

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Date: Friday 20th May 2016.

Time: 8:00pm

Venue: Memorial Hall, Ellisfield

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

Apologise: None

105 Apologies for absence

Mr & Mrs Matthews, Mr A Swanston, Mrs J Hannah and the Horticultural Society all sent their apologies.

106 Minutes of the last Parish Assembly

The minutes of the last Parish Assembly on 29th May 2015 were circulated and agreed as a true record of the meeting. The Chairman signed the minutes for the records.

107 Matters arising

There were no matters arising to be discussed

108 Reports from Chairman of the Parish Council

A copy of the Chairman's report was circulated and is attached to the minutes. The Chairman added details about some of the key items.

109 Annual Police Report

Reported crimes 2013	10
Reported crimes 2014	2
Reported crimes 2015	10

In 2015 Ellisfield had 5 criminal damage offences, these included 4 fields of growing crops and a fence, all poaching related. Two people from Basingstoke had enforcement action taken against them for possession of drugs, a spare wheel was stolen from a parked vehicle,

an attempt was made to break into a farm outbuilding but failed and entry was not gained and the theft of pheasant feeders took place.

In 2015 the Police received calls concerning a tree across a road, five concerns for welfare calls, a found dog, two complaints concerning dangerous driving, an abandoned car, three suspicious vehicles, two damage and one injury road traffic incidents (accidents), two false burglar alarm activations a report of a missing child who was found very quickly, two reports of illusive Highland Cow in the road, a poaching call and a report of a large pot hole.

PC Reid carried out speed enforcement activity a number of times on the Axford Road and a number of enforcement notices were issued.

To date in 2016, there have been four reported crimes, all non dwelling burglary (3 in Green Lane and 1 in Northgate).

Other issues in 2016 have been:-

- Severe flooding
- A tree across the road
- An abandoned 999 call (mobile in a pocket)
- A false burglar alarm activation
- A suspicious man in College Lane

PC Reid expressed his most grateful thanks for the support of the Parish Council and residents of Ellisfield during the year and of both Jane Hannah of Neighbourhood Watch and Paul Turner for his excellent hard work within the Police and Crime Commissioner elections and on-going work for rural policing and a dedicated beat officer.

110 Report on the plans for TAG Farnborough

Mr Adrian Emck, from Lasham Gliding Club attended the meeting to give the Parish Council an update on the situation with TAG Farnborough. Mr Emck had produced a map showing the flight paths into Farnborough, along with the proposed "Rovhl Pepis" route. This proposed route would mean flights over the Candover Valley at 3,500ft which would generate noise of 60-70 dB. The knock on effect of this will be to drive smaller aircraft down lower to the ground causing increased noise.

The Parish Council has not been consulted by the CAA and although the plans have been paused at the moment they can be started again at any time. If the plans are re-activated then Lasham Glider Club plan to go for a Judicial Review which will be expensive but will ensure a full consultation is completed. If the flight paths were granted then there may be an opportunity for Farnborough to look to become an overflow airport for London which would cause further increased traffic.

Councillor Marks asked why this was being done as there are a number of airports in the area including Southampton, Bournemouth and Blackbush. All these airports are underutilized and it makes little sense to add another airport. Adrian explained that TAG Farnborough was looking to take market share which would become more economic.

Mr Emck suggested that the Gliding Club could present at a community meeting to inform local people of these plans as there was so little information in the public domain.

111 Reports from the Trustees of the Ellisfield Educational Trust

The Ellisfield Educational Trust was set up to support those residents of Ellisfield who wish to better their life through education. The funds are open to all residents who have lived in Ellisfield for one year and apply to all ages. Grants can be made for items such as:-

- School uniforms
- Private tuition
- Music tuition
- Educational trips
- Driving lessons
- Books
- Sunday School
- Other educational materials at the discretion of the trustees

The grant is not means tested and any applications are dealt with in a confidential manner. In 2015 the trust had income of £2,360 and gave grants of £1,507. The capital investment from which the interest/income is drawn is current valued at £57,287.

112 Presentation from St Peter's church

Attendance for regular Sunday services at St Peter's is not high, however Christmas, Easter, Remembrance Sunday and carol service are all good with approximate 100 people attending.

The building is in good order and the mice which had moved in have now been relocated.

A new flagpole has been purchased following the collapse of the previous one. This has been paid for by grants including money from the Parish Council. The Flagpole will be dedicated at the Queen's 90th birthday celebration in June.

St Peter's is struggling financially and failed to pay the Parish Share in 2015. The budget for 2016 has been dropped from £65,000 to £52,000 in light of the shortfall in 2015.

113 Presentation from Memorial Hall

The Chairman of the Memorial Hall Committee informed the Assembly that the Annual General Meeting is in a couple of weeks and they are always keen to have any comments from the residents.

