

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council held in Ellisfield Memorial Hall on Monday 22 May 2017 at 8.00 pm

Present:	Tim Guinness	Chairman
	Caroline Cazenove	Vice-Chairman
	David Richards	Councillor
	Gavin Park-Weir	Councillor
	Rose Taplin	Councillor
	Vicky Reed	Councillor
	Jacqui Matthews (JM)	Taking notes
	3 members of public	

209. Apologies for Absence - None

210. To elect a Chairman

Cllr Guinness indicated he would be prepared to stand as Chairman for another year; nominated by Cllr Cazenove, seconded by Cllr Park-Weir. The vote in favour was unanimous.

211. Chairman signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

212. To elect a Vice-Chairman

Cllr Cazenove indicated she would be prepared to stand as Vice-Chairman for another year; nominated by Cllr Park-Weir, seconded by Cllr Taplin. The vote in favour was unanimous.

213. To appoint two delegates to Basingstoke District Association of Parish & Town Councils

Cllr Richards was appointed with Cllr Cazenove attending when possible.

214. To appoint a Member to serve as Trustee on Ellisfield Memorial Hall Committee

Cllr Taplin was re-appointed.

215. To discuss and allocate Members' Special Interests;

After discussion, it was agreed the Special Interests for this year would be;

- **Highways** - Cllr Richards
- **Web Site** - Cllr Guinness
- **Broadband** – Cllr Park-Weir
- **Land and Property** - Cllr Park-Weir
- **Local Business Liaison** – Veolia; Cllrs Cazenove & Park-Weir, Barfoots; Cllrs Guinness & Park-Weir, Solar Farm; Cllr Guinness
- **Hill Farm Pond** – Cllr Cazenove
- **Allotments** – Cllr Reed
- **Rights of Way** – Cllr Reed
- **Burial Ground** - Cllr Cazenove
- **Environment** – Cllrs Taplin and Richards
- **Neighbourhood Watch** - Cllr Cazenove
- **Memorial Hall** - Cllr Taplin
- **BDAPTC** - Cllr Richards and Cllr Cazenove
- **Welcome Packs** – Cllr Reed

Minutes of meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council
held in Ellisfield Memorial Hall on
Monday 22 May 2017 Hall immediately following Annual Meeting of EPC
at 8.00 pm

Present:	Tim Guinness	Chairman
	Caroline Cazenove	Vice-Chairman
	David Richards	Councillor
	Gavin Park-Weir	Councillor
	Rose Taplin	Councillor
	Vicky Reed	Councillor
	Jacqui Matthews (JM)	Taking notes
	PC Andy Reid	Local Beat Officer
	3 members of public	

216. Apologies for Absence – None

217. To receive Declarations of Interest in any matter on this Agenda - None

Open Forum; No items raised by the public:

PC Andy Reid reported: a safe that had been stolen from a property in Oakley had been found in Duck's Alley, near Merritt's Farm, Bell Lane. Also, speed enforcement had been conducted on 15 May on Axford Road resulting in two advisory notices issued to speeding motorists (not local).

218. To receive and approve Minutes of a Meeting held on 20 March 2017
Agreed and approved by all Councillors and Chairman signed all pages for records.

219. Matters Arising from the Minutes not dealt with in agenda – None

220. To consider planning applications, if any – No new applications in Ellisfield
17/00327/RET / PP-05786547, College Farm House, Lane Erection of a statue; Attracted much media attention but only one objection from Ellisfield resident– outcome currently unavailable.

Applications in neighbouring and other planning issues

Cllr Cazenove reported she had attended a consultation meeting on 09 May 2017 at Winslade; two companies see the M3 at Basingstoke as a business opportunity:

1. MOTO proposal for motorway service station at Junction 6, to include a 100 bed budget hotel, shopping area with toilets, drive through Costa, Fuel, 250 employees, Parking for 630 cars, parking for coaches and caravans, parking for 50 HGVs to the south of J6 (land owned by Simon Berry).

2. Applegreen (Irish) propose a service station at Kennel Farm (Portsmouth Estates land) which would be for south bound traffic only.

Both companies currently consulting; a formal planning application not expected until Nov 2017 with a decision by spring/summer 2018. A number of concerns arose at the meeting; light/noise/air pollution, visual amenity, building south of the motorway potentially opening a floodgate for industrial or residential applications, traffic congestions (particularly at J6). Also a number of concerns about need/positioning; the real need for service stations is from Fleet towards London and along the M25 – but no land found to develop. Distance between Fleet and Winchester services is 29 miles.

Airspace Consultation: relating to recent concerns regarding Lower Airspace Changes proposals at TAG Farnborough airport, the CAA ruling on TAG Farnborough Airspace Change is now expected to be after the Election. Of local concern is the impact this will have on the operation at Lasham Gliding Club.

