

**Minutes of a Meeting of Ellisfield Parish Council
held in the Memorial Hall on Monday 01 September 2014**

Present

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

Apologies: None

In Attendance

Jacqueline Matthews (Clerk)
PC Andy Reid, Local Beat Officer, Hampshire Constabulary
3 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 Meeting held on Monday 30 June 2014;** Agreed and signed as a true record
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (for which no relevant Agenda Item is listed below). Cllr Wright asked for confirmation that at the 30/06/14 EPC meeting it was agreed to pay 1/6th towards purchase and operation of a speed-camera, sharing with 6 other villages assuming there were sufficient volunteers in Ellisfield to operate a Community Speedwatch scheme. Agreed
5. **OPEN FORUM** – *PC Andy Reid reported that overall there had been 2 fewer crimes in Ellisfield to date compared with the same period in 2013. Other Police activity in the village since last meeting included Speed Enforcement (14/7) resulting in 3 tickets and 3 verbal warnings, removal of a dangerous tree in Axford Road, road traffic accident in Berrydown Lane.*

Many thanks also to PC Reid for judging the first Ellisfield Scarecrow competition on 23 August 2014.

Cllr Guinness asked about the Hampshire Police Authority (HPA) budget cuts and how they would affect P C Reid and Police presence in the area. PC Reid read out a statement he had been given to answer such questions, which essentially confirmed;

With effect from April 2015, it is proposed that PC Reid will relocate to Tadley Police Station from where he will be tasked, as part of Basingstoke Rural South team. One constable per 9 hour shift will be responsible for an area covering Whitchurch (part of), Overton, Oakley and Upton Grey & The Candovers, an area of approximately 250 square miles. PC Reid will have the use of a pool vehicle, more than likely an "urban saloon car" rather than his current 4 x 4 vehicle.

It is understood that a Community Support Officer may be recruited for the purposes of "community engagement" (i.e. attending Parish Council meetings and similar but only when on a scheduled shift).

The implications of all of the above is as follows:

- *Upton Grey & The Candovers will lose their dedicated police resource*
- *No proactive & preventative policing, only reactive and "after the incident"*
- *Police home office in Preston Candover will no longer be operational*
- *PC Reid will not be able to respond to "out of hours" incidents*
- *PC Reid will not be able to attend Parish Council meetings*

In answer to Cllr Guinness' questions, it appears PC Reid's current beat is 78 sq. miles, covering 22 parishes, mostly to the south of the M3, from Totford to Newnham and across to Upton Grey and Mapledurwell. The new larger beat would be 250 sq. miles, essentially combining 4 beats into one. Currently there is one beat officer per area and proposals are for 2 beat officers and 4 Police Community Police Officers (PCSO); an overall saving of 2 beat officers + recruitment of PCSO's.

Councillors discussed and agreed to liaise with other parishes and to write to Chief Constable and Police & Crime Commissioner to raise concerns.

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:

14/02388/FUL Ellisfield Memorial Hall, Replacement of 2 rear windows with opening double doors and creation of path and steps.

It was discussed and agreed that Clerk should contact Memorial Hall Committee and ask for confirmation of details of fenestration; type of materials to be used and overall aesthetic effect.

14/02417/HSE Nightingales, Green Lane. Erection of a detached double length garage with carport, garden store and photovoltaic panels to the roof following demolition of existing garage. Erection of replacement entrance gates.

Clerk read objection from neighbour, Mr Glen Horgan, Nightingales and it was discussed and agreed that councillors had sympathy with his concerns about proposed height of new garage roof etc to accommodate solar panels and Clerk to communicate this to both Mr Evans and Mr Horgan and submit concerns to BDBC.

Ellisfield Parish Council considered this application at their last meeting (01 Sept) and formed the view that the extra height of the garage to accommodate solar panels very detrimentally affected the neighbouring house (to the immediate and close proximity north) and should not be permitted. Solutions suggested; Lay the solar panels flat (less efficient but still will work and so not increase the garage height); Move the garage to a non-detrimental location; put the solar panels elsewhere on the applicant's property.

