

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council held in Ellisfield Memorial Hall on
Monday September 20th 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present

Richard Haas	Chair
Caroline Cazenove	Vice-Chair
Gordon Dunse	Councillor
Andy Swanston	Councillor
Peter Raine } Sylvia Raine}	Joint Parish Clerk
Juliet Henderson	HCC Councillor
Paul Gaskell } Diane Taylor }	B&DBC Councillors
Members of the public	4

603 Apologies for Absence PCSO Andy Jones
Gavin Park-Weir

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

Open Forum

The Chairman welcomed all Councillors and members of the public to the Open Forum section of the meeting.

EPC was keen to hear the visiting councillors' views about how to solve the perceived housing shortage within Basingstoke and Deane. These issues were discussed for approximately half an hour.

The situation at present is that the government has issued the quota of houses which B&DBC is required to build. So far, there are 5 potential sites to be considered and 1 or 2 of them will be chosen. Although Upper Swallick has not been chosen as one of these so far, there is no guarantee that it will be formally rejected.

In objecting to the Upper Swallick, Councillor Gaskell suggested that one needs to argue against the major attraction of the scheme: that the development would be built on land owned by one landowner.

Tim Guinness questioned why the Manydown land which was bought many years ago is not considered to be the main area for housing development. Councillor Taylor explained that the proposed Manydown numbers were already included in the calculations. Also, this development involves the creation of much infrastructure which causes delays. She also expressed her own frustration at the delay, as houses need to be built within a certain time frame to avoid decisions being taken out of the Council's hands. If quotas are not met there will be financial implications. Councillor Henderson suggested that if the law needs to change so that building has to begin within a certain time frame, then our MPs should be consulted.

She also suggested that B&DBC should challenge the algorithm which produces the quotas according to 3 exceptional circumstances:

Basingstoke has a history of building houses

The Borough includes the source of the River Lodden with its rare chalk streams

This is a very rural area with large tracts of green space which should be protected for the benefit of the community.

Tim Guinness also expressed his disappointment that a neighbour has broken the unofficial commitment to not building on the south of the M3. If this does begin, a precedent will be set and development is likely expand rapidly, reducing accessible countryside.

Dee Haas asked what was going to be done about infrastructure in terms of drainage if Basingstoke continues to expand, the River Lodden will not be able to cope. Why isn't sustainable drainage a statutory requirement for new housing?

Councillor Taylor explained that B&DBC is obliged to provide infrastructure such as drains and roads, if developers require it. Councillor Henderson said that it was possible for HCC to strongly advise against if necessary.

The Chairman asked how EPC could help the council to work towards a coherent system of housing development. It was agreed that EPC would work where possible with other parish councils to demonstrate and write to people of influence, eg Michael Gove. A water cycle study should be commissioned.

Meanwhile our borough councillors will keep us informed of any developments.

EPC should also continue to consider what makes the area unique and why it should not be built on. (See also Appendix 2 – notes from BDAPTC Meeting)

Steven Gould asked whether there was any update about the application for outline planning permission on the site at the bottom of College Lane.)(20/02977/OUT Sylvia Raine informed him that no decision had been made and there was no further information.

605 To receive and approve the minutes of the EPC meeting held on 19th July 2021.
The minutes were agreed and approved by all councillors and signed and dated by the Chair.

606 Matters arising from the minutes
None other than those dealt with on the agenda.

607 To consider planning applications:

21/02508/GPDADW College Farm Barn, College Lane, Ellisfield RG25 2QE
Notification of proposed change of use of Agricultural Building to a single dwelling (Class C3)

Tim Guinness asked whether one could comment about this application. It was explained that because it is an application for determination under the General Permitted Development Order comments cannot be taken into account.
EPC did not comment.

T/00380/GPDADW Fox Hill House, Green Lane, Ellisfield RG25 2QP
Removal of one eucalyptus tree and replace with an ornamental prunus.

This was discussed by email in between meetings and there were no objections.

