

**Minutes of a Meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council
held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 02 September 2013**

Present

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

Apologies: David Richards, Rose Taplin

In Attendance

Jacqueline Matthews (Clerk)
PC Andy Reid. Local Beat Officer, Hampshire Constabulary)
One member of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence.** Cllrs Richards and Taplin
2. **To Receive Declarations of Interests on any matter on this Agenda:** Cllr Guinness declared an interest in planning application 13/01052/LBC, Widmoor Farm, College Lane.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 01 July 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 handed Chairman a written report of incidents since last parish council meeting; fallen tree across Bell Lane, Speed Enforcement in Axford Road, resulting in 4 warnings & 2 speed enforcement tickets issued, local man reported missing – returned home, RTA Berrydown Lane, domestic dispute in Green Lane, report of man attempting suicide off Furzen Lane.**
6. **To receive an update on current Planning Applications and to consider any new Planning Applications:** Written summary of current/recent planning applications in agenda:

Cllr Guinness withdrew from meeting room for discussions on application 13/01052/LBC, Widmoor Farm, College Lane.

Application number/Address	Details
13/00688/HSE 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. Still pending decision
13/00619/HSE Blencathra, The Green	Erection of side extension with front and rear dormer windows and roof lights, pitched roof to existing flat roofed dormer window and erection of a rear porch. Granted
13/01466/HSE 3 Park View, Green Lane	Erection of single storey front and side and first floor rear extensions. Erection of store to front. Alterations to rear roof line and installation of new windows to south east and north east elevations. <i>Support but some concerns of visual impact of front elevation and any concerns from neighbours.</i>
13/01052/LBC Widmoor Farm College Lane	Replacement of existing crittal windows with timber units. <i>No objections</i>
13/01130/LBC Hill Farm Cottage Green Lane	Reconstruction of chimney stack (retrospective) <i>No objections</i>
T/00711/13/TCA Mulberry House College Lane	Intent to reduce Height/Canopy by approx. 7metres, one Lime tree in back garden. <i>No objections</i>

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

i. Localism/HALC/Local business liaison (Cllrs Guinness/Wright/Park-Weir)

The Fox Inn: Chairman invited Paul Turner to explain that a 'community website' had been set up for The Fox Inn. It was reported that the new managers (Graham and Sue Dove) continue to improve on early success. There was some discussion about what might happen if the current managers don't stay and whether a 'Community Purchase' might be the alternative long-term solution. Cllr Guinness reported he had been seeking advice on this matter from industry experts.

Anaerobic Digester Cllr Wright reported he had met with Chris Cooper of Barfoots (Operating and Construction Company) and the following matters were discussed;

- Complaint raised at last EPC meeting that construction traffic was using Bell Lane, the situation had been addressed, Cllr Wright had asked for a letter from Barfoots confirming action taken to prevent recurrence.
- Large lorries had been 'cutting the corner' at the entrance to the site, Barfoots had suggested that a large piece of Portland stone be placed at the entrance to prevent lorries turning right instead of left; this was discussed and approved.
- There had also been a suggestion to build up the verges at new passing places in Bushywarren Lane to deter vehicles going over the kerb to the verge, it was discussed and agreed to wait until construction finished to see if the problem is just construction traffic rather than normal road users.
- Landscaping; at the original meeting between Barfoots, EPC and EAGA agreement had not been reached about the landscaping plans, it was discussed and agreed to wait until the construction of principal structure complete and review again (JW/DH/CC)
- As construction still in progress Barfoots advised that there may be some possible traffic disruption towards the end of September/early October when there would, over a period of 3 days, 300 deliveries of Maize crop to the site. Approximately 5,000 tonnes of Maize (silage variety) from farms on the Herriard Estate will be transported via farm road and track utilising tractor/trailer combinations. When they meet the crossing point of Bushywarren Lane (opposite the entrance to the Solar Park) they will cross the road and follow a purpose built farm track. Due to ongoing construction works with site traffic and maintaining good site safety, as a one off event for this year only, Barfoots would like to send the empty tractor/trailers back off site and down Bushywarren Lane (approximately 320 metres distance) before they re-enter the farm road/track network. It was discussed and agreed that on a one-off basis this is reasonable, provided that no farm traffic enters the road network heading towards Ellisfield before 8:30am on working days to minimise conflict with local traffic. This information to be communicated to village residents through a newsletter and details of precise dates to be circulated by email, posted on village website and noticeboards.
- Cllr Wright reported Barfoots had offered to make an annual contribution of £1,000.00 to the Parish funds of Ellisfield (they have offered the same to Herriard), this sum of money will be paid in December on commissioning of the Digester Plant and is not linked to any specific project or issue and as such is offered as a general non obligatory contribution to the local community for the Parish to administer. It was discussed and agreed that it should be seen as a positive thing that and good working relationships should be established with Barfoots.

Solar Farm Nothing new to report

Telecoms mast (planting) etc. Nothing new to report

Veolia site Cllr Park-Weir reported that he had exchanged emails with Paul Stocker Veolia Operations Director, Hampshire but had not yet managed to arrange a meeting to discuss issues relating to lorries parked outside site awaiting opening and litter spreading from site.

- ii. Highways:** Clerk reported a village resident had contacted Cllr Taplin to complain about trees etc growing into middle of road particularly between Lower Common and The Fox, this complaint had been passed on to HCC Highways Engineer.

