

**Minutes of a Meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council
held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 29 October 2012**

Present

Tim Guinness (Chair) Caroline Cazenove (Vice-Chair), Gavin Park-Weir, David Richards, Rose Taplin, Julian Wright (Councillors)

Apologies: None

In Attendance

Jacqueline Matthews (Clerk)
PC Andy Reid. Local Beat Officer, Hampshire Constabulary)

3 members of the public

Noted – Welcome to new parish councillor, Gavin Park-Weir elected following resignation of Cllr Andrew Webb

1. **Apologies for Absence.** None
2. **To Receive Declarations of Interests on any matter on this Agenda.** None
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17 September 2012.** Agreed and signed as a true record.
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (for which no relevant Agenda Item is listed below). None
5. **OPEN FORUM – PC Andy Reid reported that unfortunately there had been a rise in crime in the village over the past 10 months, most recently; road traffic accident on Grammarsham Lane, tree fallen on Furzen Lane, possession of cannabis on Axford Road, theft of heating oil from Fordham House.**

Proposed changes to Policing numbers were discussed, Cllr Guinness reported he had replied to email from Chief Inspector Steve Wallace notifying proposed reductions asking for further information about police numbers and how the cuts would affect both rural and urban police numbers, it was noted that County Councillor, Anna McNair Scott was organising an evening meeting to discuss rural policing. P C Reid reported that Hampshire Chief Constable, Alex Marshall, to become the chief executive of the new national College of Policing and decisions regarding police manning levels not likely to be made until his replacement appointed.

It was noted that six candidates will stand for election as the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight on Thursday 15 November 2012. David Goodall (Liberal Democrat), Simon Hayes (Independent), Don Jerrard (Justice and Anti-Corruption Party), Michael Mates (Conservative), Jacqui Rayment (Labour) and Stephen West (UKIP). Ellisfield Polling Station to be Memorial Hall as usual.

Ted Dowson asked (after Andy Reid had left) about Community Speedwatch; he had read an article in Basingstoke Gazette and wondered if it might be suitable for Axford Road. Local residents of Axford Road would like more frequent monitoring of traffic speeds and if police are unable to do this, perhaps Community Speedwatch might be the answer. It appears that 7 volunteers are needed to join

the scheme; equipment can be purchased or perhaps hired from other parishes. Ted Dowson to see if there are seven people willing to participate, Clerk to ask P C Reid if Axford Road a suitable site for Community Speedwatch even though Hampshire Police Officers currently monitor the road. Action: Clerk and Ted Dowson

Mrs Meg Freeman asked if the parish council was aware there was new wire fencing at the 'top' of the 'zig-zag' path. It was noted that the fencing was not obstructing the path but preventing walkers from taking an alternative route rather than staying on the path which crosses a field. Paul Turner reported that landowner, Adrian de Ferranti had recently indicated that the stiles at the top of the 'zig-zag' path could be replaced by 'kissing gates.' Councillor Wright to speak to landowner.

Action: Cllr Wright

- 5. To receive an update on current Planning Applications and to consider any new Planning Applications:** Clerk issued a written summary of current/recent planning applications as follows:

BDB/76263 College Farm House, College Lane: Erection of a single storey front extension – **Approved**

BDB/76637/38 Hill Farm Cottage, Green Lane Erection of a rear extension and associated alterations following demolition of existing rear extension – no objection from parish councillors – **Granted**

Conservation Area: Ellisfield Notice of Intent **T/01013/12/TCA** to fell 1 Ash tree at Kit Lane House, Bell Lane – **No local objections- Approved**

BDB/76333 Land adjoining green waste composting facility, Bushywarren Lane Construction of anaerobic digestion installation for rotational arable crops and local food waste together with landscaping and highway improvements - Approved with conditions Copy of final conditions received from Kristina King HCC

Cllr Wright reported he and Dee Haas and Susie Deane had visited Planning QC in London who advised unlikely to win judicial review. Also The New Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan which was considered in this application but not applied had again gone out to consultation and whilst this would not help Ellisfield, it might prevent other ADs on greenfield sites across Hampshire.

Action: Cllr Wright to draft EPC response to latest consultation

The need to monitor deliveries and construction of AD plant to prevent contravention of building conditions was discussed and it was agreed to set up a working party to be chaired by Cllr Wright for this, Cllrs Guinness and Wright agreed to co-opt members from College Lane area. Action not required immediately as developers must produce method statements before proceeding.

