

**Minutes of a Meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council  
held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 08 April 2013**

**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)

17 members of the public

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 25 February 2013;** 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 there had been no crime in the village since the beginning of February. Police attention had been called to a faulty/false house alarm activation at the beginning of the month, concern for a young man visiting the village who was un-contactable due to no mobile phone signal, a report of erratic driving which was associated with a legal car rally. On 27 March PC Reid had carried out speed enforcement on Axford Road and issued one speeding ticket for driver exceeding speed limit (41mph) another driver received a verbal warning, both from neighbouring village.*

*Mr Peter Hopwood of Axford Road commented that whilst Green Lane had been marked with white paint suggesting potholes were to be repaired, similar deep potholes along Axford Road had not been marked. It was discussed and agreed to report potholes on Hantsweb. Action Cllr Richards*

6. **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/77459 Northgate Cottage, Northgate Lane Demolition of existing garage/store, adjacent sheds and animal pens. Erection of new lofted outbuilding and garage to provide additional accommodation associated with the existing residential smallholding. Temporarily withdrawn by applicant

Clerk reported Mr Stuart Holland of Laurel House had informed that he had submitted a pre-planning application to BDBC to build small bungalow in the grounds of his house for retirement. As yet nothing received from BDBC.

**Update on issues relating to:**

**Anaerobic Digester;** Cllr Wright reported the road closure signs had been put up and work starting more than 5 weeks late. Clerk had sent a letter to developer following last EPC meeting expressing a number of concerns/comments – no response yet received. *Action Cllr Wright to follow-up*

**Solar Farm;** one remaining issue, the gates are inconsistent with planning permission, they had agreed in principle to replace gates with matching fencing. *Action Cllr Wright to follow-up*

**Telecoms mast (planting);** Clerk reported Nicky Palmer, assisted by Dee Haas and Susie Deane had organised the planting of 10 Holly and 10 Hazel protected by spiral rabbit guards on Monday 25 March. Invoices for plants and contractors to clear old hazel trees and plant new stock sent to Herriard Estates for payment.

Still outstanding the issue of kerbstones and whether they should be removed, landowner John Jervoise agrees and will out EPC in contact with main tenant.

**Veolia site;** Cllr Wright reported all concerns re noise etc had been addressed. Litter the only issue outstanding; Veolia had promised litter nets and regular litter sweeps but these seem inadequate.

*Action Cllr Wright*

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

- i. **Highways:** Cllr Richards reported that gullies on Axford Road need clearing and agreed to contact Keith Holdsworth, HCC Highways Engineer. *Action: Cllr David Richards*

Clerk confirmed white paint on road indicating potholes to repair when weather favourable – also understand all Ellisfield roads to have a top dressing before marathon.

ii. **Web Site & Broadband:**

**Broadband:** Cllr Guinness and Wright attended CLA/Enterprise M3 Broadband Conference: Delivering the Economic and Social Benefits of Superfast Broadband to the Rural Sector. Friday, 22 March 2013 Winchester (Country, Land and Business Association). Cllr Wright gave an overview of the current situation, a summary of which to be sent by email to all village residents;

1. *Hampshire County Council has signed a contract with BT for a programme that will roll out super-fast broadband to 90% of premises across the county by the end of 2015.*
2. *There are 3,500 premises in Hampshire within the final 10% that have broadband speeds less than the 2 mega-bit minimum standard. In these cases, which includes Ellisfield, BT will deploy point solutions to individual properties based on satellite, 4G or other technologies but this is currently scheduled for the final part of the three-year roll-out.*
3. *We are working with HCC and others to see what opportunities there may be for a comprehensive permanent solution, to super-fast standard, for Ellisfield and neighbouring villages and how this might be funded.*
4. *All of this is taking time and there are clearly some in the village who would like to invest in an immediate solution, albeit potentially a stop-gap. We have had a satellite system running in the village for a few months and as of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April have started trialling specialist 3G equipment. We plan to report back on the results of the 3G trial in May, contrasting this with what we already know about the satellite offering. This may be part of a parish council meeting or as a stand-alone event. Date to be announced in due course.*

**Website:** Nothing new to report – all up to date and current thanks to Paul Turner.

- iii. **Land and Property:** Last meeting Clerk reported letter had been received from village resident (R Colman, Lanterns, Cannon Close) reporting very poor state of Lower Common noticeboard (wood rotting and hinges failing) and Cllr Gavin Park-Weir to research replacement of all village, it was discussed and agreed that Cllr Guinness would pass on his previous research into replacing noticeboards and Cllr Park-Weir would report to next meeting.

Clerk reported that the outside of the phone box library had been cleaned and Paul Turner was thanked for this. It was discussed and agreed that a group/working party needed to take responsibility for ensuring contents are kept up to date and changed regularly and advertised on website, Hill & Dale and Basingstoke Gazette.

