

Ecchinswell, Sydmonton & Bishops Green Parish Council.

Parish Council meeting report for 8th January 2025

The parish council's January meeting took place in Ecchinswell Village Hall, to the background sounds of Panto rehearsals which were in full swing in the main hall!

Most offices have been closed over the Christmas and New Year period so there were no new planning applications, it's not often that is the case! The snow also started to fall earlier that day and with amber weather warnings, icy roads and a big freeze predicted, we were not expecting, and did not have any borough or county councillors present as they all have to travel some distance. Some of our own parish councillors were also unable to attend so we were a very small group of three councillors and the clerk.

One member of the public did attend and mentioned the state of the roads and the flooding which is taking place at the southern end of the parish. It is hoped that the landowners and Hampshire County Council can be asked to assist in clearing ditches and help this problem with the flooded roads.

The new year started as usual with making plans and preparations for the year ahead, including setting pond clearance day and discussing who will be invited to the May Annual Assembly. More details on these and other dates will follow.

The consultation on the draft Local Plan Update that took place last year and the Government's recent publication of a new National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), means BDBC is issuing a call for sites for developers, landowners or other interested parties to identify sites that are considered to be suitable for future development.

The council published a draft Local Plan in early 2024 which included a number of allocations for housing. The recently published new NPPF requires an increase in the number of new homes. This call for sites will enable the council to have an up-to-date understanding of any available land in the borough which may be suitable for development.

Litter and fly tipping throughout the parish has been raised and is a perennial problem. Some fly tipping reported before Christmas has not been removed. If you spot anything, it can be reported directly to BDBC via their website <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/flytipping> , or to the clerk on clerk@ecchinswell-pc.gov.uk.

The long awaited new emails should be up and running next week, followed by the new and improved website. Look out for these improvements.

ESBG PC will next meet at Bishops Green Village Hall on Wednesday 12th February 2025.

Any enquiries about the above or other local Parish Council Matters please contact Sarah Jones our Clerk (clerk@eccinswell-pc.gov.uk).

Sarah Jones

Clerk - ESBG Parish Council