

## **MINUTES OF ETCHILHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 January 2021**

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**Present:** Mrs Clark, Mr Hanson, Mr Nash, Mr Smith and Mr Woods (Chairman)

**Apologies:** None

**In attendance:** None

### **AGENDA**

#### **1 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations Requests**

- a Item 8a - Mr Woods declared his interests as a neighbouring landowner. It was resolved to continue Mr Woods' existing dispensation.
- b Item 8b - Mr Woods declared his interest as the applicant and would withdraw for this item.

#### **2 Apologies for absence**

None.

#### **3 Minutes of the last meeting**

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

#### **4 Matters Arising**

- a Playground Safety Report - Mr Roberts' latest report had been circulated together with his bill for £200.00. Payment was authorised. No new points were outstanding.

It was resolved to ask Mr Roberts to continue safety checks and repairs and to submit his annual report for year ending July 2021.

- b Swings - no further action was required as Mr Nash had kindly fitted a new child's seat to the swings. Mr Nash was thanked for his work and he would notify Zurich that this seat had been fitted.
- c The Parish Stewards would be in the village later in the month. They had a list of unfinished jobs including the jetting of the underground pipes between the Village Hall and Appletree Cottage and clearing the gully opposite The Mixon. They had once again been asked for their records of jobs done and outstanding so that it could be compared with what had actually happened. They would not be replacing either the wooden post near Appletree Cottage or the direction post at the junction of Coate road and the C60  
  
The priority was, still, ensuring that the central village track was kept clear and not flooded.  
  
Wiltshire had agreed to repair Hail Bridge on the track between Heath Knapp/Hatfield and the Patney road. This seemed to involve both the Stewards and Wiltshire's Rights of Way.
- d Mr Woods suggested that in addition to his informal thanks to the Covid Group Leaders he should send a formal letter of thanks to the Leaders and ask them if they wished to continue monitoring their respective areas. This was agreed.
- e It was agreed to send a note of thanks to Mrs Wimble for her help with the cutting of the playing field hedge.
- f Re flooding, Mr Hanson reported that the BT manhole at the foot of Coate Hill had been opened by BT and required repair. Mr Woods would chase both BT and Wiltshire Highways as both were involved in ensuring that road water did

not penetrate this manhole and run down to and out of the other BT manholes opposite Badgers and near Church Farm.

## **5 Questions/Points from the Public**

None.

## **6 Treasurer's Report**

- a Mr Nash explained his knowledge of the defibrillator and said that Mr and Mrs Hopgood were still monitoring this for the time being.

Mrs Clark, who had been investigating the position, said that new electrodes were due to be fitted next month at a price of £100 +VAT and that a new battery was needed in 2022.

As she was not familiar with the machine Mr Hanson agreed to help her fit the electrodes. Advice needed to be sought from Mrs Sarah Hopgood before Mrs Clark ordered new electrodes.

If this machine was now to become the Council's responsibility Mr Nash would need to notify Zurich and budget as appropriate.

Mr Woods said he was confused about the background to the defibrillator and its relationship to Community Heartbeat with whom Mrs Clark had been in touch and he would endeavour to find out more.

- b The Risk Register and Register of Assets were approved noting that amendments might be needed to allow for the defibrillator.
- c The Treasurer's Report and material for the Precept were considered. Mr Nash had circulated papers to Councillors. He explained that the spend in 20/21 was £2,596.81, Lloyds Bank balance £4,390.56, the Precept 20/21 £3,750.00 and prospective budget items for 21/22. The Council then considered the Budget for 21/22.

As regards the Precept the Council agreed with Mr Woods' suggestion that this should be held down in the light of the financial difficulties for parishioners caused by Covid. On the figures Mr Nash suggested a reduction of £1,000.

The Budget and Precept at £2,750 were then agreed and the relevant forms would be signed by the Chairman for Mr Nash to send to Wiltshire.

## **7 Correspondence and Consultations**

- a BT Kiosk. Mr Woods reported that Wiltshire had joined with the Council in resisting BT's further attempt to close the kiosk.
- b Items in Annex. No further action was required. It was noted that Wiltshire had confirmed that Etchilhampton would not be affected by the Local Plan Review (Item 4).

## **8 Planning Applications**

- a 19/10845 Manor Farm All Cannings. Mr Woods had declared his interest and been given a dispensation to speak. He reported that Wiltshire had given consent after a wholly unsatisfactory discussion at the Eastern Area Planning Committee where he, Mrs Clark, Mr Rodwell and Mr Crabb had spoken and despite the overwhelming objections of the Council and many others against the application. All concerned thought that the whole process brought Wiltshire's reputation into question but that seemed to the end of the matter.

Mr Woods said he had thanked Mr Simon Rodwell and Mr Martin Crabb for submitting evidence of objection to the Area Committee hearing.

Mrs Clark said her objections to the enhancement of the field entrances north of the C60, particularly that by the wooden bus stop at Manor Farm Lane were still being dealt with by Mr Stevens the Planning Enforcement Officer.

On tractors creating a nuisance on the highway, Mr Smith's son Derek's very helpful note on the topic was discussed. Mr Woods had asked Mr Smith to convey the Council's thanks to his son. Councillors fully endorsed this.

It appeared that anyone who saw bad driving or the lack of number plates on vehicles should notify the police to follow up.

- b Trees  
20/08384 - The Orchard- No objections  
20/08445- Sandiacres - No objections  
20/08452- 3 The Green - No objections  
20/09106- Etchilhampton House - No objections
- c 20/11091 -The Laurels. Mr Woods had declared his interest and withdrew.  
No objections
- d 20/11408 - Plum Tree Cottage - No objections.
- e 20/09168 - Jasmine Cottage - extension and other works - no objections

## **9 Reports of Meetings**

None

## **10 Other Business**

- a Mr Smith reported that Mr Hopgood had complained about the oak tree in the playing field overhanging his garden and suggested asking Mr Woods' tree surgeon to examine the situation.
- b Mr Hanson reported Mrs Cowdry's request for selected items discussed to put in the Church Newsletter.
- c Mrs Clark proposed thanks to Mr Nash and Mr Woods for their hard work.

## **ANNEX**

- 1 – Wiltshire Council's updates on Covid
- 2 – Email scam
- 3 – NWDAONB Annual Forum – 29/1/21
- 4 – Wiltshire Local Plan Review – Appendices 2 & 3
- 5 – Community First Minutes of AGM

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.