

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023, commencing at 18:30 hours

**Present:** Cllrs Dain (Chair), Stamp (Vice Chair), Debenham and Parkes.

**In attendance:** Sarah Jones (Clerk), 11 members of the public (part).

Item		Action																		
1	<b>Apologies:</b> Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Sadler.																			
2	<b>Declarations of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest.																			
3	<b>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising</b> To receive and confirm the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 8th November 2023. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by Cllr Dain. Item 12 (g) has a minor amendment which has been written onto the minutes.																			
4	<b>Public participation</b> There were no members of the public present.																			
5	<b>Borough Councillor's Report</b> There was no report as Borough Cllr Izett was not present.																			
6	<b>County Councillor's Report.</b> There was no report as County Cllr Thacker was not present.																			
7	<b>Planning</b> <p>a) <b>New applications:</b>  <b>T/00539/23/TCA</b> Royal Oak Hydes Platt Ecchinswell RG20 4UH          Proposal: G1 - Ash, Remove to ground level, group of ash trees with ash dieback and have become dangerous.          T1 - Ash, Remove to ground level, Large tree with ash dieback becoming dangerous.          T2 - Ash, Remove to ground level, Large tree with ash dieback becoming dangerous.          ESBG have no comments to add and will leave the decision to the tree officer.</p> <p><b>23/02898/FUL</b> 2 Dores Hill Cow House Lane North Sydmonton RG20 9AF          Proposal: Installation of 27no. ground mounted PV solar panels (together with battery storage and battery inverter charger in enclosure and underground cabling)          ESBG PC have no objections provided the installation is as per the planning application with no future extension.</p> <p><b>T/00552/23/TPO</b> 31 Eagle Road Bishops Green Hampshire RG20 4HP          Proposal: G1 x 2 Field maples: prune, T2 Sycamore: prune.          ESBG have no comments to add and will leave the decision to the tree officer.</p> <p>b) <b>Decisions:</b>          Cllrs were pleased to report that the potential development by Catesby Estates, of some 300 houses in Bishops Green, has been withdrawn.</p>																			
8	<b>Finance</b> <p>(a) <b>Electronic Payments made in December:</b></p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's salary (Nov)</td> <td>£863.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (Nov)</td> <td>£191.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (Nov)</td> <td>£150.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td>£62.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Premier Grounds</td> <td>Maintenance</td> <td>£315.60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	S Jones	Clerk's salary (Nov)	£863.50	D McClelland	Litter warden – (Nov)	£191.60	R Wherry	Litter warden - (Nov)	£150.16	HMRC	PAYE – RW, DM, SJ	£62.20	D McClelland	Expenses	£20.00	Premier Grounds	Maintenance	£315.60	
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	<p>Total £1,603.06</p> <p>(b) The actual/against budget up to end of November was agreed.</p> <p>(c) The draft budget with various options for expenditure levels was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllrs had reviewed the amounts within the budgets and agreed that the best option was the version with a 5% increase in precept, as per the attached spreadsheet. This was proposed by Cllr Dain and seconded by Cllr Stamp, and unanimously agreed.</p> <p>(d) Cllrs agreed that the precept amount requested for the 2024/25 financial year is £19866.00. The relevant paperwork will be sent to BDBC.</p> <p>(e) The 3 year forecast will be presented at the January meeting.</p>	SJ
9	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>09.11.23 WBC - Gypsy and Travellers Accommodation Development Plan Document 'Call for Sites' – noted.</p> <p>22.11.23 - North Wessex Downs National Landscape: the new name for the AONB</p> <p>24.11.23 – BDBC; Notification of Publicity of the Cliddesden Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2039 (BDBC) – noted.</p> <p>07.12.23 - Farnborough Airport Farnborough - Planning Application 23.794.REVPP sent to BDBC.</p> <p>Cllrs discussed this expansion to Farnborough Airport and any potential impact on ESBG Parish, and environmental concerns.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed to send in their comments relating to the size of the increase in air traffic which seems large, so there are concerns re noise and environment.</p>	SJ
10	<p><b>Highways and Rights of Way</b></p> <p>Hyde Lane continues to be a problem with more potholes appearing. Residents have contacted the parish council regarding damage to vehicles and difficulties cycling in the lane.</p> <p>A resident has contacted the parish council regarding the letterbox at the entrance to Malthouse Farm which is almost inaccessible due to very deep puddles. The landowner will be contacted.</p>	SJ
11	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>a) <u>Allotment rent review and issue with water supply</u></p> <p>The lease agreement has been revised in view of the recent Allotment Association set up. Most of the allotment holders are helping out and getting involved in the maintenance of the common areas. Cllrs agreed that the annual rental should remain at £40.</p> <p>Cllrs discussed a new fee chargeable if allotment holders do not renew their leases and leave their allotments unkempt. It was agreed a charge of £60 would be applied to this, and the lease agreement will be amended accordingly.</p> <p>Cllr Debenham will amend the agreement and the clerk will send the new agreement out with the allotment renewal notices in January.</p> <p>The clerk advised there has been a problem with Business Stream in that they have sent a final reminder and have been unable to locate a payment which was actually paid on 10<sup>th</sup> October. The account has been suspended whilst they seek to resolve this. The water supply is not affected.</p> <p>The clerk and Cllr Debenham will look into options for changing the water supplier in January.</p> <p>b) <u>Tree surgeon report and dangerous tree on playing fields</u></p> <p>The tree surgeon has finished his report, and the clerk is arranging to meet him to go through it. It should be available by the January meeting.</p> <p>A resident has emailed regarding a tree on the playing fields which looks dangerous. It is hoped this will be addressed in the tree surgeon's report and if it is not in the report the tree surgeon will be asked to look at it.</p>	PD/SJ
12	<p><b>Matters for discussion</b></p> <p>a) <u>Bishops Green planning application update</u></p>	PD/SJ

