

EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7 PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr G Bredin (Chairman), Cllr E Jennings, Cllr D Morgan-Jones and Cllr D Rook.

In Attendance: Alison Ball (Clerk). Cllr T Collins (Hart District Council). Cllr S Parker (Hampshire County Council) (until 7.30pm).

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| 24/033 | Apologies for Absence |
| | Cllr C Turner. |

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| 24/034 | Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 8 January 2024 |
| | RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 8 January 2024. |

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| 24/035 | Matters arising from the Minutes |
| | None. |

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| 24/036 | Announcements from Chairman, Clerk and Members' Questions |
| | None. |

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| 24/037 | District and County Council Report |
| | <p>Hart District Council (HDC):- None.</p> <p>Hampshire County Council (HCC):- Cllr Parker advised that his monthly report would be circulated by email. He advised that works were taking place on the Dares Lane/ A287 junction. It was thought that the ditches were being cleared and it was hoped this would stop the water running across the carriageway.</p> <p>Cllr Rook asked what works were taking place at the new roundabout at Redfields Lane as there was a temporary electronic sign warning of works from 17 February to 31 March. It was suspected that this was related to the utilities and Cllr Parker would try to find out.</p> |

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| 24/038 | Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations |
| | None. |
| 24/039 | Public Participation |
| | None. |
| 24/040 | Planning |
| | <p>(a) 23/02171/OUT Oak Park Golf Course, Heath Lane Amended plans in respect of the proposal. The main changes are: Additional plan to show flood zones - in response to LLFA consultation response; Email from Applicant's agent in response to Rights of Way Officer response; and Viability Assessment.</p> <p>A response was required by 2 February and none had been submitted. This was not a new application but additional information on an application that the Parish Council had already commented on.</p> <p>(b) 23/00871/AMCON Land at Watery Lane, Church Crookham Amended plans including amended description of development and landscaping drawings.</p> <p>It was AGREED to submit no comment.</p> <p>(c) 23/02694/LBC Combe Wood Cottage, Farnham Road Brickwork repointing, brick arch repair, localized internal plaster and crack repairs including decoration following subsidence incident.</p> <p>It was AGREED to submit no objection.</p> |
| 24/041 | Highways Issues at Doras Green |
| | It was noted that according to the one.network website there would be carriageway resurfacing on Doras Green Lane between 19 and 23 February which would involve a road closure. There had also been notification received that there would be carriageway resurfacing, vegetation clearance and kerbing replacement on Heath Lane from 100m east of The Hollow for 140 metres. This would take place from 6 February for 9 days involving a road closure during the day (7am to 7pm). |
| 24/042 | Reinstatement of Verges – Dares Lane and Ewshot Lane; Beacon Hill |
| | At the last meeting it had been reported that an email had been received from the Assistant Highway Manager at HCC advising that whilst he had previously commented that it would be his aspiration to link the ditch outside Oakland Farm to the piped system which ran down Dares Lane before it discharged into the ditch |

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| | <p>alongside the A287 Farnham Road this was unlikely to happen due to a need to focus limited resources on schemes which resolved or mitigated flood risk to habitable spaces within properties or businesses. The Chairman had responded to this expressing his disappointment and in reply it had been confirmed that an order had been placed to clear the ditch at the Dares Lane/ A287 junction, removing arisings from the site.</p> |
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| 24/043 | A287 - Flooding |
| | <p>An email had been received from the Assistant Highway Manager to confirm that an order had been raised to high pressure water jet and CCTV the drainage system between the county boundary and Church Lane to determine the cause of the flooding. Members thought that this work had been done previously and were confused as to why it was being done again. Cllr Morgan-Jones agreed to draft an email to HCC on this matter requesting clarity and that suitable works be carried out as soon as possible.</p> |

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| 24/044 | Fly Tipping on A287 |
| | <p>HDC had confirmed that they would be carrying out a litter pick along the A287 in February/March.</p> <p>Following a request for an update on progress with arrangements to remove the fly tipping on the A287 HDC had advised that they had not received any response from HCC to the last communication. They did not expect any update on this until the new financial year. HDC had advised that it was felt that it was important to have the involvement of HCC as they would organise road management and arrange for the site to be secured once HDC had removed the waste. HDC also wanted to have a discussion with the adjoining landowner as some of the waste was on private land. Cllr Parker agreed to try to find out who at HCC was working on this and what could be done to move it along.</p> |

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| 24/045 | Repair of roundabout A287/Beacon Hill Road |
| | <p>This had been reported to HCC and it had been confirmed that it required action which should be carried out within two months from 9 January 2024.</p> |

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| 24/046 | Rural Fibre Optic Rollout |
| | <p>Cllr Morgan-Jones hoped to have something to report on this at the next meeting.</p> |