Meanwhile concerns being championed by the Aviation Environment Federation, Charles Lloyd of the Aviation Communities Forum has drafted a letter to the Prime Minister which will be sent after the general election expressing concern about the inadequacy of the government's proposals to address the problems associated with airspace use and change. Communities up and down the country have been invited to show support for this initiative.

221. To receive a report on Financial Matters;

Current Bank balances; Main Account; £7,487.87, Allotment Account; £1,890

Main Account, Payments for approval,

*Chq No 758 - £1,450; Ellisfield Volunteer Group – annual maintenance of parish land

*Chq No 759 - £1,521.38; Lamb Brookes (solicitor) client Account re M Walker Salary

*Chq No 760 - £94.88; AC Garden Maintenance; Park View footpath wooden barriers

Chq No 761 - £160; HALC; Affiliation fees and NALC Levy

Chq No 762 - £34.82; Caroline Cazenove; APM food (half)

Chq No 763 - £23.20; Vicky Reed; APM food (half)

Chq No 764 - £74.00; Beverley Guinness; APM Wine

Chq No 765 - £188.38; Andy Swanston (EVG); materials to build enclosure for Burial Ground grass cuttings

Chq No 766 - £300; Ian Simpson; labour clearing Lower Common Flood drainage area

Chq No 767 - £197.11; Ian Simpson, Chipper Hire and Fuel Lower Common Flood Resilience

* Cheques signed between meetings for administrative purposes.

Income:

£300 from Candover Parish Council , Ellisfield share of Lengthsman's grant

£500 HCC Anna McNair Scott grant flood resilience

£3,851.50 BDBC; ½ precept, limited grant, council tax support, double taxation grass cutting

£1,073.09 BDBC 2016;/17 litter picking grant

Allotment Account: Payments for approval,

Chq No 768 - £45.97; Vicky Reed; Allotment padlock (combination) and Sprayer

Income: £40 from Rose Gray

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

- a) Localism/HALC/Local business liaison. Following discussion at APM re lorries queuing and potholes in Bushywarren Lane, it was confirmed that Tony Simmons of EVA is monitoring incidents. Next liaison meeting Wednesday 14 June, Cllr Park-Weir to attend.

- b) Flood Resilience Project. All seemed to be working very well in last week's heavy rains, although the ground was not already waterlogged which is when the real problems have occurred in the past. Cllr Guinness proposed that Dave Salter (Digger Dave) is invited to return agree a programme of grip excavation with Cllrs Guinness and Richards (approved). Cllr Guinness to contact Dave Salter. It was also reported that someone (unknown) has excavated grips and drainage ditch fed by two pipes under Axford Road at Preston Oakhills and Cannon Wood. Cllr Guinness to ask Julian Evans (Nightingales) if he knows who did the work.
- c) Footpaths. Cllr Reed reported she had received two complaints regarding the footpath above Park View; the field had been ploughed too close to the edge destroying footpath. Cllr Reed reported she had contacted the farmer (Chris Allen who had promised to reinstate the path). Cllr Reed also reported she had finally received a reply to her email requesting Kit Lane to be re-designated a Byway with Restricted Access which indeed it is in winter when 4 x 4 traffic makes it impassable for anyone else. HCC seem reluctant to re-designate but Cllr Reed will follow up, she believes Brown Candover may have succeeded and cited *Horse and Hound - Horse Power Initiative.*
- d) Highways. Cllr Cazenove reported that the huge pools of water at The Green between the bus shelter and Hill Farm Pond returned following recent rains and remain a big problem and that any work done by HCC Highways had not been effective. Cllr Richards confirmed that this had been reported on numerous occasions to Dan Beasant, HCC Highways Engineer. The number and severity of potholes on village roads was also discussed. Cllr Park-Weir advised he had reported using 'Fill that Hole App' which confirmed HCC had been notified. Cllr Park-Weir to access a list of all reported potholes, Cllr Richards to liaise with HCC Highways re potholes and contact Dan Beasant again about flooding at The Green.
- e) Allotments. Cllr Reed reported she had spoken to all allotment holders individually and that a formal meeting of EAGA would take place in the Autumn. Two tenants have not yet paid rent JM to re-invoice. Cllr Reed also confirmed that a new padlock had been purchased, a sprayer and weedkiller to tackle overgrown areas, notably the Orchard. It was discussed and agreed that some allotment funds might be spent on a small rotavator to make digging more manageable. Also the meeting was reminded that in the past, Veolia had the facility to support projects in communities local to their sites which usually seems to involve allocating groups of staff to work on a project (perhaps clearing brambles). Historically this had extended to allowing Ellisfield allotment holders to collect Pro- Grow free of charge. JM to find old correspondence and pass to Cllrs Reed and Park-Weir to follow-up with Veolia to re-establish if they remain happy to do this.
- f) Memorial Hall: Cllr Taplin reported that the Memorial Hall committee held their AGM last week (16 May) attended by one village resident. Ray Reed had been re-elected Chairman, Alison Swanston as Minutes Secretary and Joanne Thomas as Social Secretary. Phil Self has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer, other committee members remain unchanged. Bank balance is currently there is £14,841. Income for