Additional stone chippings have been delivered to repair the car park and fill the pot holes. There is also a block drain which requires some attention.

The Committee are trailing a number of different ceiling heaters and are looking to replace them all in 2016 with more efficient models.

The new patio doors from the kitchen area onto the patio was discussed and agreed to be an excellent addition to the building, allowing more natural light.

A member of the public asked about "Hog the Limelight" and the Chairman explained that it was to be pursued in 2017.

114 Presentation by the Horticultural Society

A group that meet regularly with the common interest of gardening, with the rather grand title of Horticultural Society but probably more accurately “your friendly gardening club” Throughout the year we have evening meetings where speakers give presentations of interest on a range of topics including travel, wildlife and sometimes even gardening. For our May meeting on Wednesday 24th, in the Memorial Hall there is a talk on “The Pride of Madeira”.

In addition we have a spring and summer show for you to test yourself against fellow members.

Each year in May (two weeks prior to the Assembly) there is a plant sale where member’s surplus plants are available to fill those gaps in your garden.

Membership is £8 a year per household and new members are always welcome.

115 Ellisfield Ladies Club

Diane Sandeman, Chairwoman, reporting on behalf of the recently elected Ellisfield Ladies Club committee, along with Sue Self, Kim Evans and April Carroll.

An overview of last year’s events, organised by the previous committee:

In April 2015 - St George's Day Celebrations with Quiz & Fish n’Chips supper

Was very popular with over 50 people in attendance, a quiz which was challenging enough & great food!

May 2015 - Heritage Light Orchestra Concert at Richard Aldworth School

This is a yearly charity concert given by the Heritage Light Orchestra conducted by Neil Streeter, with several of the BATS soloists including Theresa Lunn who sang “Don’t Cry for Me Argentina”. It was nice to see so many members and their guests supporting this event.

July 2015 - Ellisfield Ladies 40th Anniversary Concert

The highlight of the year really: Celebrating the 40th year of the Ellisfield Ladies Club in the Barn at Farleigh with the Heritage Orchestra led by Neil Streeter. The programme included music from Dusk to the Dam Busters, World War II Medleys to Jerusalem. The Belles of St. Martin Choir under Theresa’s leadership were tremendous.

The Barn, which Lord and Lady Portsmouth and Lord Lymington generously allowed us to use, looked quite amazing, beautifully decorated by the Concert Committee led by Julia and Rose. It was truly a special evening and it raised the magnificent sum of £800 for the Basingstoke Hospice.

August 28, 2015 – visit to Naomi House

At the Ladies Club annual general meeting back in March 2015, it was proposed and agreed to donate £100 to Naomi House and Jacks Place (based in Sutton Scotney, near Winchester), the respite and hospice for sick children and young adults.

In August, Maggie and Celia were asked to visit Naomi House to see the "Giving Tree" and the leaf commemorating the Ladies Club donation.

August 2015: The Jersey Boys at the Mayflower Theatre, Southampton. About 20 of us went along to see this very slick, upbeat show, ferried there by minibus!

September 2015: Tour and Tasting at Jenkyn Place Vineyard in Bentley which nearly 30 members and partners enjoyed very much. Some wine was imbibed – just what Ellisfield does best!

September 2015: Macmillan Big Coffee Morning – which raised £636.36 for Macmillan from the 100 or more people who came along and sampled the locally baked cakes.

October 2015: Ellisfield Scarecrow Festival

28 scarecrows cheered on the Half Marathon Runners, provoking much amusement for them on their way round our challenging hills. Once again, the standard was very high. A great letter from the organisers saying how much they appreciate Ellisfield support – and patience with the road closures!

November 2015: Pudding Evening was another well supported event by 20 members, tasting 9 puddings produced anonymously and voted on, which Maggie Heath won!

February 2016: Darts Night was great and Adam and Tracey won again. Sue and Don of the Farleigh Club hosted the event.

In March this year, the committee, who had valiantly worked together on events for the past four years, decided to pass the baton onto the new Committee. They did a great job and we'll do our level best to keep up their high standards.

As is customary, we meet once a month and now have the year's schedule under way. Fine details are still being worked out for some of those events and members will be advised as and when these are available.

27 th April	Evening at the "Pots to Doodle Do" Pottery Painting Studio in Cliddesden
22 nd May	Visit to Milestones Museum, Basingstoke (2.00pm)
17 th June	Skittles and Supper at the Northbrook Arms, East Stratton at 7.30pm (details being finalised)
2 nd July	Barn Dance at Herriard
July	Farm Visit at Hill Farm, taking own picnics
August	Trip to Andwell Brewery
24 th September	Flower Arranging Workshop (with Lunch) at the Memorial Hall (details to be finalised)
1 st October	Scarecrow Competition
October	Quiz with Fish and Chips Supper at the Memorial Hall
November	TBC (Possible Willow Weaving Workshop)
December	Christmas Shopping Trip to Portsmouth Dockyard
January	Pudding Club
February	Annual Darts Match at the Farleigh Club
March	AGM at the Memorial Hall

We'd like to improve upon the current 46 members too. (At its height, the Ellisfield Ladies got to around 60 members.) Now that we have a schedule up and running, it will be easier to appeal to new members and add to the schedule, so no reason why there can't be extra events popping up.