608 To receive a report on financial matters.

Lloyds Treasurers Account as at 13.09.21	£13,730.05
Less un-cashed cheques:	0.00

Total	£13,730.05
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Add NS&I Savings Account:	<u>£10,514.15</u> (as at 1 st Jan 2021)
Balance	£24,244.20

Monies paid by BACS since last meeting:	
Tom Frankham re benches	<u>£90.00</u>
Total	£90.00

609	<p>Standing Orders & Direct Debits paid this financial year:</p> <p>Litter picking, Garage rental £615.76</p> <p>Income since last meeting:</p> <p>Bank apology £50.00</p> <p>Burial Ground interment fee re Anthea Harrington <u>£200.00</u></p> <p>Total £250.00</p> <p>Invoices issued since last meeting: Nil</p> <p>The following Main Account Payments were approved:</p> <p>Joint Clerks Salaries: Sylvia Raine £355.85</p> <p style="padding-left: 100px;">Peter Raine £355.85</p> <p>HMRC tax re salaries £170.00</p> <p>Clerk's expenses £84.34</p> <p>The following payments were also approved:</p> <p>BACS payment agreed by email between meetings: Tom Frankham £90.00 re benches</p> <p>Valley Tree Care for the removal of 2 trees in the burial ground: £300.00</p> <p>Peter Raine reported that Lloyds bank has now confirmed that EPC is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and have credited the account with £50 in recognition of their confusing handling of the issue.</p> <p>Councillor Dunse raised the issue of the need for a plan to budget for the maintenance of EPC's assets. It was agreed that he and the Chairman would walk around the village to check the state of the assets with a view to assessing future maintenance issues.</p> <p>To receive a report and approve any action needed on:</p> <p>a <u>Localism / HALC / Local Business Liaison</u></p> <p>The Chairman will write to local businesses to ask if they are able to make another annual contribution to the village.</p> <p>The Clerk will invite representatives of local businesses to TCC to meet the village community.</p> <p>b <u>Flood resilience project</u></p> <p>Lengthsman's work</p> <p>Steve Brabbin is much recovered from his operation and will begin lengthsman's work in the near future.</p> <p>Peter Raine will liaise with Wendy Simson about this year's lengthsman's grant.</p> <p>Rats in the floodpits</p> <p>Sylvia Raine contacted the rat catcher who informed her that he has a kind of poison which is less harmful to other wildlife. She then spoke to Rob Pluckrose again, who seemed to think that since the heavy rainfall, the rats had been less evident. It was decided by email in between meetings to not take any action at present and this was confirmed at the meeting.</p>	
	RH/ GD	
	RH	
	SR	
	PR	

<p>Work to grip on Bell Lane</p> <p>Julian Wright reported that during heavy rainfall, a grip in Bell Lane near Kit Lane House became blocked causing the lane to flood. Peter Raine cleared out the silt and the lengthsman will be asked to deal with this more thoroughly later in the year.</p>	PR
<p>c <u>Footpaths / Rights of way</u></p>	
<p>Councillor Dunse will address the issue of gates 1 and 2 on footpath 5 needing attention.</p>	GD
<p>d <u>Highways</u></p>	
<p>Update on SID project</p>	
<p>Councillor Swanston has compared the results taken from the SID with those taken from the traffic census undertaken in April 2008. In summary, in all cases, cars travelling up to the 2 speed thresholds (i.e.30mph and 39mph) have improved, with those travelling westbound having the most impact. The SID therefore does seem to be slowing the speed of traffic. (See Appendix 1)</p>	
<p>Clearing of drains at the bottom of College Lane</p>	
<p>There has been no further communication with HH about the drains on Axford Road. Councillor Swanston will contact the highways engineer who assisted with the introduction of the SID to discuss this issue and seek advice about heavy loads using the lanes. (See item 617)</p>	AS
<p>e <u>Memorial Hall</u></p>	
<p>Councillor Dunse reported that there are no concerns about the Memorial Hall.</p>	
<p>f. <u>Burial Ground</u></p>	
<p>Update on registration of land.</p>	
<p>The registration of the extra strip of land is completed. Hampshire Legal Services will send the original documents in due course.</p>	
<p>Consecration of the new area of burial ground.</p>	
<p>Peter Raine has sent an email to all invitees for the consecration which has been arranged for Monday 4th October at 9.30am. The Rt Rev David Williams will officiate and there will be refreshments in the village hall afterwards. Sylvia Raine will send an email invitation to the village.</p>	SR
<p>Removal of trees</p>	
<p>The 2 trees which were causing damage to the boundary wall have been removed today by Valley Tree Care.</p>	
<p>Burial Ground Rules and Regulations</p>	
<p>Councillor Swanston has begun work to review the rules and regulations, including health and safety concerns.</p>	AS
<p>Construction of path</p>	
<p>Peter Raine has been unable to contact the contractor who originally agreed to make a path over the electric cable. There was some discussion about whether a path is necessary. It was agreed that a sign saying "Beware electric cable" will suffice.</p>	

Permission for a headstone for Roy Neville's grave.

This was agreed by email in between meetings and formally agreed in the meeting.

Permission for the interment of ashes of Anthea Harrington

This was agreed by email in between meetings and formally agreed in the meeting.

g. Land and Property

Registration of Hill Farm Pond.