Action: Cllrs Guinness and Wright

BDB 75822 Solar Farm Bushywarren Lane, Variation of Condition 1 of Planning Permission BDB/73851 to amend plan numbers to relocate the solar farm to the northern perimeter of the site and redistribute solar panels within an alternate field layout; reduce the height of solar panels from 3.3m to 2.3m; erect a earth bund; relocate fencing line and amend specification to replace approved

1.1m stock proof fencing with 2m stock proof fence; amended number, size and location of control box, switch gear and inverter equipment; amended number, location and size of CCTV camera systems; and amended landscaping scheme (Part Retrospective). Approved after adjournment and consultation with village

Cllr Wright reported that work had started and there were concerns it would not be complete by the end of the year as suggested in retrospective planning permission. Cllr Guinness confirmed the change of ownership of Solar Farm from Alectron to John Laing, Cllr Guinness to make contact and liaise with new owners, John Laing Infrastructure Fund Ltd. *Action: Cllr Guinness*

Veolia site, Bushywarren Lane: Cllr Wright stated there had been another report of lorries queuing before the site opens each morning – to be confirmed. Also concern about reports that more trees are to be felled adjacent to the site and land to be sold to BDBC for road widening. It was discussed and agreed to establish specifically which trees are to be felled and whether or not they are in a SINC (Site of importance for nature Conservation). *Action: Cllr Wright*

Landscaping of Telecoms mast College Lane: Cllr Guinness provided councillors with copy of email correspondence between himself and John Jervoise (landowner) regarding completion of landscaping around mast to comply with planning conditions. Whilst agreeing to pay for planting, it remained to be agreed whether Herriard estates will pay for labour. *Action: Cllr Guinness*

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

- i. **Highways:** Clerk reported that between meetings Portsmouth Estates notified their intention to cut hedgerow of field opposite Fox Inn – residents opposite field were notified and had no objection. Work to take place in November – severe cutback initially then boxed hedge.

Still no sign of grips being cleared by mechanical digger – more heavy rains recently have caused localised flooding. Clerk reported she had sent another reminder email to Keith Holdsworth, HCC Highways on 05 October to request date for mechanical digger to clear grips. Also to ask would HCC be happy for parish council to carry out this work using a contractor and what level public liability insurance would be necessary. As no response had been received, it was discussed and agreed that Cllr David Richards to go to HCC Highways to speak to Keith Holdsworth or his boss.

Action: Cllr Richards

Basingstoke Half Marathon came through village between 11.30 and 2.00pm on Sunday 07 October 2012

- ii. **Web Site & Broadband:** Cllr Guinness asked Paul Turner to report on progress with transfer of website from BDBC to new host;

Having explored options from potential hosts VisionICT and parish.net , Paul explained it appeared the most obvious way to progress was to produce a layout which would be suitable for Ellisfield's needs. Using Serif's WebPlus X6 software to create a template with five top-level pages, namely Home, Amenities, Groups,

Parish Council and Local Information.

As it stands at the moment:

Home has 2 child pages - *News & Events* and *Ellisfield History*

Amenities has 4 child pages - *St Martin's Church and Hill & Dale*, *Memorial Hall*, *Parish Land* and *The Fox Inn*

Groups has 6 child pages - *Horticultural Society*, *Ladies Club*, *Neighbourhood Watch*, *Recycling Initiative*, *Village Association* and *Volunteer Group*

Parish Council has 5 child pages - *Parish Council Information*, *Meeting Minutes*, *Newsletters*, *Planning* and *Contact Us*

Local Information has no child pages.

Paul went on to explain he then copied in some of the content data from the current ellisfield.gov.uk site to get a feel for how the layout would look and quickly came to the conclusion that his recommendation to the parish council would be to continue importing all the content and, when that was completed, BDBC could be asked to continue hosting the ellisfield.gov.uk domain (something they have already offered to do - for £50pa) and to set-up an automatic redirect to the new website's Parish Council page. Paul estimated that the new website could be ready for publication by the end of November thus enabling the Parish Council to claim the £375 grant currently being offered for transferring away from BDBC before the end of the year. Once the new website is live, discussion can then take place as to whether or not to transfer to VisionICT, parishcouncils.net or AN Other.

The above recommendation was discussed and agreed.

BROADBAND: Cllr Wright reported recent emails and discussions with Hampshire County Council and BDBC/Enterprise M3, The HCC programme is tied up in EU issues and has been for a while. Although HCC are optimistic about starting the tendering process, they may be unable due to state aid considerations. It appears that going forward the only players left in the tendering process are BT. Steve Spillane (Enterprise M3 and also working with John Jervoise) is pursuing another variant of cable to the premise, wireless based on a solution deployed in Hatch Warren and trying to get a specific quote for Ellisfield and Herriard out of BT. Also one Ellisfield household has a satellite installation going in which could be at least a stop gap solution and will provide an opportunity to test for both speed and resilience.