- iv. **Allotments:** Clerk reported AGM to cover 2011/12 and 2012/13 seasons held Sunday 17 March 2013, All rents paid to date. It had been discussed and agreed to ask Parish Council if date for renewing tenancy and paying rent could be moved from 01 April to 01 October each year as this time of year is preferable when a tenant decides to give up their allotment as the incoming tenant can prepare the ground through the winter ahead of the new growing season. Parish Councillors had no objection to this, Clerk to write and inform tenants with invoice for first 6 months.
- v. **Rights of Way:** Nothing new to report, Cllr Wright to liaise with Adrian de Ferranti regarding kissing gates on zig-zag path.
- vi. **Burial Ground:** Nothing new to report.
- vii. **Environment:** Nothing new to report.

- viii. **Hill Farm Pond:** Cllr Cazenove reported Seumas Foster was content for area adjacent to the road to be grassed once Hill Farm Cottage building works complete and area kept clear of nettles with strimmer.
- ix. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Nothing new to report
- x. **Memorial Hall:** Cllr Taplin reported a letter had been sent to all village organisations inviting them to send a member to join the committee, the constitution was to be reviewed and then a date set for an Annual General Meeting. It was discussed and agreed that once the committee was formed then suggestions for additional equipment (Screen etc) and facilities should be raised.
- xi. **Basingstoke District Association of Parish & Town Councils and Localism:** Cllr Richards attended meeting 27 March 2013 and reported there were some concerns about possible changes in parish funding and budgeting for 2014/2015. Grant support from government and BDBC may continue at current levels, so even zero budget increases may cause council tax demands to exceed government ceilings on % increases . If so, then just a few residents can demand a referendum which will need to be paid for by parish council at a potential cost of £4,000.
- Also, BDBC continue to working on an updated Code of Conduct which all parish councils may like to adopt, this will clarify what are disclosable interests and how parish council should manage them.
- Date of next meeting, which is also AGM , is June 20th in Basingstoke Civic Offices at 7.30
- xii. **New Residents:** Cllr Guinness reported June and Jeffrey Yates at The Bell House. Also new manager at The Fox Inn, Stuart Fraser.
- xiii. **Affordable Housing:** Cllr Guinness reported some recent email correspondence from Simon Linford (SL) and Oliver Lymington (OL) all copied to parish councillors. Cllr Guinness asked parish councillors if it was appropriate to continue to talk to SL and OL and it was agreed to revisit thinking about the site at the bottom of Fox Hill. SL had committed to do some more research into BDBC Local Plan – still not confirmed.
- xiv. **Localism/HALC:** Cllr Cazenove and Clerk to attend CPRE Workshop on Neighbourhood Plans on 07 May 2013.

#### 8. To receive a report from the Clerk on Administration Matters.

Clerk reported an email received from NALC: Following a meeting with Brandon Lewis, Under Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government, NALC has been asked to provide examples of how parishes are working to boost growth and to suggest an incentive scheme encouraging parish and town councils to work with their communities specifically to boost local economic development.

It was discussed and agreed that as Ellisfield had had some schemes locally to which there was widespread opposition and as Section 106 cannot be applied, some support for local initiatives such as improved broadband would be appreciated. Response to Victoria Pymm [<mailto:victoria.pymm@nalc.gov.uk>] by close of play on 17 April 2013. It was also agreed to contact MP Maria Miller and County Councillor Anna McNair Scott in this respect.

Action: Cllr Wright

The need for a Parish Council Newsletter was discussed and it was agreed that information could be communicated via the website and printed and delivered to those known not to have internet access.

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

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

2012/13 End of year PAYE complete. In future have to report using new HMRC system PAYE-RTI – Real Time Information

## Cheques to be signed and payments approved

08-Apr-13	Broadband Conference fees Cllrs Guinness and Wright	20.00
08-Apr-13	Annual membership CPRE	29.00
08-Apr-13	HALC Affiliation Fee for 2012/13	134.00
08-Apr-13	NALC Levy for 2012/13	14.00
08-Apr-13	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental	42.86
08-Apr-13	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental	42.84
08-Apr-13	Caroline Cazenove – repay cost of CPRE conference	24.00

Andy Swanston, Ellisfield Volunteer Group Chair, asked whether EVG tender had been formally accepted (Yes) it was discussed and agreed that EPC would invoice EVG for half the garage rent. Action: Clerk

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

**11. To decide upon the date of the next Meetings:**

It was confirmed that next EPC meeting would be Monday 13 May 2013, immediately preceded by Annual Meeting of EPC (election of Chair, Vice-Chair, Trustees and Special Interests).

Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Friday 17 May 2013 – clerk to send usual invitations  
*Open Forum.*

Paul Turner made the following points;

1. Confirmed offer of help to JM
2. Burial ground rubbish bin full – needs to be taken to road (CC and RT)
3. Suggested adding a request for inclusion on village email register to Welcome Pack
4. Who is responsible for contents of phone box (changing/updating books etc) AW
5. Newsletters on website all PDF, suggested Buddy System for delivery to those without internet access.

**The meeting closed at 10.08pm**

Chairman ..... Date .....