The process of registration is underway and the documents are with the Land Registry Office. A tidy up of the area has been organised for 23rd October at 10am. Graham Simpson will ask if any EVG volunteers are available to help.

CC

Overhanging trees adjacent to the gravel pits

We are still waiting for Hampshire Highways to undertake work to trees at the gravel pits and near Hill Farm Pond. Peter Raine has tried to contact the tree officer but she has been on sick leave.

PR

Maintenance of village benches

Tom Frankham has cleaned the benches and treated them with preservative. EPC is grateful to Councillor Cazenove for providing the materials.

Broken Post on Lower Common

Steve Brabbin has secured a new post and we are awaiting his invoice.

PR

Repairs to bus shelter on Ellisfield Green

Steve Brabbin has cleared the vegetation around the shelter and recommended that the back and right hand side should be replaced with featheredge boarding at an extra cost of £600. There was a discussion about whether it was worth keeping the shelter. It was decided that it is a feature of the village and Steve Brabbin should be asked to give a quotation for renewing all sides so that no further repairs will be necessary for some time. Peter Raine will action this.

PR

Maintenance of climbing frame on Lower Common.

The Clerk has put a notice on the climbing frame advising that it should not be used as there is serious deterioration in some of the timber, exposing sharp ends of bolts which could be dangerous. The Chairman and Councillor Dunse will assess it's condition on their walk around the village. Peter Raine will ask Steve Brabbin to give a quotation for its repair.

GD/
RH
PR

h BDAPTC

Councillor Cazenove attended the recent meeting on 3rd September. Her report is in Appendix 2.

i. Welcome Packs

Councillor Cazenove reported that she has delivered welcome packs to the new residents at Highwood House and Water Rose. Sylvia Raine delivered a pack to the new residents of 6 Cannon Close.

610	<p>Superfast Broadband for North Ellisfield.</p> <p>Councillor Dunse confirmed that there is nothing new to report about this project.</p>	
611	<p>Upper Swallick Concept Proposal</p> <p>See Open Forum and Appendix 2</p>	
612	<p>Succession of Councillors</p> <p>Councillor Swanston has spoken to several residents in the south of the village to assess their interest in becoming involved with the parish council. It was agreed that he will ask Hayley Hall or Richard Holme if they would be willing to be co-opted onto the Council.</p>	AS
613	<p>Ground Source Heat Pumps</p> <p>Sylvia Raine has spoken to Alix Taylor who seems to have reached the conclusion that heat pumps are not the answer. She is researching other means of alternative forms of heating. She will report back to EPC.</p>	
614	<p>Platinum Jubilee celebrations</p> <p>Councillor Park-Weir sent a written report to the effect that he had visited most of the houses on Green Lane and identified several people who are willing to help organise celebrations. He plans to visit the remaining houses in the next month and have the first meeting in November or December.</p> <p>It was also suggested that fruit trees could be planted on Lower Common. Peter Raine reported that residents living opposite the Common have no objections to such a project. Peter Raine will speak to Julian Evans to ask advice about the best trees to plant, when to plant and whether planting trees in that strip would interfere with the growth of wild flowers.</p>	GPW PR
615	<p>Litter Warden Changeover</p> <p>Sylvia Raine reported that Ffion Turberfield has changed her litter picking route to Green Lane and Ollie Webb has started the College Lane route as from 1st August.</p>	
616	<p>Councillor Grant Scheme</p> <p>Paul Gaskell has been asked whether a heavy duty strimmer would qualify for the Councillor Grant Scheme. He is waiting to find out more details about the scheme.</p>	PR
617	<p>Overweight vehicles on the Lanes</p> <p>Steven Gould reported that a tank from the Ferranti's farm was driven down College Lane damaging verges and drains. This is not the first time that this has happened. The issue has been reported to PCSO Andy Jones who has confirmed that he will follow up the issue. Councillor Swanston will ask Andy to speak to the owner of the tank. He will also contact the engineer from HH to ask for advice about whether anything can be done to prevent future incidents.</p>	AS
618	<p>Leaving gift for the Retiring Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman will organise the gift and presentation.</p>	RH

619 To discuss any matters which have arisen since the publication of the agenda.

Councillor Dunse mentioned the derelict cottage next to The Pebbles on Green Lane. It was agreed that was becoming an eyesore and not very attractive for residents living on the opposite side of the road. The Chairman will try to ascertain the owner's intentions for the future of the property.

RH

The meeting closed at 9.18pm

Dates for future meetings.

Monday 8th November

All meetings starting at 7.30pm

Signed Chairman

Date.....