The club's finances remain healthy (over £3,000) and while we are happy to give appropriate donations to charity, we'd still like to keep the focus of the club on getting members and their families together in and around the community.

116 Ellisfield Volunteer Group

During 2015 the Volunteer Group have once again had a good turnout for volunteers with many new people joining for the season.

At the Assembly Last year, it was mentioned that the current committee had remained largely unchanged and offered the opportunity for others to come forward to join the committee. In 2016 there are the following changes:-

- At her own request, Margaret will step down as co-ordinator for the gavel pits but will remain a volunteer
- Graham Simpson (currently looking after the burial ground) will take over responsibility for Margaret's role
- Paul Brown has offered to join the committee and take over the running of the burial ground.

The group would very much like to thank Margaret (also supported by Julian) for her help in the last 3 years. Hannah, as secretary, has also indicated that she would like to step down sometime in the coming year given she has already committed to EVA and other rural activities.

On the equipment side, the other burial ground mower has now been replaced as proposed at last year's AGM. For 2016 it is planned that the hand mower at Lower Common be replaced and also to fix an issue with the ride on mower. Both of these will be completed before the start of the new season. Other repairs and servicing to the equipment were minimal in 2015.

The Parish Grant has been maintained at the same level for 2016, this will allow for the investment required.

The recent flooding in January and February 2016 created a large amount of work for the Volunteer Group and a huge thank you to all the volunteers who were able to help with clearing ditches, roads and grips. There were also a number of residents not related to the volunteer group who also came to help. Whilst there were some frustrations, the message is that many Ellisfield villagers worked together as a team under what can only be described as exceptional circumstances. There were offer to help in other ways, such as organising digging equipment, and this was a great example of a village community spirit of which Ellisfield should be very proud.

Finally, thank you to all the volunteers for the on-going commitment to the group, from the messages received this is an essential part of the Ellisfield Village Community and only exists because of the residents support.

117 Oil Syndicate

The Ellisfield Oil Syndicate is a community-based project which exists to allow its members to purchase domestic heating oil at a reduced price. The syndicate is non-profit making and run on a purely voluntary basis. It serves all four villages in the Benefice and has been running for nine years. During that time we have processed orders totalling over 500,000 litres and saved the 43 members over £14,000.

Negotiations with the supplier are carried out by Richard Haas and administration is managed by Ted Dowson. So far we have used only two suppliers; Butler Fuels and PACE Fuel care. We are currently considering Rawlings Fuels.

An email is sent to all members asking for orders and a deadline of approximately one week is set in which orders must be received.

Our preferred method of communication is by email, but where necessary members are contacted by telephone.

It is not possible to put a precise figure on actual savings as it depends upon the price at the time of ordering and the volume of oil involved, however, a saving of 2 to 3p per litre is realistic.

For a member's first order, the supplier will ask new customers to pay at the time of ordering. Subsequent orders are invoiced. All payments are made direct to the supplier by the member.

Our delivery months are;

- January
- March,
- June,
- September,
- November

118 Ellisfield Allotment Gardeners Association

No report

119 Ellisfield Village Association

As a result of an initiative by EVA, the first meeting of the Bushywarren Businesses Liaison Panel, was on 18th January, the second one was this afternoon and Susie Deane and I attended it, representing EVA and Ellisfield.

The liaison panel, chaired by Anna McNair Scott, our County Councillor brings together the County Council Planning Dept., Veolia, Barfoots Bio Energy and the Solar Farm with Herriard Parish Council, Herriard Estate and residents of Herriard and Ellisfield. Issues discussed include the high-pitched whine emitted by the solar farm, light pollution from Barfoots and litter from Veolia. Since the first meeting there has been progress on some of these issues and we feel that the liaison panel is a valuable forum for us to resolve problems.

We organised a wonderful Late Autumn Tree Walk kindly led by Julian Evans who talked about the old trees in the Churchyard, and taught us how to plant a young tree, ready for our free tree planting initiative where we offered free trees to everyone in Ellisfield. Species planted were Oak, beech, hornbeam wild cherry and crab apple.

For HM the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations we are helping Ed and Laura Fellows to organise a children's party and will be sponsoring the bouncy castle for it.

We have an AGM on 29th June in the Village Hall. All welcome and there will be refreshments afterwards.