Chairman also reported that TAG Farnborough Airspace Consultation, to which EPC submitted concerns in May, had just published their report which provided a summary and detailed feedback but no information regarding how they were to address concerns.

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

i. Localism/HALC/Local business liaison

Anaerobic Digester: Cllr Wright reported a conversation with Chris Cooper of Barfoots who confirmed the plant is producing electricity, just about to spread digestate and have first audit. Cllr Wright had reminded CC that parish councillors and local residents would be interested in a tour of the plant.

Cllr Guinness commented that the surplus road signs installed during construction phase still needed to be removed. Clerk to request PC Reid to remove

Solar Farm: Cllr Guinness reported following 30 June meeting he had agreed to contact J Laing re community funding and had received a response to say the matter would be considered at the next board meeting. No further details as yet. Cllr Guinness to follow-up

Telecoms mast (planting) etc. Nothing new to report

Veolia site: Cllr Park-Weir to walk the surrounding area with Dee Haas in the autumn, once vegetation dies down. There were further discussions about a contribution from Veolia either financial or manpower towards purchase and installation of notice-boards. Cllr Park Weir to approach Area Manager regarding community funding.

ii. Highways:

Community Speedwatch: Clerk reported an email had been sent to those who had expressed an interest in Community Speedwatch, but no one responded to say they would be happy to take on an organising role – several responded to say they wouldn't. It was discussed and agreed that Ellisfield does not appear to have the capacity to run a Community Speedwatch, with no one willing to take on an organising role and few willing to be trained and operate. It was agreed that if sufficient interest was shown by village residents, Ellisfield could contribute 1/6th towards cost of setting up and running scheme.

Clerk reported several issues had been raised over summer months with Keith Holdsworth (KH), HCC Highways; KH moving on to pastures new at end of August – new engineer responsible for this area to be appointed

Road surfaces: Cllr Taplin and Chris Allen raised the issue of peeling tarmac on Grammarsham Lane during very hot weather during August, Clerk followed this up with KH who responded that he had inspected damage and 'Velocity Patching Crew would make minor repairs once weather cooler.'

Grit bins: Also following APM when Nicky Palmer raised question about 'Salt Bins' not having any hard standing – response from KH that none in the borough have hard standing and any damaged will be replaced.

Overhanging trees: Chris Allen emailed Clerk to raise concern about overhanging trees along Green Lane, mainly between The Fox and Lower Common. Clerk contacted KH who said it was a landowner's responsibility (Old Manor and M Frankham) and that a standard letter would be sent pointing out responsibility.

Clerk reported photographs and details of road signs that need repairing/refurbishing had been sent to John William at BDBC.

Cllr Wright raised the issue of routine maintenance of Grips and Gullies on village roads. Clerk to ask Keith Holdsworth's replacement if there is a planned maintenance programme.

- iii. **Web Site:** Cllr Guinness reported that since last parish council meeting, Charlie Hellewell, who's offer to undertake setting up new Ellisfield Parish Council website had been accepted, has explored various options for hosting etc and had recommended using e-mango for hosting. An email had been sent to all councillors in late July, following Charlie's recommendation. An order form has been signed and returned to e-mango confirming hosting and Charlie has responded to email and said go-ahead. Paul Turner has handed over the Parish Council website source file (memory stick) and all associated folders (PDFs, images, etc.) which have been passed on to Charlie Hellewell, it is hoped new EPC website to be on-line by end of September.
- iv. **Broadband:** Cllr Wright reported a further meeting in August regarding efforts to achieve Superfast Broadband in Ellisfield. Confirming that a point has been reached where there is a fully designed & priced BT Infinity solution for the whole of Ellisfield.

