

EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7 PM IN EWSHOT VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr G Bredin (Chairman), Cllr E Jennings, Cllr A Taylor and Cllr T Wells.

In Attendance: Alison Ball (Clerk), Cllr J Radley (Hart District Council), Cllr J Bennison (Hampshire County Council) and 2 members of the public.

17/135	Apologies for Absence
	Cllr B Cranstone (on holiday).
17/136	Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 14 August 2017
	RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14 August 2017.
17/137	Matters arising from the Minutes
	<p>On Minute 17/129 – Planning:</p> <p>(a) Highways officers at Hampshire County Council (HCC) had confirmed by email that they did not have a start date for the new round-a-bout as a result of the development at Watery Lane but it was assumed work would start in 2018.</p> <p>(b) A letter had been received from the architects acting for the developers wishing to convert The Old Queens Arms from an office building to nine residential units. This letter advised that as the site was within the 5km buffer zone of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) they were required to mitigate any potential increase in activity in the SPA by supplying additional Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANG). Hart District Council (HDC) had reported that there was currently no supply of SANG land and the letter sought help from the Parish Council to identify any suitable service or facility that could serve the same purpose of SANG contribution.</p> <p>On Minute 17/134 – Any other business: it was noted that the Christmas trees had been ordered.</p>
17/138	Announcements from Chairman, Clerk and Members' Questions
	None.

17/139	District and County Council Report
	<p>District Council Report:- Cllr Radley stated that she was pleased to see that some progress was being made on the traffic calming for the village. Local Plan: it was anticipated that there would be a Local Plan briefing for HDC councillors at the end of September. SANG: Councillor Radley had been made aware of some incidents involving horses on the SANG land. These had been reported to the appropriate officer at HDC and a request had been made for a meeting of the SANG Stakeholder group to be organised as soon as possible to try to address this and other issues.</p> <p>County Council Report:- Councillor Bennison advised that an appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against the enforcement notice issued by HCC in relation to the unauthorised use of the land west of Peacocks Nursery and Garden Centre as an inert waste recycling facility.</p>
17/140	Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations
	None.
17/141	Public Participation
	None.
17/142	Planning
	<p>REF: 17/02020/FUL Land Adjacent to Heath Lane Change of Use: Agriculture to Equestrian</p> <p>RESOLVED: To not object to the application. Proposed by Cllr Bredin, seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed unanimously.</p>
17/143	Traffic Calming for the Village
	<p>Councillor Jennings had walked through the village looking for suitable locations to place Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), or similar equipment. She had also exchanged emails with a concerned resident about this. She suggested the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Church Lane - outside The Dell, attached to 30 sign and warning triangle for traffic coming in; outward bound traffic on corner of Broomhill, post required. Could also have locations near Woodcock, closer to turning onto Church Lane. - Ewshot Lane - attached to 30 mph sign near Old Brickworks. - Tadpole Lane – attached to 30mph sign coming into village, on brow of hill.