- iii. **Land and Property:** Nothing new to report. Cllr Park-Weir to take special interest in this aspect of parish council matters.
- iv. **Allotments:** It was confirmed that Cllr Taplin agreed to take special interest in this aspect of parish council matters at last meeting.

AGM cancelled due to illness – to be rescheduled as soon as possible, Cllr Taplin to liaise with Clerk and EAGA Chair, Jenni Krauklis-Gould.

Clerk reported Pat Gould had given notice to give up double allotment; requests for additional half allotments have been received from Adam and Tracey Gilvear and Trevor Lucas. Approved

- v. **Rights of Way:** Cllr Wright to follow-up issues discussed in Open Forum.
- vi. **Burial Ground:** Clerk approached funeral directors regarding repair of fallen headstone, Councillor Cazenove to follow-up.

- vii. **Environment:** Clerk reported request from resident Susie Deane to join CPRE. As a small Parish Council the cost is £3 pcm, discussed and agreed. *Action Clerk*

Following last meeting, Clerk reported she had emailed Seumas Foster and Julian Evans about finding a Tree Warden; some response – Seumas said he thought Ellisfield already had a tree warden (did anyone ask Paul Neville) but he SF would be interested to know more. Julian Evans responded he was in total support of the village having a tree warden and offered to help and support, suggesting Paul Neville be approached. Cllr Guinness agreed to talk to Seumas, Julian and Paul before next meeting. *Action: Cllr Guinness*

There was a brief discussion about Ash Tree dieback and it was agreed to await advice from BDBC Tree Wardens etc.

- viii. **Hill Farm Pond:** Cllr Cazenove reported all well with pond and surrounds, nettles on roadside edge were scheduled to be cut back, Cllr Cazenove to liaise with EVG. *Action: Cllr Cazenove*

- ix. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Nothing to report in addition to P C Reid's report.

- x. **Memorial Hall:** Nothing new to report

- xi. **Basingstoke District Association of Parish & Town Councils and Localism:** Clerk reported next meeting Parish Conference on Monday 26th November 2012 – councillors to advise clerk if they can attend. *Action All*

- xii. **New Residents:** New landlords at Fox Inn due to reopen Friday 02 November 2012

- xiii. **Affordable Housing:** Nothing new to report; Chairman reported he had had a conversation with Oliver Lymington who is still in favour of finding an appropriate site to build 1/2 commercial houses to subsidise the building of 2/4 affordable houses.

- xiv. **Localism/HALC:** Cllr Guinness confirmed that following an earlier meeting with Mike Townsend attended by Cllrs Guinness and Wright, it remains early days to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, the Basingstoke Local Plan still not complete; EPC would need to set up a working party with membership across village, members should be aware that there would be quite a time commitment and considerable cost to the parish. Discussions considered the possibility of combining with other villages and reviewing the progress and results of others who have already completed Neighbourhood Plan, e.g. Bray in Berkshire although it was noted that some villages have started working on plans and abandoned them due to excessive time/financial implications. Cllr Guinness committed to circulate information on Neighbourhood Plans as received and Cllr Cazenove committed to contact CPRE for guidance. Cllr Wright suggested a letter should be written to CPRE to establish whether the Basingstoke Local Plan will provide sufficient protection against unwanted development in the village. *Action: Cllrs Cazenove, Guinness and Wright*

8. **To receive a report from the Clerk on Administration Matters.** Nothing to report

9. To receive a report from the Clerk on Financial Matters.

Clerk provided a written report to all councillors - Monthly financial report (appendix 1)

Cheques to be signed and payments approved

03-Sep-12	approval of DD payment for kingfisher garage rental Aug 2012	38.82
03-Oct-12	approval of DD payment for kingfisher garage rental Sept 2012	38.82
03-Nov-12	approval of DD payment for kingfisher garage rental Oct 2012	38.82
03-Dec-12	approval of DD payment for kingfisher garage rental Nov 2012	38.82
29-Oct-12	S. Claessens (Litter Picking – Oct)	32.00
29-Oct-12	E. Rudd (Litter Picking - Oct)	32.00
29-Oct-12	S. Claessens (Litter Picking – Nov)	32.00
29-Oct-12	E. Rudd (Litter Picking - Nov)	32.00

10. To discuss any matters which the Chairman considers urgent: None

11. To decide upon the date of the next Meeting.

10 December 2012 – To discuss and agree Budget and Precept for 2013/14

The meeting closed at 9.40pm

Chairman

Date