Awaiting written confirmation from BT on the costing, broadband speeds and VAT issues but in essence three potential routes to a BT infinity solution:

1. Ellisfield raises the full amount and engages BT Openreach on a private basis
2. Ellisfield is selected as part of the current procurement and gets a HCC funded BT infinity solution
3. A hybrid funding model whereby private funding is injected into the HCC contract with the difference met by a fixed per premise allowance from HCC

Cllr Wright had contacted Herriard Biopower, Barfoots, and Belectric to request contributions towards funding Ellisfield's broadband project, Barfoots had declined to pay 20 years contribution towards one project.

Arrangements were discussed to invite BT Openreach to attend next parish council meeting (06/10) to communicate to all village residents what is involved in bringing Superfast Broadband to Ellisfield and to discuss funding etc. Clerk to produce newsletter to invite all residents to attend.

- v. **Land and Property:** Cllr Park-Weir confirmed order/invoice for purchase of new noticeboard to be raised and passed to Clerk for payment.
- vi. **Allotments:** Clerk reported new tenant Annie Duncan had taken over allotment No 3 from Andy Webb.
- vii. **Rights of Way:** Cllr Wright reported he had again contacted landowner, Adrian de Ferranti by email requesting permission to proceed with installation of kissing gates on zig-zag path. Cllr Park-Weir to explore Veolia involvement / installation - also liaise with Andy Swanston ref installation

Cllr Wright also reported he had been trying to get a response from James Emmett, Hampshire Countryside Access Ranger to explore how the Hampshire Strategy for Improving Access to the Countryside could impact on Ellisfield, particularly in relation to the unused railway line adjoining Alley Lane/ Three Castles Path.

viii. **Burial Ground:** Clerk reported Sally Adams ashes had been interred on Saturday 26 July 2014.

ix. **Environment:** Nothing new to report

x. **Hill Farm Pond:** Cllr Cazenove reported the vegetation at the front and side of the pond had been trimmed/mown and the pond was now visible from the road, but more maintenance needed. It was discussed and agreed to contact village residents living in the area adjacent to the pond and to arrange a working party to undertake this work.

Neighbourhood Watch: Nothing new to report in addition to monthly report issued by email

Cllr Cazenove confirmed that a replacement Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator still needed by the end of the year. Cllr Guinness to approach Roger Graham.

xi. **Memorial Hall:** – Planning Application to convert windows to discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

Clerk reported that a new photo etc of Memorial Plaque on community website in commemoration of 100 years since outbreak of WW1, also names listed included in BDBC WW1 Commemoration Booklet.

Cllr Taplin reported village BBQ had been a great success attended by 88 people raising £600 profit.

A Hog The Limelight production *Heroes* arranged for 18 October 2014

xii. **Basingstoke District Association of Parish & Town Councils and Localism:** Nothing new to report

xiii. **New Residents:** New residents since last meeting, Sonia & Carl Gilbert have moved in to Laurel House, College Lane and Marcus Rule had bought The Old Manor

xiv. **Affordable Housing:** Still awaiting Adoption of Basingstoke Local Plan

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

Charity Commission Annual Return completed on-line for 2012/13 & 2013/14

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

01-Sep-14	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (June)	42.03
01-Sep-14	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (July)	42.03
01-Sep-14	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (Aug)	42.03
01-Sep-14	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (Sept)	42.03
01-Sep-14	Monthly direct debit payment for garage rental (Oct)	42.03
01-Sep-14	S. Claessens (Litter Picking – Sept)	32.00
01-Sep-14	E. Rudd (Litter Picking - Sept)	32.00
01-Sep-14	S. Claessens (Litter Picking – Oct)	32.00

01-Sep-14 E. Rudd (Litter Picking - Oct)

32.00

10. To discuss any matters which the Chairman considers urgent:

It was discussed and agreed to produce a newsletter to advertise for a replacement Parish Clerk following Jacqui Matthews resignation and to notify residents that BT would be attending next EPC meeting to discuss possibilities for funding superfast broadband.

Cllr Guinness also made it known that he would be happy to step down as Chairman in May 2015 and if re-elected allow a year's transition.

11. To decide upon the date of the next Meetings: (Mondays)

06 October 2014

24 November 2014 (Budget & Precept)

The meeting closed at 9-45pm

Chairman

Date