

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council held in Ellisfield Memorial Hall on September 18th 2017 at 8pm

Present

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

Peter Raine	
Sylvia Raine	Taking minutes

PC Andy Reid	Local Beat Officer
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238. Apologies for Absence Rose Taplin, David Richards

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

Open Forum

PC Andy Reid reported:

There were 3 incidents in the village since the last meeting:

- 13th August – concern for elderly female in the village who was later found to be in hospital.
- 20th August – domestic dispute - happened to a resident in the village, but the other party was elsewhere.
- 7th September – damage only road traffic accident in Red Lane.

6 crimes to date committed in the parish this year, which is less than for the same period in 2016.

PC Reid confirmed that he had continued to conduct speed enforcement on Axford Road.

240. To receive and approve minutes of meeting held on 17th July 2017

These were agreed and approved by all councillors

241. Matters arising from the minutes

None other than those dealt with on the agenda.

242. To consider planning applications

- There are no new planning applications to consider.
- 17/01811/HSE forge Cottage, Green Lane RG25 2QW
Erection of a replacement double garage with home office / games room above.
Status - **Granted**.

243. To receive a report on financial matters.

- The Chairman / Clerk circulated the current bank statement. Main account £14,512.30 (18th September 2017).
- £1,000.00 has been received from Barfoots (Herriard Bio Power) but is not in the bank yet.
- £607.22 VAT refund has been received.
- Cheques (766 and 767 totalling £497.11) for payment of Lower Common excavation work have been returned by Wendy Simson, Parish Clerk at Preston Candover because they are now to be made payable to Preston Candover Parish Council. An invoice from Preston Candover PC needs to be submitted to EPC.
- Following the completion of the Annual Audit Return, BDO raised some queries which the Chairman / Clerk responded to. BDO are now satisfied that all questions have been answered satisfactorily.

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

a Localism / HALC / Local business Liaison

- The Chairman reported that he had received a positive response to his requests for contributions to community funds from local businesses. Laings Solar Farm and Herriard Bio Power had both agreed to contribute £1,000.00.
- The Chairman asked for an update concerning the potholes on Bushywarren Lane as he thought there had been an accident there recently. Peter Raine reported that Hampshire Highways hoped to fill the potholes in the short term, with the expectation that the work should be carried out at the end of September / beginning of October.
- The Chairman explained residents' concerns about the reduction of the bus service from 6 days to 3. In Ellisfield, several elderly residents rely on the bus service, especially for hospital appointments, and 3 other parishes are also affected.
A meeting has been arranged at Brown Candover on 25th September at 7.30pm. to discuss this issue and to try and arrive at a better solution to the route and timetable that has been implemented. It was felt that the Parish Council should support residents by attending the meeting and Councillor Park Weir agreed to attend if possible.
Vice Chairman Cazenove agreed to contact those residents affected, to inform them of the meeting and arrange lifts if necessary.

b Flood resilience project

- It was agreed that the Chairman would ask Steve Brabbin if he would be the lengthsman now that Dave Salter has retired. He has a small digger that would be useful if he agrees to take on this role.
- The Chairman reported that he had contacted Hampshire Highways to request that work could be carried out to solve the drainage problems at Ellisfield Green, with the result that Steve Goodall, the area engineer for Ellisfield should be in contact to investigate this matter, in due course.
- Peter Raine agreed to walk round the village with the Chairman to consider drainage issues.

c Footpaths / Rights of way

Councillor Reed reported that she has continued to request that HCC take action to prevent rutting in Kitt Lane.

d Highways

- The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Mr Evans about the beech hedge at the corner of Green Lane and Axford Road, in view of the concerns raised by Mr Gould at the last meeting. Mr Evans had recently cut the hedge and agreed to do so twice a year in future.
- There was some discussion concerning speeding on Axford Road, which has been an issue for a long time. It was generally thought that it was hazardous for pedestrians approaching and negotiating the corner with Green Lane, due to poor visibility and traffic travelling too quickly. It was agreed that some sort of measure was needed to establish how bad the problem of speeding is. In order to achieve this, the decision was made to communicate with residents living at that end of the village to discover whether they are interested in forming a working party to research what other villages have done and to investigate how to proceed.
The Chairman agreed to draft a letter, with an option for response, to be delivered to residents. Also it was thought that David Richards might like to be involved as he lives at that end of the village.

e Allotments

- Councillor Reed reported that she has arranged a meeting of allotment holders on October 7th at 9.30am. to tidy up the allotment area. Veolia have agreed to provide Pro Gro at a reduced price and Mr Reed will lend a rotovator.
- Invoices are to be issued to allotment holders so that the Charity Commission return can be completed. Councillor Reed and the Chairman will provide information to enable Peter Raine to issue invoices.

f Memorial Hall

It was noted that the Memorial Hall now has a new kitchen and heating.

g Broadband

- Councillor Park Weir reported that he had researched a method of bringing a wireless service to the village using a private service called Redraw Internet, which has already been commissioned by Adrian Ferranti to bring a service to his property. Once this structure is completed, it would be possible to bring a wireless service to other parts of the village in stages, which would involve a total cost of approx. £7,500.00. This issue was discussed with particular reference to whether the use of a private scheme was viable, and also the different level of service likely to be provided by Open Reach to the top and bottom part of the village.
- The Chairman will ask HALC if it is possible to use public funds for such a project.
- Councillor Park Weir agreed to set up a working party to consider what options are available and how residents would like to proceed.

h Burial Ground

Vice Chairman Cazenove reported that the bench in the burial ground does need replacing. Money has been offered for a new one from the estate of Sally Adams. Vice Chairman Cazenove agreed to research the cost of appropriate benches.

i Land and Property

Peter and Sylvia Raine agreed to research types and prices of noticeboards.

j BDAPTC

No one had been available to attend the recent meeting.

k Welcome Packs

Sean Wheatley was pleased to receive his welcome pack. There were no other new residents.

245. To agree date / timetable for handover of clerk responsibilities to Peter and Sylvia Raine.

The Chairman outlined the job descriptions and terms of employment for the parish clerk. It was agreed that Peter and Sylvia Raine have a gradual handover, to this role, over the next 3 months, with payment of salary beginning on 1st October 2017.

The Chairman signed the contracts and gave them to Peter and Sylvia Raine to read, sign and return.

