

EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 9 MARCH 2020 AT 7 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr T Wells (Vice-Chairman in the Chair), Cllr B Cranstone, Cllr E Jennings and Cllr A Taylor.

**In Attendance:** Alison Ball (Clerk), Cllr J Bennison (Hampshire County Council) and 4 members of the public.

<b>20/48</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>
	Cllr G Bredin (Chairman)

<b>20/49</b>	<b>Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 10 February 2020</b>
	<b>RESOLVED:</b> To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 February 2020.

<b>20/50</b>	<b>Matters arising from the Minutes</b>
	On item 20/47 Any other business: (1) it was advised that the defibrillator had been removed from the telephone box outside the Windmill as it had been displaying an error code which could not be cleared. It would be sent away for repair and one could be borrowed in the meantime. As soon as the temporary replacement was received it would be put in the phone box. (2) the Clerk had been in touch with Adam Green at Hart District Council (HDC) regarding the s106 contributions but she was still waiting for confirmation of the amount of money available. The Clerk has also contacted an Engineer at Hampshire Highways who ran a private business carrying out road related projects and he had agreed to have a look at the car park and make some suggestions regarding surfacing options and any recommended improvements.

<b>20/51</b>	<b>Announcements from Chairman, Clerk and Members' Questions</b>
	None.

<b>20/52</b>	<b>District and County Council Report</b>
	<b>Hart District Council:-</b> No representative present.

	<p><b>Hampshire County Council:-</b>  Councillor Bennison gave the following details:</p> <p>a) Doras Green Lane – there were no further updates on this since the last meeting but the work was on the schedule to do.</p> <p>b) Schools – there would be an investment of £9M in Calthorpe Park Secondary School which would allow 300 more spaces to be created. Very recently the parents of students applying for secondary school places for September had been advised which school they would be going to. 92% of parents had been offered their first choice of school, 97% at one of their top three choices for secondary school places in September.</p> <p>c) Mud on Beacon Hill Road – Cllr Bennison had received complaints about mud on Beacon Hill Road from vehicles leaving the Collards site. He had been up to the site and the manager had advised that they cleaned the roads three times a week and that the current vehicle used for this was due to be replaced. He agreed to increase the number of times the road was cleaned and he hoped that there would be some investment in a hard standing on the site which would help to keep the vehicles cleaner.</p> <p>d) Trees on Beacon Hill Road – there were a number of trees down along this road which needed to be cleared. In order to do this the road would need to be closed. Cllr Bennison did not have a timescale for this but a member of the public stated that he had been told two months. During the discussion it was reported that there were a number of trees along the A287 which had come down or were leaning on other trees which needed to be removed. The Clerk agreed to report this to Hampshire County Council (HCC).</p>
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<b>20/53</b>	<b>Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations</b>
	Cllrs Cranstone declared an interest in item 20/56 Electricity Supply on the Recreation Ground, specifically the construction of a concrete base because he had submitted a quote.

<b>20/54</b>	<b>Public Participation</b>
	<p>A member of the public asked if the noticeboard on Heath Lane could be looked at as the doors were still not closing properly.</p> <p>Cllr Bennison advised that HCC had put information on its website about Coronavirus. HCC were taking their lead from Government and he recommended that everyone look at the HCC or Government website for guidance.</p>

<b>20/55</b>	<b>Planning</b>
	<p><b>(a) 20/00248/HOU Ewshot Holt, Heath Lane</b> Erection of porch and first floor side extension.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To submit no objection. Proposed by Cllr Cranstone, seconded by Cllr Jennings and agreed unanimously.</p> <p><b>(b) 20/00265/HOU The Shannon, Church Lane</b> Erection of a two storey side extension following demolition of existing detached garage and partial demolition of existing side projection creation of a 1 metre high retaining wall.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> To object due to the proposed extension not being in keeping with the existing house to such an extent that it appears to be a separate dwelling, that the ridge height is too high and a lack of parking being identified following the loss of the garage. Proposed by Cllr Cranstone, seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed unanimously.</p>
<b>20/56</b>	<b>Electricity Supply on the Recreation Ground</b>
	<p>Prior to the meeting Mike Phillips, on behalf of the Village Fair Committee, had advised that he had sought and obtained three quotes each for the work needed to install an electricity supply on the recreation ground. The first job was to construct a concrete base and the second to install an enclosure on the base with the connection inside to the electricity supply with plug sockets.</p> <p>The two jobs were discussed separately as Cllr Cranstone declared an interest in the work to construct the concrete base and he left the room during the consideration of these quotes. He returned for the discussion on the installation of the electrical components.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That Crookham Electrical Services be appointed to install the box and necessary components on the recreation ground at a cost of £996 excluding VAT. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Jennings and agreed unanimously.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That B J Cranstone be appointed to construct the concrete base on the recreation ground at a cost of £350. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Jennings and agreed unanimously.</p> <p>(NOTE: Cllr Cranstone declared an interest in the discussion of the construction of a concrete base and he left the room during its consideration and vote.)</p>

