

**MINUTES OF THE ETCHILHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2015 at 8.15pm in the VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Mrs Bridewell, Mr Nash, Mr Smith and Mr Woods (Chairman)

Apologies: Mr Holgate

In attendance:

AGENDA

1. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

Mr Smith declared his interest re Item 8, tree planning application.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

3. Matters arising

- **Flooding:** There was still no sign of the Wiltshire Vactor machine. Mr Nash reported that his contractors had cleared the south side of the path. Wiltshire had subsequently done further cleaning. Wiltshire had changed its procedures back to having stewards but parishes were promised only two visits per year.
- **Play Equipment:** The quote and photos were tabled. Mr Eric Clark (Bishop's Cannings) was still working on securing Wiltshire's consent to using Bishop's Cannings developers' money to fund the new equipment and it was hoped to hear from him in the upcoming week. When erected Bishop's Cannings, having paid for the equipment and erection, would donate it to the Parish Council which would have ownership thereafter and would need to add these assets to Zurich Insurance policy. The Village Social Committee might need to finance any additional embellishments. It was agreed that Mr Woods and Mr Clark would take this whole process ahead between themselves, Wiltshire and the contractors as far and as quickly as possible given the possible March financial year deadline and the need to get the job done.

4. Points from the public

None.

5. Treasurer's Report

- a. Mr Nash gave his report:
- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------|--------|
| Balances – Lloyds: | £ | 328.49 |
| Nationwide | £2,086.33 | |

Grant Thornton had approved the accounts with a couple of minor comments. It was agreed to use the Nationwide cheques to pay bills if the Lloyds Bank a/c ran empty.

A final grass-cutting bill was due from D L Stevens and it was agreed that Mr Nash would pay it.

- b. **Precept 2016-7:** The Council considered the precept guidelines from Wiltshire and its Budget for the next financial year. Known items would be insurance, grass-cutting and maintenance, Churchyard maintenance grant,

WALC/Community First and CPRE subscriptions and the proposed NALC new arrangement audit fee of £100 for 5 years (see Item 5c, below). It was agreed to fix the precept for 2016/17 at £1,388.42 with the Wiltshire grant having been reduced to £12.63 making a total of £1,401.05 to be received from Wiltshire. The requisite forms were signed and Mr Nash would contact Wiltshire by e-mail.

- c. New Audit Rules: The Council considered the NALC notes on the new audit process for smaller councils which had been circulated. It was agreed to join the joint councils' scheme which would mean that the future audit fee would be £100 for five years.

6. Highways

- a. There were new ways of working by Wiltshire Council which had replaced Balfour Beatty. Use would be made of a web-based reporting system and the return of the Parish Stewards Scheme from April 2016. Matters could be reported on MyWiltshireApp, on the Wiltshire website or "one number" 0300-456-0105. Emergency flooding issues should go to 0300-456-0100.

The Council agreed that it was too small to take over any responsibilities from Wiltshire.

A proposed 30mph on the Etchilhampton-All Cannings road had again been raised by Mr Woods with Wiltshire officials and Mr Philip Whitehead. Mr Woods would contact him again, extending the proposed coverage to include the area from the village sign on the Coate Road through to Heath Knapp Farm. The Council was reminded that Mr Woods had previously asked the Devizes Area Board to take action on the rat-run from the A361 at Bishops Canings through to the A342 at Stert Corner but this had "disappeared".

7. Correspondence (see Annex) – to agree action

No further action would be taken on the items in the Annex not specifically mentioned.

On Wiltshire's public conveniences cutbacks, Councillors' views had varied and, given the time limit, Mr Woods had filed his own return incorporating other Councillors' views. This was approved.

Public Transport – A pre-consultation draft was considered and it was left to await a full consultation by Wiltshire in the Spring.

8. Planning Applications

15/11593/TCA – Manor Orchard – Work on trees. Mr Smith declared his interest as owner and withdrew. The Council had no objections.

9. Transparency Website

Mr Woods was authorised to investigate suitable equipment, purchase it and apply for funding as he felt appropriate.

10. Reports of meetings

Devizes Area Board – Minutes of 18 May, 27 July and 28 September meetings had been considered. No action was needed.

11. Any Other Business

- There were reports that some passengers were finding the steps at the Mixon Bus Shelter too slippery because of the muddy grass. Mr Woods would follow this up and also make enquiries about a possible handrail.
- Mr Woods would contact Mrs Sue Cowdry about Mr James Cowdry continuing to cut the playing field hedge.

There being no further business the meeting closed.

ANNEX

1. WC Local Transport Plan Strategy Review – draft consultation (June 2015)
2. WC Local Transport Plan – Workshop Papers (July 2015)
3. Wiltshire Local Transport Plan – Public Transport Strategy Review – Pre-Consultation responses – Oct 2015
4. Wiltshire New Bus Timetables:
 - Line 101 – Devizes to Pewsey
 - Line 210 – Etchilhampton to Devizes (Thursdays and Saturdays)
5. Devizes Area Board – Minutes of 18 May meeting, 27 July and 28 September 2015
6. Devizes Community Area Services for older people – Oct 2015 (part of 18/5 Area Board papers)
7. WC Life is for living handbook (older people)
8. Health Watch Wiltshire leaflets
9. Wiltshire Public Conveniences Survey + Map
10. North Wessex Downs AONB – Plan 2014-19
11. Precept 2016-17 – Calculator
 - a. Guidelines
 - b. Precept Request Form
12. Audit – New Rules
13. Planning Application 15/11593/TCA – Manor Orchard, work to trees