	<p>As mentioned under Item 7 (b) Decisions, the Catesby Estates application has been withdrawn.</p> <p>Cllr Dain had circulated the letter sent to the Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) about the lack of access to the Local Government Ombudsman re the ESBG complaint about the handling of the Woodside View application. HALC has responded that the query has been forwarded on to NALC, the national organisation, to seek their advice.</p> <p>If NALC is unable to provide a suitable response, Cllr Dain proposed that the issue be taken to the press. Cllrs agreed unanimously.</p> <p>It was agreed that the name of this section should be changed to Local Government Complaint Progress.</p> <p>b) <u>Neighbourhood Plan and Local Plan update</u>  Cllr Dain had submitted a written report of the Neighbourhood Plan update. There were no questions. The LPU will be discussed under Item 13</p> <p>c) <u>CIL monies – clarification of website as viable expense</u>  This item will be discussed at the January meeting.</p> <p>d) <u>Solar Farm Proposal</u>  There is no action and nothing to report on this item.</p> <p>e) <u>Speeding working party update</u>  A letter is being written to the manufacturers asking for a full refund; a few extra details need to be included and then the letter can be sent.</p> <p>f) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u>  Cllr Dain reported that the BGCA AGM took place and was well attended with Cllrs Sadler and Parkes going. Cllr Sadler has joined the committee. There are a number of new volunteers and the Chair is still in position. The new co-ordinator will be in place in January.</p> <p>The EVH solar panel project has not proceeded as only one quote has been received in spite of approaching various suppliers.</p> <p>The Quiz Night was successful and raised £900.</p> <p>g) <u>Communications</u> – newsletter (Cllr Dain) and other media output  It was agreed the draft minutes do not need to be published this month.  Items for the magazine were agreed.</p>	MS/SJ
13	<p><b>Local Plan Update from BDBC</b> – Presentation by Borough Cllrs Harvey and Konieczko.</p> <p>11 members of the public joined this section of the meeting and asked a variety of questions.</p>	
14	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b>  Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm at Ecchinswell Village Hall.  There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.</p>	

## ACTIONS:

Cllrs agreed that the precept amount requested for the 2024/25 financial year is £19866.00. The relevant paperwork will be sent to BDBC.

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Cllr Debenham will amend the agreement and the clerk will send the new agreement out with the allotment renewal notices in January.

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