Also Clerk confirmed that stretch of Green Lane adjacent to Hill Farm Pond not yet resurfaced had been reported to HCC Highways ahead of the Basingstoke Half-Marathon.

Clerk circulated copy of letter from Axford Road resident, Peter Hopwood, enclosing an article from the Alton Herald reporting Alton Town Council had supported parishes to purchase and operate Community Speedwatch equipment. It was discussed and agreed to take up Mr Hopwood's suggestion and include an item in next parish council newsletter asking for volunteers to register their willingness to become involved in such a scheme.

- iii. **Web Site** – Clerk confirmed that the new www.ellisfield.org.uk website had been entered into the Hampshire Association of Local Council's e-mango award for Best Local Council website.
- iv. **Broadband** Cllr Wright reported that the campaign to bring improved broadband to rural areas had now entered a new phase with more central government money (to be administered by BDUK) becoming available with the aim to improve broadband speeds to 95% of properties although this is not scheduled to happen until Q4 2017. Cllr Wright confirmed that he would still pursue alternative solutions to improve speeds within this time-scale.
- v. **Land and Property:** Cllr Park-Weir reported back results of research into options for replacing village noticeboards; numerous companies produce single pane notice-boards for approx. £500 and the joiner who made the existing notice-board on Lower Common could replace it for £1,500. Cllr Park-Weir reported local builder Steve Brabbin had quoted £100 for restoring existing Lower Common notice-board. It was discussed and agreed to accept this quote and to continue to explore funding options for replacing aluminium notice-boards on bus shelters and Bell/College Lane junction.
- vi. **Allotments:** Clerk reported most tenants had paid rent – also there had been an issue with one allotment-holder not tending his allotment and causing weeds to spread to other plots, EAGA Chair, Jenni Krauklis-Gould had approached offending allotment holder who had addressed problem.

Cllr Guinness reported allotment holder Trevor Lucas had asked EVA Chair, Dee Haas to ask parish council why there was not an adequate water supply to allotments. It was discussed and agreed to establish why Bowser was not working. *Action Clerk*
- vii. **Rights of Way:** Cllr Wright reported the cost of 'kissing-gates' to replace 'stiles' on 'zig-zag' path;
 - Wood - £1,232 (inc VAT)
 - Metal £1,360 (inc VAT)
- viii. **Burial Ground:** Nothing new to report
- ix. **Environment:** Nothing new to report
- x. **Hill Farm Pond:** Cllr Cazenove asked Paul Turner to liaise with EVG to strim the verge in front of pond.
- xi. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Nothing new to report in addition to monthly report issued by email
- xii. **Memorial Hall:** Cllr Taplin reported there had been a meeting of the new committee on 09 July and Cllr Richards had attended in her place. Dick and Celia Lunn have now taken over cleaning the hall each week, discussions also included approaching EVG to cut grass, possible future entertainment and research into possible alternative methods of heating the hall and perhaps involving village volunteers to redecorate. Clerk reported it is understood EVG have declined to undertake the additional grass cutting. Next Committee meeting scheduled for 16/17 September.
- xiii. **Basingstoke District Association of Parish & Town Councils and Localism:** Cllr Richards had attended latest meeting; nothing new to report.

New Residents: Cllr Guinness requested a Welcome Pack to be delivered to Sue and Graham Dove at The Fox.
- xiv. **Affordable Housing:** Cllr Guinness reported he had begun to read the BDBC Pre-Submission Local Plan 2011 – 2029 Draft for public consultation and drew councillors attention to sections that would be of specific interest to Ellisfield and explained a number of proposals in the draft plan that will directly affect future planning (decisions) in Ellisfield;
 - Neighbourhood Planning

- New Housing in the Countryside
- Affordable Housing
- Landscape Impact

Clerk to print and deliver the above sections to councillors. It was also discussed and agreed to arrange a training session for councillors to further explore the Draft Local Plan to enable informed response.

- 8. To receive a report from the Clerk on Administration Matters.** Nothing received by post, all emails relevant forwarded to councillors
- 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

02-Sep-13	S. Claessens (Litter Picking – Sept)	32.00	SO
02-Sep-13	E. Rudd (Litter Picking - Sept)	32.00	SO
02-Sep-13	S. Claessens (Litter Picking – Oct)	32.00	SO
02-Sep-13	E. Rudd (Litter Picking - Oct)	32.00	SO
02-Sep-13	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (Sept)	42.84	DD
02-Sep-13	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (Oct)	42.84	DD

- 10. To discuss any matters which the Chairman considers urgent:** Chairman reported he had received a letter from village resident, Stuart Holland who had had a pre-planning application to build a bungalow in the garden of his property refused by BDBC planners. Cllr Guinness explained that whilst this additional residence on site already occupied by a house was not permitted under existing BDBC planning rules; once new Local Plan was adopted, this type of development might be permissible. It was discussed and agreed that in order to understand the situation better, Stuart Holland should be asked to send copy of proposal to Clerk; it was also suggested that under new rules, perhaps Stuart Holland would be asked to make a contribution to Affordable Housing. It was also discussed and agreed that advice should be sought from HALC.

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

Monday 14 October
Monday 02 December – budget and precept

Open Forum. Mrs Meg Freeman asked if the parish council could help in the matter of the removal of a pile of brick rubble in the parking bay at Farrier's Field. BDBC dustbin lorry had knocked down wall of dustbin shelter and contractors who repaired wall had not removed rubble.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Chairman Date