Appendix 1

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

20/09/2021

SID ANALYSIS JAN-MAY 2021. PERCENTAGE OF CARS WITHIN THE TRACKED SPEED LIMITS WIRED DATA FROM APRIL 2018

MID POINT SID DATA WITHIN THE AXFORD ROAD RESTRICTED 30 MPH ZONE

	Axford Road Central East				Axford Road Central West			
	30 mph	34mph	39 mph	No of Cars	30 mph	34mph	39 mph	No of Cars
15/01/2021	57%	89%	97%	2810				
01/02/2021					69%	93%	99%	2448
15/03/2021	62%	87%	98%	3710				
15/04/2021					73%	95%	98%	3950
03/06/2021	60%	87%	95%	7542				

WIRED DATA WITHIN THE AXFORD ROAD RESTRICTED 30 MPH ZONE

	Axford Road Central East				Axford Road Central West			
	31 mph	34mph	37 mph	No of Cars	31 mph	34mph	37 mph	No of Cars
17/4/18 - 26/04/18	51%	-	86%	4402	43%	-	78%	4496

SUMMARY

The SID measures the entry speed (rather than the **exit speed** after passing the SID). The results will therefore always show an adverse picture in the terms of cars speeding at point of entry

To mitigate the **exit speed** limitation we included an addition location from the beginning of 2021 that is mid-point in the restricted zone opposite College Lane along the Axford Road. The figures above are a reflection of this.

When you compare the entry and mid-point results it is clear that cars are slowing down although there are still speeding violations

Whilst there are a significant number of cars exceeding the 30mph limit, a large proportion are under 34 mph limit which is encouraging

In general the higher speed violations take place between 7-9 am and 4-6 pm i.e. traveling to and from work to home

*** UPDATE ***

I've compared the Wired Data (data collected using wires across the road from April 2018 over a 10 day period) with midpoint data over first 6 months of 2021 – See Appendix.

Summary. In all cases cars travelling up to the 2 speed thresholds (i.e. 30mph and 39mph) has improved with the those travelling westbound having the largest impact. Note the wired data does not include a threshold up to 34 mph

Appendix 2

Notes from BDAPTC meeting 03.09.21 chaired by Simon Bound deputy leader of the council, and Cabinet Member for Communities Planning and infrastructure.

At the moment the Council is asking for sites and people's views. Same sites come up again and again.

Consultation policy focuses on infrastructure, affordability, transport and conservation.

Govt want us to build about 900 houses a year with a 10% buffer. The new plan to cover an additional ten years to 2039. In eighteen years, we need to build 17820 houses roughly. So far we have built 10,083 houses, so there is a shortfall of 7737 houses.

Mix of sites is important, large, medium and small.

Ultimate test of local plan, you have a five year growth plan. Council have pushed back already. Two years ago it was 1100 and so now down to 841-900 a year. Lots of greenfield sites are being promoted. We have built 841 houses a year for the last ten years and are way ahead of everyone else in Hampshire.

Sustainability- as a local authority we have been lucky with plenty of schools and roads to cope with new housing. Re levelling up, the government will probably send most of the money north so this makes sustainability more difficult for us. Because the formula for new housing has changed there is not a lot we can do, but hopefully the government will listen to our concerns. (We mean Michael Gove now). We must challenge the assumptions the government has made.

Is there a way of identifying what we need for local need. Until the result of the Census is out, Council can't be sure.

Council wants to enable rural areas to grow and need to identify the character of the settlements.

Approx 1400 new homes have been built in rural areas. Support for Neighbourhood Plans. The bigger the settlement, the bigger the development. It's important the Parish councils should allocate where development, if any, should take place. If a village has a primary school, and furthermore it's over-subscribed, then this is important when it comes to planning. (Cliddesden) one extra form in a school requires 1000 new houses.

Following indicative housing requirements

Overton. 260

Talley. 1030

Whitchurch. 310

Bramley 70

Kingsclere 175

Oakley 200

Old basing 210

Borough council reckons we have taken more than our fair share. Allocation for rural villages

Preston Candover 10

Cliddesden. 20

Dummer . 10

Upton Grey 0

Highclere 15

Sheffield on Lodden. 35

Pressure to build on greenfield sites comes from the government. The numbers will require us to make some challenging decisions re development north, south, east and west.

Whether we can challenge the government over numbers is difficult to know . As Juliet Henderson said we have a huge history of building houses, the source of the river Lodden is in Basingstoke and flows north to meet the Thames at Wargrave in Berkshire and the rural communities have a huge amount of natural beauty.

Caroline Cazenove
