

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on

Wednesday 11th December 2024, commencing at 19:30 hours

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

In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), Borough Cllr Izett, County Cllr Thacker, 1 member of the public.

Item		Action
1	<p>Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hardy-Giles</p> <p>Cllr Dain has resigned from the parish council and this was her last meeting; she was thanked for all her hard work and efforts over the years which have been much appreciated by all.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising</p> <p>To receive and confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 12th November and matters arising. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by Cllr Stamp.</p>	
4	<p>Public participation</p> <p>The member of the public advised he was there to discuss Planning Application 24/02503/FUL below and it was agreed to deal with this out of order.</p> <p>The member of the public advised he had listened to concerns raised and adjusted the original planning application, including a smaller building and moving the build to the site of the barn currently on that land.</p> <p>After discussion, Cllrs agreed to send the following response to BDBC:</p> <p>The ES&BG Parish Council is conflicted over this application because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The NP does not approve the building of housing per see in a rural setting, outside of the ESB. This does not meet the exception basis. - It does not reflect the approved barn conversion format, and is to build a 4 bed house in a rural setting. - The dark skies situation needs to be taken into account. <p>However</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given that permission is already granted for a barn conversion, it was considered that the proposed farmhouse and garage barn styling was a more attractive rural design than the original barn conversion. - Proposed landscaping and tree/hedge planting would enhance the rural setting. This would be a prerequisite for any approval. <p>There being nothing further to discuss, the member of the public left at 7.49pm.</p>	
5	<p>Borough Councillor's Report</p> <p>Borough Cllr Izett started his report by advising residents to be vigilant as there are burglars around at the moment. Further to this he reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are grant schemes in operation at the moment which can be applied for and this should be advised to any relevant parties. • Cllr Dain thanked Cllr Izett for the BGCA defibrillator. • The SHEELA has been updated and includes 2 NP sites. The new government are not adhering to the Local Plan and ESBG PC should ensure their NP is reviewed and updated. • At present there is a planning reform working paper which suggests delegating certain criteria of decisions to officers if it meets Local Plan needs. At present this is a working paper only. • The new Government are looking at Unitary councils, not 2 tier with County and Borough as Hampshire has at the moment. This could mean a split in Hampshire and there being a North Hants area. • BDBC are financially sound and keen to maintain this. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no movement on the Royal Oak application. <p>There being nothing further to report, Cllr Izett left the meeting at 8.08pm.</p>																									
6	<p>County Councillor's Report.</p> <p>County Cllr Thacker reiterated Cllr Izett's comments re the Unitary county and advised HCC are against being split in this way. This could result in directly appointed mayors and may mean spend is focused on densely populated areas. Also, if Unitary comes into effect there may be fewer locally elected councillors.</p> <p>Cllr Thacker wanted to highlight the meeting taking place on 17th December where HCC leaders are talking to residents re the local and financial situation of HCC. Everyone is welcome to attend.</p> <p>There being nothing further to discuss, Cllr Thacker left the meeting at 8.08pm.</p>																									
7	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) New applications:</p> <p>24/02503/FUL Land At Clere House Farm 450107 159482 Ecchinswell Road Ecchinswell Proposal: Demolition of existing agricultural building and erection of new dwelling, access, hard and soft landscaping and associated works (resubmission of 24/01260/FUL). – dealt with under Item 4 above.</p> <p>24/02544/AGPD Long Court Farm Brocks Green Ecchinswell Hampshire RG20 4UP Proposal: Steel framed agricultural building with part block and timber infill, under a corrugated fibre cement roof with a roller door. This planning notification was for information only.</p> <p>T/00595/24/TCA 2 Riverside Cottages Ecchinswell Road Ecchinswell Hampshire RG20 4UG Proposal: T1 Ash tree fell due to close proximity to outbuilding and road growing through power line. Cllrs agree that the tree officer is best placed to make the decision on the works that need to be carried out.</p> <p>b) Decisions: none</p> <p>c) Unauthorised planning update BDBC have referred the works taking place without planning permission to their Enforcement office who have sent a letter to the resident. The case will continue through BDBC and no further action needs to be taken from ESBG PC.</p>																									
8	<p>Finance</p> <p>(a) Electronic Payments made in December:</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's salary (November)</td> <td>£898.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (November)</td> <td>£195.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Wherry</td> <td>Litter warden - (November)</td> <td>£164.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ</td> <td></td> <td>£91.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's expenses</td> <td>£30.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BGCA</td> <td>Meeting costs</td> <td>£68.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Total</td> <td>£1,468.54</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(b) The actual/against budget to December 2024 was circulated and agreed. (c) The budget for 2025-26 FY (attached) was circulated and discussed. All items were covered and the precept request was agreed at £20,873. The relevant paperwork will be sent to BDBC.</p>	S Jones	Clerk's salary (November)	£898.30	D McClelland	Litter warden – (November)	£195.20	R Wherry	Litter warden - (November)	£164.92	HMRC PAYE – RW, DM, SJ		£91.40	D McClelland	Expenses	£20.00	S Jones	Clerk's expenses	£30.72	BGCA	Meeting costs	£68.00		Total	£1,468.54	SJ
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9	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>27.11.24 – Cllr Izett; Draft Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) 2024; noted</p> <p>27.11.24 – Resident; overgrown hedge; Cllrs agree that a letter will be sent to the resident of the property.</p> <p>02.12.24 – Cllr Dain, North Hampshire Repair cafes; this will be monitored and actioned when needed.</p> <p>10.12.24 – WBC; Local Plan Review Consultation now live</p> <p>10.12.24 – Resident, contractors in Bishops Green parking badly. Cllrs agreed the situation has improved and if it deteriorates again, they will be contacted by the clerk.</p> <p>24.11.24 - 24/02723/VLA Land At OS 450078 163328 Ecchinswell Road Bishops Green Variation of section 106 agreement attached to 22/00174/OUT to allow an amendment to Clauses 2.1 and 2.2 of Part 2 of the second schedule relating to the entering of a written contract with a Registered Provider</p> <p>Cllrs agreed this could cause community discord and will advise BDBC accordingly.</p>	SJ
10	<p>Highways and Rights of Way</p> <p>Cllr Dain advised there is an active parish group which is parishes which look after their own footpaths. Cllr Dain will stay on the HCC footpath group and report back to the parish council.</p> <p>This active footpath item, and responsibility for the tree surgeon will need to be redistributed so the Cllrs Areas of responsibility will be reviewed at the January meeting.</p> <p>The raised beds have been tended by volunteers and are now on the Village Maintenance Contract. The hedge behind is still overgrown and the clerk will contact Vivid again to ask them to cut it back, as it is on one of their properties.</p>	SJ
11	<p>New Business</p> <p>a) <u>Village Maintenance Contract renewal</u> The Village Maintenance contract was circulated, reviewed and agreed by all.</p> <p>b) <u>School lighting issue decision</u> The donation request has been considered and discussed with HALC. Cllrs agreed that whilst this concurs with the NP Dark Skies policy, the building is the responsibility of HCC. Cllrs agreed to discuss this with County Cllr Mellor at the next meeting he attends before giving an answer. This item will stay on the agenda.</p> <p>c) <u>New dog waste bin at EVH</u> This has not been discussed with EVH due to there not being a meeting, and will be postponed to the January meeting.</p> <p>d) <u>Lengthsman hours – 10th January 2024</u> Jobs agreed include the continuation of the lifting of the drain covers, clearing and cleaning road signs and litter picking. The lengthsman will be advised accordingly.</p>	SJ SJ
8	<p>Matters for Discussion:</p> <p>a) <u>Website and phone upgrade progress</u> Progress is being made and the website works are in progress. Each Cllr needs a slot to work on the transition to the new email system and this will be organized over the next few days.</p> <p>b) <u>Allotments update re maintenance team</u> The new maintenance team on the allotments have been approached and accepted the roles. Discussion will take place with the allotment holders of the viability of a 13th allotment.</p> <p>c) <u>EVH Annual Lease payment</u> The peppercorn rent payment was handed to the clerk.</p> <p>d) <u>Pothole audit update</u> This will take place on 23rd December.</p> <p>e) <u>SID purchase update</u> The 3rd quote costings are being finalised and then the full business plan will be circulated. Cllrs requested the clerk look into possible lease of a SID, which she will do.</p> <p>f) Sustainability and Environmental working party</p>	PD SJ

