be possible
- Parking for lorries waiting to go into site – not a problem
- Pot holes – not resolved

79 Highways

Nothing further to report

80 Broadband Speed

Councillor Park Weir informed the Council that while the Wield project is being rolled out that no testing has been implemented to look at project for Ellisfield.

81 Land and Property

No further information has been gained about prices for the new notice boards for both the bus shelters.

Action: Councillor Park Weir to report at next meeting

Councillor Richards has checked the bus shelter at the Gravel Pit and it does leak, this is to be added to the Lengths Man duties

82 Footpaths & Rights of Way

Councillor Reed has investigated the access rights to the footpath by Park View Cottages and the use of this route by the hunt causing it to be churned up. Councillor Reed has spoken to the Hunt Master about not using this track and she will monitor at the next outing on 3rd March.

There has been no progress with footpath 7.

83 Welcome Packs

All welcome packs have been delivered.

Councillor Reed suggested that Judith, who made the cakes for 9 years, should be celebrated.

84 Any Other Business

The Councillors signed off the news letter with a couple of amendments. The Clerk agreed to print 120 copies and leave at Preston Candover store for the Vice Chair to collect and arrange distribution.

Action: Clerk to print and deliver

Action: Vice Chair to distribute

The Clerk shared with the Councillors a template used in other Parish Councils giving important contact details to go on the notice boards, it was approved and the Clerk was asked to produce for next meeting.

Action: Clerk to circulate contact details sheet

85 Date of next meeting

Monday 11th April 2016 at 8pm in Memorial Hall

Meeting dates for 2016:-

- Monday 23rd May
- Monday 4th July
- Monday 15th August
- Monday 26th September
- Monday 7th November
- Monday 19th December

Matters discussed at Open Forum

The Chairman asked if any of the members of the public had any points they wish to raise, it was agreed that any points would be covered under general agenda items.

The Chairman gave a summary of the situation with the flooding in Ellisfield particularly for Councillor McNair Scott's benefit as she had joined the meeting specifically to identify the help required and how she could support. The Chairman explained that while the direction of travel for sorting out the issues with the debris left behind by the recent flooding along with work to prevent future incidents was correct, the pace at which action was being taken was incredibly slow.

Councillor Richards has surveyed all the drainage points in the area and drawn it up onto a map, however there was a visit to the village on Friday 11th February by the Flood and Water Management Team, which included:-

- Paul Prowting - Flood and Water Investigations Officer – (paul.prowting@hants.gov.uk)
- Steve Pellatt - Highway Manager - North – (steve.pellatt@hants.gov.uk)
- Keith Thompson – Principle Highways Engineer – (Keith.Thompson@hants.gov.uk)
- Daniel Beasant – (daniel.beasant@hants.gov.uk)
- Simon Cramp - Environmental Initiatives Manager – (simon.cramp@hants.gov.uk)
- Julie James - Senior Emergency Planning Officer – (Julie.James@hants.gov.uk)
- Councillor McNair Scott – County Councillor – (anna.mcnairstcott@hants.gov.uk)

which the Parish Council were not made aware of or invited to join. At the time of the meeting no feedback had been received from the meeting.

Councillor McNair Scott had forwarded a map (annex 1) with the areas of concern listed on it from the meeting of the Flood and Water Management Team, this was circulated to the Councillors and members of the Community. Where ditches and the flood pits are privately owned, the landowner needs to take responsibility for clearing these. The Chairman explained that most of the flood pits were owned by the Parish Council and a budget line had been included each year to build up a fund for clearing these, however this work could not be done during the winter when the land was so wet and the pits full of water.

The residents of Berrydown House, which has been flooded in all 3 of the recent flash floods, were keen for the discussion to include a plan to prevent the vast quantities of water from travelling through the village along Green Lane and the Axford Road and instead to be directed into the flood pits and onto fields.

Paul Turner commented that the work which had been carried out by Hampshire Highways along Green Lane was nothing short of vandalism and had achieved nothing to prevent future flooding. It was agreed that the earthworks on both sides of Green Lane along with by the pond had destroyed the natural verges and was likely to have the effect of increasing the chances of flooding particularly in Cannon Close. Paul suggested that a group of local residents be mustered to put the work right, this was supported by the Parish Council.

The Lengths Man scheme was discussed, which allows the Parish Council to access £1,000 of additional funding for jobs such as clearing ditches, this would be available from the new financial year. It was agreed that this was an excellent initiative but that work needed to be done in the next 5 weeks to make the village safe.