the year was £6,378 (fundraising and letting) which will be further boosted by a grant from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council of £17,000 for refurbishments to the hall. The successful bid was made by Susie Deane and the committee wished to thank her formally for the fantastic effort she put into this. Refurbishment of the kitchen is scheduled to start soon followed by new heating. Forthcoming fundraising events; Annual Wine Walk 23 June 2017 and Village BBQ 22 July 2017.

- g) Broadband: Cllr Park-Weir reported that he continued to liaise with Hampshire Broadband Initiative and Redraw in an effort to secure faster broadband speeds for the village and would set up a working party of those who had offered to help; Swanstons, Taylors and Bacons and to establish how many households are running businesses from home. It was reported that one individual had been experiencing difficulty in applying for vacant property at Farrier's Field due to extremely slow broadband speed.
- h) Burial Ground: Cllr Cazenove reported she had met with Ray Reed and members of EVG committee to assess difficulties mowing burial ground; uneven ground and fallen headstones. It was discussed and agreed that work required to level ground and replace headstones was unlikely to offend anyone whose relative's graves require attention. Clerk to consult HALC. Also following email correspondence between councillors between meetings Chairman confirmed he had instructed Andy Swanston (EVG Chair) to go ahead and construct wooden frame to collect grass-cuttings tidily. Cllr Guinness proposed a resolution to ratify the £190 expenditure. Agreed by all present.
- i) Land and Property; Review Risk Assessments: EVG had forwarded their updated Risk Assessments and JM had updated Risk Assessments for parish land, litter pickers and Hill Farm Pond. Following last meeting and earthworks undertaken by HCC at Lower Common; the area has been monitored during rains and water appears to drain well and soakaway quickly. Risk has been reviewed and local parents consulted and it is considered that the risk remains unchanged; the terrain at the back of Lower Common floodpit is equally as steep as new excavation which remains similar to local terrain. JM had confirmed this with Bernie Crisp, BDBC Play Area Manager. Cllr Reed provided an extract from a House of Lords ruling (Tomlinson v Congleton BC Case) which states *'that any premises can be said to be dangerous to someone who chooses to use them for some dangerous activity....it would be extremely rare for an occupier of land to be under a duty to prevent people from taking risks which are inherent in the activities they freely choose to undertake upon the land*. Also the need for signs was referred to as *'telling (the claimant) nothing he did not already know'*. All Risk assessments reviewed and approved at this meeting.

223. To discuss any matters which have arisen since the publication of the Agenda and that the Chairman considers urgent:

Airspace consultation; letter to Prime Minister discussed in 220 above. Cllr Guinness to action.

Affordable housing vacancy – 3 Farrier’s Field; Chairman confirmed recent email correspondence from Sovereign. Tracey Freeman agreed to help Sean with his application. Chairman confirmed date set for 2016/17 Annual Audit; Internal Audit is on Friday, 9th June at 6.00 pm. TM/JM to prepare for this.

Hampshire County Council, Small Grants Scheme, budget of £47,550 for 2017, to help fund projects to improve countryside paths and encourage people to explore more of their local countryside. The Scheme is now open for applications, the deadlines for 2017 are: 24th July, 23rd October, 22nd January. It was discussed and agreed JM to forward this information to Dee Haas, EVA Chair who had mentioned at APM that EVA were exploring possibilities of gaining access to old railway-line between Cliddesden and Winslade.

Insurance Policy due for renewal 01 June 2107, Cllr Guinness to track down paperwork and contact existing and potential insurance companies.

224. To recruit and employ a new Parish Clerk.

- a. Re-appoint Chairman as unpaid Clerk until the next meeting or until a more permanent appointment can be made.
- b. Discuss and review progress towards recruiting and appointing new Parish Clerk. Peter and Sylvia Raine had given Cllr Guinness the names of three referees; Cllrs Guinness, Cazenove and Reed to have telephone conversations with referees on Saturday 03 June ‘17.

Next meeting Monday 17 July - EPC

Forthcoming dates for 2017:

Mon 18 Sep - EPC

Mon 20 Nov - EPC

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Chairman Date