	<p>The survey is ready to send out. This will be sent to the Cllrs new email addresses and to the residents email list.</p> <p>g) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u></p> <p>Cllr Dain reported that a new defibrillator has been installed.</p> <p>The treatment room will open on 13th December, at the same time as the Santa Sleigh event.</p> <p>Cllr Dain will be taking on the treasurer role.</p> <p>A new parish council liaison/trustee needs to be agreed and this will be decided at the January meeting when the Cllrs areas of responsibility are reviewed.</p> <p>There was no EVH update.</p>	SJ
13	<p>Communications – newsletter (Clerk) and other media output</p> <p>It was agreed the draft minutes do not need to be published this month.</p> <p>Items for the magazine were agreed.</p>	
14	<p>Review of calendar items</p> <p>Calendar items for January 2025 were noted.</p>	
15	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday 8th January 2025 at 7.30pm at Ecchinswell Village Hall.</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.01pm.</p>	

ACTIONS:

The budget for 2025-26 FY (attached) was circulated and discussed. All items were covered and the precept request was agreed at £20,873. The relevant paperwork will be sent to BDBC

Resident; overgrown hedge; Cllrs agree that a letter will be sent to the resident of the property.

24/02723/VLA Land At OS 450078 163328 Ecchinswell Road Bishops Green
Variation of section 106 agreement attached to 22/00174/OUT to allow
an amendment to Clauses 2.1 and 2.2 of Part 2 of the second schedule
relating to the entering of a written contract with a Registered Provider
Cllrs agreed this could cause community discord and will advise BDBC accordingly

This active footpath item, and responsibility for the tree surgeon will need to be redistributed so the Cllrs Areas of responsibility will be reviewed at the January meeting

The hedge behind is still overgrown and the clerk will contact Vivid again to ask them to cut it back, as it is on one of their properties

Cllrs agreed to discuss this with County Cllr Mellor at the next meeting he attends before giving an answer.
This item will stay on the agenda

The new dog waste bin and signage has not been discussed with EVH and will be postponed to the January meeting.

Jobs agreed include the continuation of the lifting of the drain covers, clearing and cleaning road signs and litterpicking. The lengthsman will be advised accordingly.

Discussion will take place with the allotment holders of the viability of a 13th allotment

Cllrs requested the clerk look into possible lease of a SID, which she will do.

A new parish council liaison/trustee for BGCA needs to be agreed and this will be decided at the January meeting when the Cllrs areas of responsibility are reviewed