

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Monday 23rd May 2016.

Time: 8:30pm

Venue: Memorial Hall, Ellisfield

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

Apologise: Rose Taplin

125 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Taplin sent her apologies via the Clerk.

126 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 April 2016. They were agreed and the Chairman signed the copy for the records.

The Councillors also signed off the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2015, which were not available due to the Change in Clerk. These minutes were agreed by the Councillors and signed as a true record of the meeting by the Chairman.

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

PC Reid informed the Parish Council there had been no updates since his report at the Annual Parish Assembly on Friday 20th May.

128 Flooding issues

The Chairman gave an update on the meeting which had taken place at the Hook Office of Hampshire Highways on Thursday 14th April. The responsibility for grips, ditches and flood pits were reviewed and where required this has been discussed with the landowners.

The high risk areas were visited by the Chairman and Councillor Richards along with the Vice Chairman, Charles Bradshaw, and Councillor Marks from Preston Candover & Nutley Parish Council.

The next steps are to create a working party to identify all the work required and who is responsible for carrying this out.

Action: Councillor Richards to update at next meeting

129 Allotments

The vacant allotment has not yet been rented; the Clerk suggested that in Preston Candover some of the allotments had been divided as a whole plot was too large for some people. This was discussed but agreed that as the areas were smaller than a traditional allotment that this would not be feasible.

130 Financial update

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

- £145.12 – Commemorative coins for Queen’s birthday celebrations
- £369.51 - Insurance
- £120.00 – Internal Auditor fees

All payments were approved and the cheques signed by the Vice Chair and Councillor Reed. The timing of the grant given to the Ellisfield Volunteer Groups was discussed and the Chairman agreed to speak to Andrew Swanston

Action: Chairman to report at next meeting when grant is required to be paid for EVG

The Vice Chair had been asked by those organising the Queen’s birthday celebrations if the Parish Council could increase the grant being made from £250 to £350. The Councillors approved this increase in budget.

131 Burial Ground

No new memorials have been applied for at this time.

132 Planning

Larkspur – single storey rear extension, single storey front extension, roof alterations including front and rear dormers & porch canopy. Elevation changes including render all elevations, plus wood-burner flue to replace chimney. The Councillors had no objections

Church Cottage – alterations and erection of first floor rear extension over existing ground floor accommodation. The Councillors had no objections

133 Localism/HALC/Local Business Liaison

Councillor Park-Weir informed the Council that a meeting had been held on Friday 20th May; however he had been unable to attend. The feedback was that the group was getting good traction with the residents. Councillor Park-Weir voiced concerns to the Chair of the Liaison Group that no actions from the meetings were recorded which would impact review and follow up.

The pot holes were mentioned but not fully discussed, this topic was due to be reviewed later in the meeting but was not covered. Apart from this point most other issues were reviewed and progress made.

134 Highways

Councillor Richards reported that the pot holes on Axford Road have been marked and repair work carried out in the next month. There had also been a report that Green Lane was due to be closed for the replacement of a culvert later in the year.

135 Broadband Speed

Councillor Park-Weir updated the Council on progress with Red Raw who plan to get fibre into Farleigh by 23rd June which may then be used to service some of the properties in Ellisfield.

136 Land and Property

Councillor Park-Weir has contacted 4 companies about a new notice board for Lower Common and a 3 bay design with 2 oak legs is £1,650 plus VAT. A quote for an additional £350 plus VAT to install the item also needs to be included.

The Councillors discussed the option of a “plastic” wood-look version.

Action: Councillor Park-Weir to collect quotes for next meeting

The Vice Chair reported that the balance beam at the play area was wobbly

Action: Clerk to contact Tony Matthews about a repair

Councillor Park-Weir had investigated costs of a speed data collection. A piece of equipment with tubes across the highway to collect data over a period of time was £981 to purchase or £350 to rent for a week. A similar tool was available from the USA at \$606 plus import tax. The Councillors agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.

137 Footpaths & Rights of Way

Councillor Reed reported that she believed the issue with footpath 7 was sorted with the installation of dog latch gates; however an issue about access for those with mobility issues was raised.

138 Memorial Hall

Nothing to report

139 Welcome Packs

No new residents have joined the village

140 Any Other Business

Proposed New Clerk – Mick Walker was asked to leave the meeting while the Chairman informed the Council that he had taken up the reference provided for the proposed new Clerk, which had been very good. When Mr Walker rejoined the meeting the Chairman presented him with a contract of employment, a copy of the job description and offer letter. It was agreed that Mick would sign and return these documents.

Clerk role – The Councillors asked that their thanks be recorded to Wendy Simson, for her work as Interim Clerk.

141 Date of next meeting

The dates of the next 2 meeting have been amended, the next meeting will now be held on Wednesday 22nd June, meeting dates for the remainder of 2016 are as follows:-

- Monday 19th September
- Monday 7th November
- Monday 19th December

Matters discussed at Open Forum

There was nothing to report from the open forum.