

ECCHINSWELL, SYDMONTON AND BISHOPS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting held at Ecchinswell Village Hall on

Wednesday 10th December 2025, commencing at 19:30 hours

Present: Cllrs Stamp (Chair), Sadler (Vice Chair), Debenham, Hardy-Giles, Monteith and Letch.

In attendance: Sarah Jones (Clerk), 0 members of the public,

Borough Cllr Izett and County Cllrs Mellor and Thacker.

Item		Action
	<p>At 6.30pm a public meeting took place to discuss moving the Neighbourhood Plan Review forward and get more volunteers. 4 members of the public were in attendance for this meeting. Individual items for the NP Review were discussed and assigned to the volunteers. The next NP Review meeting will take place on 14th January at 6.30pm at Ecchinswell Village Hall.</p>	
1	<p>Apologies: There were no apologies as all Cllr were present.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of interest There were no declarations of interest.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of previous meeting and actions arising To receive and confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday 12th November, and matters arising. All Cllrs agreed them as a true record, and they were signed by Cllr Stamp. The clerk raised that an extra-ordinary meeting will be needed to discuss the latest Catesby Estates planning application. This was agreed to take place on 7th January 2026 at 7pm.</p>	
4	<p>Public participation No members of the public were present.</p>	
5	<p>Borough Councillor's Report Cllr Izett reported that he has seen that Catesby Estates have submitted a planning application for 50 houses. The parish council confirmed they plan to hold a public meeting, and the date has been set for 7th January 2026 at 7pm at Ecchinswell Village Hall. Cllr Izett advised the council they need to be prepared with their objections including the NP being in place and there being no assessed housing need in Bishops Green, the BDBC Local Plan draft has assigned zero houses. Various objection details were discussed, and Cllr Izett advised he could attend the 7th Jan meeting remotely. Cllrs will discuss using a consultant to move forward with the objections and the NP review. Cllr Izett reported the Local Plan is out for consultation, and details of housing allocation to the parish, which is 5 houses for Ecchinswell and 0 for Bishops Green. Antisocial behaviour in the parish continues to be discussed and a solution sought. Cllr Izett has a £2k grant available to be spent by March 2026; applications can be sent to him. Elections for mayors which were due to take place in 2026 have been postponed, even though candidates are in place. This has financial implications for the borough who will now received less money as no mayor is in place. There being nothing else to report, Cllr Izett left the meeting at 8.08pm.</p>	
6	<p>County Councillor's Report. County Cllrs Thacker and Mellor were both present. Cllr Thacker advised he has a Cllr grant scheme which can be applied for by entities but not parish councils. Parish council's are able to manage the money on behalf of entities who have received a grant but do not have a bank account. HCC leaders have made it public that they have not asked for a delay to the 2026 elections. The county is prepared and ready for a mayor. Cllr Mellor asked about the SIDs and it was confirmed x2 have been ordered. Cllrs discussed planning applications and difficulties with road issues when large developments are being granted.</p>	

	There being nothing further to report, Cllrs Thacker and Mellor left the meeting at 8.08pm.																						
7	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) New applications: 25/02718/FUL Ecchinswell House Ecchinswell Road Ecchinswell RG20 4UA Proposal: Repair and maintenance to the curtilage listed outbuildings and demolition of one barn ESBG PC have no objections. 25/02719/LBC Ecchinswell House Ecchinswell Road Ecchinswell RG20 4UA Proposal: Repair and maintenance to the curtilage listed outbuildings and demolition of one barn ESBG PC agreed decisions relating to Listed Buildings should be left to the officers who have the expertise. 25/01111/FUL George House Ecchinswell Road Bishops Green Hampshire RG20 4HT Proposal: Proposed new dwelling with new access, following division of existing residential plot ESBG PC agree they have no objections.</p> <p>Cllr Letch will complete the NP Checklist for these planning applications.</p> <p>b) Decisions: none</p>	SL																					
8	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Electronic payments made in December:</p> <table> <tr> <td>S Jones</td> <td>Clerk's salary (November)</td> <td>£817.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Litter warden – (November)</td> <td>£424.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>PAYE – DM, SJ</td> <td>£225.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D McClelland</td> <td>Expenses</td> <td>£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Stream</td> <td>Allotment water</td> <td>£153.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Litterwarden</td> <td>Bin liners</td> <td>£19.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td>£1,681.03</td> </tr> </table> <p>b) First Draft Budget The first draft budget was circulated and discussed. Cllrs agree to paring back this year so there is no increase in precept requested. Once the Village Maintenance contract is received and costs for 2026 confirmed, the budget can be finalised and the precept form will be signed at the January meeting.</p> <p>c) 3 Year Forecast The 3 year forecast has been reviewed and circulated; additional items can be added as agreed.</p> <p>d) Actual/against budget The actual/against budget will be presented at the January meeting, and monthly thereafter.</p>	S Jones	Clerk's salary (November)	£817.75	D McClelland	Litter warden – (November)	£424.03	HMRC	PAYE – DM, SJ	£225.80	D McClelland	Expenses	£40.00	Business Stream	Allotment water	£153.51	Litterwarden	Bin liners	£19.94	Total		£1,681.03	SJ
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9	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>21.11.25; BDBC - Invitation to meeting – government consultation on local government reorganisation in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight</p> <p>24.11.25; Rushmoor Borough Council - Proposed development at Farnborough Airport, Farnborough Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 6XA.</p> <p>28.11.25; Cllr Carr - Regulation 18 of the Local Plan email</p> <p>02.12.25; HCC - Proposal to divert part of Kingsclere Footpath 82</p>																						