	<p>Cllr Jennings reported that going out of village on Tadpole Lane and Ewshot Lane the roads changed to National Speed Limit and as such it would be difficult to provide evidence that anyone was speeding along these stretches. She suggested that to address this it might be useful to have increased signage welcoming people to the village and reminding them to drive carefully. This could be done in the form of gateway entry points.</p> <p>It was suggested that it might be possible to get enough people interested to set up a Speedwatch team and volunteers were asked to contact the clerk.</p> <p>Councillor Radley confirmed that she had requested that the HDC SIDs be installed along Church Lane at the end of September and she agreed to follow this up.</p> <p>A discussion took place regarding any measures that could be taken with regard to speeds along Doras Green Lane. It was agreed to raise this again with HCC as there was little action the Parish Council could take whilst the road had a 60mph limit.</p> <p>The clerk reported that signage for the Bridle Path was being considered to warn cyclists to go slowly and a suitable location for this signage needed to be identified.</p> <p>RESOLVED: (1) To approach HCC to seek approval for potential SID locations as identified; (2) To approach HCC for guidance on the potential for gateway entry signage; (3) That signage be installed along the Bridle Path if a suitable location could be identified.</p>
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17/144	Play Area
	<p>The Chairman reported that the embankment slide was still closed as additional panels needed to be installed to protect fingers from being trapped. The grass was now growing well through the rubber matting on the bank. It was hoped that this would be resolved shortly and the slide would be reopened. Once this happened the zip wire would need to be closed to put new rubber matting along its length.</p> <p>Two complaints had been received about the new kissing gate at the entrance to the play area which had been circulated prior to the meeting. The first was concerned that the gate was too difficult to manoeuvre with a double pushchair and it could prove difficult for those with disabilities. This complainant had been issued with a key to the side gate to allow her to access the play area more easily. External advice had been sought on the gate and the ROSPA guidance had been taken into account. The meeting felt that the gate complied with recommended standards and met the original objective of trying to slow children down coming out of the play area and into the car park and to prevent dogs entering the play area. The meeting was</p>

	<p>satisfied that the complainant had been provided with an alternative means of entry to the play area but agreed that a sign be installed advising others of this option.</p> <p>The second complaint was that the gate was too light and therefore too easy for children to open. This would be looked at during the work on the slide/zip wire.</p>
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17/145	Grass Cutting at the Village Hall
	<p>It was advised that the person who had been cutting the grass around the Village Hall would no longer be undertaking this task. It was agreed that Premier Grounds and Garden Maintenance be asked to quote to include this area when cutting the recreation ground and play area.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That Premier Grounds and Garden Maintenance be asked to quote for cutting the grass around the Village Hall for the remainder of the year and that the clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, be authorised to enter into an agreement up to the agreed maximum. Proposed by Cllr Bredin, seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed unanimously.</p>

17/146	Crookham Almshouses Trust
	<p>At the last meeting it had been advised that the term of office for the current parish representative on the Crookham Almshouses Trust was coming to an end and he had indicated his wish to retire.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the Chairman of the Parish Council be appointed as the representative on the Crookham Almshouses Trust.</p>

17/147	Annual Return
	<p>The clerk advised that the external audit had been carried out and the Annual Return had been completed and returned by BDO. There were no issues to report.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the completed annual return including the certificate from BDO be approved and accepted. Proposed by Cllr Wells, seconded by Cllr Bredin and agreed unanimously.</p>

17/148	Firmvalue Payrolls
	<p>The company providing payroll services to the Parish Council had issued an updated engagement letter which had been revised as a result of the latest guidance. They requested that the document be signed and returned.</p> <p>A question was raised regarding the period of engagement and it was agreed that the clerk follow this up.</p>

RESOLVED: That the clerk be authorised to sign the updated agreement once the question regarding the period of engagement was addressed.

17/149	Payments
The following payments were approved and cheques signed:	
	£
Firmvalue Payrolls Ltd – September Payroll	459.38
Premier Grounds and Garden Maintenance – August Grass Cutting	571.38
BDO – External Audit Fee	240.00
CommuniCorp – Clerks & Councils Direct	12.00

17/150	Correspondence
The Clerk advised that a folder of correspondence would be available in the office.	

17/151	Any other business
The following issues were raised:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Litter alongside the road on the triangle of land at the Doras Green Lane and Heath Lane junction; - Overgrown hedges at the Doras Green Lane and Heath Lane junction; - The directional sign along the A287 pointing to Doras Green had been knocked down; - The nameplate sign for Tadpole Lane at the junction with Beacon Hill had been knocked over and was starting to rust; - The laurels along the A287 around the junction with Doras Green Lane were overhanging the footpath and needed to be cut back. 	
All the above would be reported to either HCC or HDC for action.	
Cllr Wells asked for details of projects for inclusion in the budget for 2017/18 be submitted to the clerk as soon as possible.	

The Meeting ended at 8.02 pm

Signed..... **Dated**