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| 24/047 | CCTV Maintenance and Repair |
| | It was noted that the work to upgrade to the CCTV system had begun and would be finished in the next couple of weeks. |
| 24/048 | Enhancing parish communication and engagement |
| | Cllr Morgan-Jones asked that consideration of this be postponed to the next meeting. |
| 24/049 | Hart Climate Change Engagement Group |
| | Cllr Morgan-Jones confirmed that he had attended the recent meeting of the Hart Climate Emergency Engagement Group. Following the last meeting of this group Cllr Morgan-Jones had given feedback relating to the importance of understanding the issues before thinking about what actions to take. At the recent meeting he had spoken to officers and Cllr Richard Quarterman (HDC lead on Climate Emergency response) and had agreed to lead a group looking into this. It would be important to understand where the most CO2 was being created in the district in order to best target resources. |
| 24/050 | Biodiversity |
| | <p>It was noted that the Parish Council now had a legal duty to consider what could be done to conserve and enhance biodiversity. NALC had produced a model Biodiversity Policy which could be used as a starting point for a Ewshot specific policy. It was noted that biodiversity should be considered when commenting on planning applications.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that he would look at what steps could be taken to conserve and enhance biodiversity. This would be particularly relevant when considering works on the recreation ground. He would report back once he had looked into this.</p> <p>(NOTE: Cllr Parker left the meeting at the conclusion of this item to attend a meeting at another parish council.)</p> |
| 24/051 | Farnborough Airport |
| | It was noted that HDC had submitted an objection to the planning application made by the airport to Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) to increase the number of flights allowed. |

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| | Prior to the meeting Cllr Turner had advised that he was looking at suitable locations for the noise monitoring equipment. |
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| 24/052 | Review of Standing Orders |
| | The Standing Orders had been reviewed and no changes were recommended at this time. RESOLVED: That the current Standing Orders were fit for purpose. |

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| 24/053 | Review of Financial Regulations |
| | The Financial Regulations had been reviewed and no amendments were recommended at this time. It was noted that NALC were currently undertaking a review of the model Financial Regulations and once these had been released they would be considered. RESOLVED: To note that the Financial Regulations had been reviewed but no amendments were necessary. |

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| 24/054 | Banking Arrangements |
| | Consideration was given to the current banking arrangements. RESOLVED: That the current banking arrangements were sufficient. |

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| 24/055 | S106 Project Proposals from the Village Hall Committee |
| | It was noted that the application by the Village Hall Committee for s106 funds to pay for wifi and insulation at the village hall had been successful. Another application would now be made to fund electrical works. An application had also been made to the UKSPF for money to improve access to the village hall and this had moved to the second stage. The Parish Council thanked the members of the Village Hall Committee that were working hard to make improvements at the village hall and secure the necessary funding. |

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| 24/056 | Tennis Court Works |
| | At the last meeting it had been agreed to accept a quote from Housden Courts to pressure wash, moss kill and carry out minor repairs to the surface of the tennis court. This work had been completed. |

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| | <p>Quotes had been sought and obtained for a colour spray that needed to be undertaken in the spring/summer. Details of the quotes had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was recommended that the quote from Housden Courts be accepted and it was acknowledged that this was not the cheapest quote but it was not hugely more expensive and it was from a company that had been used before and was known to be reliable and trustworthy.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the quote from Housden Courts for the colour respray of the tennis court.</p> |
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| 24/057 | Play Area Inspection |
| | <p>There had been previous discussions about budget planning for the repair and replacement of equipment in the play area and the difficulties in knowing how long each item of equipment would last. To help with this the company that carried out the annual ROSPA inspection had been approached and they had advised that could add a life expectancy assessment onto the annual inspection in the spring.</p> <p>It was AGREED that a life expectancy assessment be added to the annual ROSPA inspection of the play area at an additional cost of £40.</p> |

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| 24/058 | Approval of Payments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>The following payments were approved:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>February Payroll</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£573.93</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC - tax</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£16.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Castle Water – water bill</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£11.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Larkstel – Bin emptying (February)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£188.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gary Bredin – reimbursement for Christmas event</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£41.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A Ball – stationery/ office supplies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£41.87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A Ball – poppies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£99.90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DM Payroll Services Ltd – payroll services October 2023 to March 2024</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£66.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Penn Croft Farms – Hedge Flailing</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£240.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peter A Housdens – tennis court works</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scottish Power – electricity</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£54.84</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> | February Payroll | £573.93 | HMRC - tax | £16.00 | Castle Water – water bill | £11.98 | Larkstel – Bin emptying (February) | £188.70 | Gary Bredin – reimbursement for Christmas event | £41.95 | A Ball – stationery/ office supplies | £41.87 | A Ball – poppies | £99.90 | DM Payroll Services Ltd – payroll services October 2023 to March 2024 | £66.00 | Penn Croft Farms – Hedge Flailing | £240.00 | Peter A Housdens – tennis court works | £1,200.00 | Scottish Power – electricity | £54.84 | | |
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| Larkstel – Bin emptying (February) | £188.70 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gary Bredin – reimbursement for Christmas event | £41.95 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A Ball – stationery/ office supplies | £41.87 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 24/059 | Date of Next Meeting |
| | It was noted that the next meeting was due to take place on 11 March 2024. |

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| 24/060 | Any Other Business |
| | There was a discussion about the recent burglaries and suspected attempted burglaries in the village and the fantastic way the villagers were working together to help prevent any future burglaries. |

The meeting ended at 7.45 pm

Signed.....

Dated