10	<p>Highways and Rights of Way The burnt out car in Featherbed Lane has been moved. The footpath in Bishops Green is overgrown and needs cutting back. There has been a burst water pipe outside the cattery in Bishops Green creating running water in the road. The road through Bishops Green is being closed without warning on an ad hoc basis due to the works being carried out. There is a large pothole in the road caused by the large vehicles and not made good. The contractors will be contacted.</p>	SJ
11	<p>New Business a) <u>Council leaders letter re the Local Plan</u> The information provided about the Local Plan has been circulated and reviewed by Cllrs. This was discussed under Item 5 above. b) <u>New bins and Litterwarden update in Bishops Green</u> There has been a request for some new bins in Bishops Green. The clerk has contacted BDBC re this and will keep the council updated on the progress. The litterwarden has been working hard in Bishops Green but has expressed concern re the level of rubbish. He believes new bins will help. Any new bins need to be fireproof and BDBC will be advised accordingly. c) <u>3rd Quarter Safety Review</u> Cllr Monteith has been unable to complete this and will do so and circulate as soon as possible. This will be on the January agenda. d) <u>Bus shelter grant application update</u> The grant is being applied for; it will be completed in January and the clerk will report back.</p>	SJ SJ LM/SJ SJ
12	<p>Matters for Discussion: a) <u>Website upgrade progress</u> The final stages are taking place and it is hoped the website will be up and running in the new year. b) <u>CIL money project ideas</u> 2 projects have been agreed and confirmed; being the parking spaces at Bishops Green and the solar panels at EVH. More project ideas are being discussed including additional seating in Bishops Green. The spreadsheet will be updated and further projects agreed at the next meeting. c) <u>SID purchase progress</u> 2 SIDs have been ordered and will include Bluetooth data collection software. There is no installation date as yet. d) <u>Neighbourhood Plan Review Process</u> This was discussed during the meeting at 6.30pm. e) <u>Email changes update and progress</u> The clerk has established that the domain is owned by the parish council. Next steps will be established so the email addresses can be amended and made legal per the new rules. f) <u>Sustainability and Environmental working party update</u> There is no update at present. g) <u>BGCA and EVH updates</u> Cllr Sadler reported that BGCA are holding a Christmas event/fayre on 12th December. The solar panel project is moving forward. A CV writing evening was held and went well; there are plans to hold another one in 2026. Cllr Hardy-Giles reported that EVH have a new CCTV at the front of the building. The Race Night is taking place on 24th January. The new vicar is in place and attended the most recent coffee morning.</p>	SJ
13	<p>Communications – newsletter (Clerk) 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>	
14	<p>Review of calendar items</p>	

	Calendar items for January 2026 were noted.	
15	Date of next meeting: Extra-ordinary meeting Wednesday 7 th January at 7pm, Ordinary meeting on Wednesday 14 th January 2026 at 7.30pm at Ecchinswell Village Hall. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.47pm.	

ACTIONS:

Cllr Letch will complete the NP Checklist for these planning applications

The actual/against budget will be presented at the January meeting, and monthly thereafter

There is a large pothole in the road caused by the large vehicles and not made good. The contractors will be contacted

There has been a request for some new bins in Bishops Green. The clerk has contacted BDBC re this and will keep the council updated on the progress

Any new bins need to be fireproof and BDBC will be advised accordingly.

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