

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council held in Ellisfield Memorial Hall on July 17th 2017 at 8pm

Present

Tim Guinness	Chairman /Acting Clerk
Caroline Cazenove	Vice Chairman
Vicky Reed	Councillor
Gavin Park-Weir	Councillor
David Richards	Councillor

Peter Raine	
Sylvia Raine	Taking minutes

PC Andy Reid	Local Beat Officer
2 members of the public.	

230. Apologies for Absence Rose Taplin

231. To receive declarations of interest in any matter on the agenda None

Open Forum

PC Andy Reid reported:

There were 2 incidents in the village during June:

- 7th June - Suspicious incident - cold callers wanting to cut down trees.
- 13th June - Domestic dispute in Green Lane.

There have been 5 crimes committed in the parish this year :

- January - An assault in Green Lane
- April - Criminal damage to a car in Red Lane
- June - Criminal damage and threats in Green Lane
- June - Theft of 2 generators from campsite in Kingsmere Copse
- June - Assault at waste depot, Bushywarren

Concern raised by Steven Gould, a member of the public.

The chairman welcomed Mr Gould, who was concerned about the speed of traffic on Axford Road. One concern that he had was for the safety of several elderly people who use the bus service. In addition to speeding, there is a beech hedge which has become much thicker over the years and this potentially reduces the visibility of traffic navigating the junction of Green Lane and Axford Road.

The Chairman commented that in the past, how to put in place better measures to deal with speeding had been regularly discussed. The matter had proved very difficult to progress, partly because the cost of buying appropriate equipment, such as automatic traffic counters, seemed prohibitive. Also, the idea of the community speed watch scheme had been explored in depth but it had been impossible to find enough volunteers to make it happen.

The Chairman reported that he had completed the Annual Audit Return and submitted it to BDO, the external auditors. He is also working to reclaim 2 years' worth of unclaimed VAT.

Councillor Reed thought that all allotment rents had now been paid.

236. To receive a report and approve any action needed on:

Localism/HALC/Local business Liaison.

On 5th July, Vice Chairman Cazenove, Councillor Richards and Peter Raine attended a meeting with Steve Pallet from Hampshire Highways, Grish Lohani, Assistant Highways Engineer, Anna McNair Scott, B&D Borough Councillor, and John Jervoise, manager of Herriard Estate. There was no representative from Veolia at the meeting. The potholes at the edge of Bushywarren Lane are a cause for concern and a properly surfaced passing area is needed. Hampshire Highways agreed to fill the potholes in the short term, and will try to obtain budgetary approval to increase the width of the existing gravel passing area by approx. 750mm and lay a properly surfaced level kerb. John Jervoise offered to contribute £2000.00 towards the cost.

Flood resilience project

Dave Salter (Digger Dave) is no longer available to help.

- The Chairman will ask Steve Brabbin if he can offer assistance. On Green Lane, residents will probably need to clear leaves in heavy rain to guide rainwater down the ditch.

Vice Chairman Cazenove reported that the water level is about 2 inches below the drainage grating in the road at Ellisfield Green.

Footpaths/rights of way

Councillor Reed is working with PC Reid to investigate how to prevent 4x4 vehicles from causing deep ruts in Kit Lane in winter.

Highways

There is a problem with potholes in general.

- Councillor Park-Weir has reported these and will check on progress.

Allotments

Councillor Reed has arranged a meeting of allotment holders at the beginning of October.

Memorial Hall

A barbecue is scheduled for 22nd July at 1pm.

Broadband.

- Councillor Park-Weir will set up a working party to try to improve broadband speed in the village.

The Chairman mentioned an encouraging newspaper article about the new CEO of Open Reach. (The Telegraph 15.07.17)

Burial ground

Vice-Chairman Cazenove reported that the burial ground is looking very tidy. There is a seat with broken timbers and she will enquire whether anyone in the village is available to repair it.

Land and Property

- Councillor Park-Weir agreed to obtain quotes for replacement noticeboards.

Councillor Richards reported that the bus shelter will be repaired, but not until the end of September/beginning of October.

BDAPTC

There is a meeting scheduled for 13th September. Neither Vice-Chairman Cazenove nor Councillor Richards will be able to attend.

Welcome Packs.

- Councillor Reed will take a cake to Sean Wheatley who has moved into Farrier's Field.

237. To discuss any other matters that have arisen since the publication of the Agenda and that the Chairman considers urgent.

- Vice-Chairman Cazenove reported that she had attended a meeting in Bentley about affordable housing. She now has information and has made useful contacts, should this be a matter for the Parish Council to consider again in the future.
- The Chairman drew attention to his letter written with the intention of contributing to a joint letter to the Prime minister, expressing concerns about the government's proposals to address the problems associated with airspace use and change around Farnborough Airport. Although the letter missed the deadline for inclusion in the community response, it was acknowledged as a helpful contribution.

Next Meeting: EPC Monday 18th September
Forthcoming dates for 2017: EPC Monday 20th November

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Chairman

Date