<b>20/57</b>	<b>Traffic Calming for the Village and Community Speedwatch</b>
	<p>The Clerk advised that the data collected by the SID when it was on Church Lane during December had been forwarded by HDC. This had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and was available at the meeting. It showed that speed violations were just under 10% with the fastest speed recorded as 62mph. All were shocked that a vehicle travelled this fast along Church Lane but were pleased to see that about 90% of vehicles were within the speed limit.</p>
<b>20/58</b>	<b>Purchase of a SLR</b>
	<p>The SID had been ordered and delivery was expected in six to eight weeks. The SID that had been ordered would flash up the speed limit and the words 'SLOW DOWN' underneath. It was confirmed that HCC had given permission for this sign to be used on four posts along Church Lane and it would have to be moved every few weeks depending on the life of the battery.</p> <p>Along with the SID four brackets had been ordered, one for each post, and a data collection unit. It was noted that this had resulted in a spend of £3,125 excluding VAT. HCC had agreed to pay for a SLR for the parish but the parish council had to purchase the device and then claim the money back. As soon as an invoice was received a claim would be made to HCC. Once the reimbursement had been confirmed the Clerk suggested that the Ewshot funds that had been budgeted for this instead be used to purchase a tablet for downloading the SID data onto. The suppliers had advised that it could be done by Bluetooth and the best way to do this was to sit with a tablet in a car next to the sign whilst it is in place. This would need consideration at a future meeting.</p> <p><b>AGREED:</b> That expenditure of £3,125 excluding VAT be authorised for the purchase of a SLR and associated equipment from Westcotec with the majority to be claimed back from HCC.</p>
<b>20/59</b>	<b>New Website</b>
	<p>The new website was ready to go live but the council emails needed to be transferred to the new server first. It was hoped that this would be done and the website would be up and running before the next meeting.</p>
<b>20/60</b>	<b>New grit bins</b>
	<p>The Clerk had looked at the various grit bins available and prices varied from approximately £100 to £200 depending on size. It was agreed that two should be purchased – one for outside the Windmill pub and one for Broomhill. Cllr Bennison</p>

	<p>agreed to discuss the proposals with the landlady at the Windmill pub to see if she had a preference of type of grit bin.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, be authorised to spend up to £400 excluding VAT on two grit bins and salt. Proposed by Cllr Cranstone, seconded by Cllr Jennings and agreed unanimously.</p>
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<b>20/61</b>	<b>Removal of Tree at Broomhill</b>
	<p>As reported at the last meeting advice had been received that one of the oak trees on the verge between the picket fence around the amenity land at Broomhill and Church Lane was so badly damaged it needed to be removed. Quotes had been received for this work and had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was requested that the brushwood be removed but that the cordwood be cut up and left on the land at Broomhill for anyone in the village to use as firewood.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That NP Tree Management be appointed to remove the damaged oak tree on the verge between the amenity land at Broomhill and Church Lane as soon as possible at a cost of £375 excluding VAT. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Jennings and agreed unanimously.</p>

<b>20/62</b>	<b>Electricity Sub-Station at Broomhill</b>
	<p>It had been hoped that a representative from Scottish and Southern Electricity (SSE) would be attending the meeting but this was not the case. SSE had approached the parish council to request that an electricity substation be placed on the amenity land at Broomhill. SSE had offered £2,000 to acquire a 99 year leasehold interest of the land required to site the sub-station of approximately 5 by 4 metres adjacent to Church Lane at the rear of the plot. In addition vehicle access to the sub-station from Broomhill would be required for the duration of the lease.</p> <p>Councillors had wanted SSE to attend the meeting so questions could be asked including why the existing substation could not be used and why this new one was needed. If this new substation did need to go ahead councillors requested further discussion on its exact location, including access, and the amount of recompense.</p> <p>The land at Broomhill had been transferred to the parish council by HDC with the restriction that permission would need to be sought for this type of transaction. The Clerk had contacted legal services at HDC for advice and a response was awaited.</p>

<b>20/63</b>	<b>Grass Cutting</b>
	<p>The Clerk had sought quotes for the grass cutting for 2020, 2021 and 2022. Three quotes had been received all of which quoted for 13 cuts between April and October</p>

	<p>including the recreation ground, play area, area surrounding the village hall and the land at Broomhill. Also included was spraying weed killer on the car park twice during that period.</p> <p>The cheapest quote received had been from a company that the council had not used previously. This company cut the grass for some local parish councils and schools. Recommendations had been sought from the parish councils, two of whom had responded stating that they would happily recommend them.</p> <p>Whilst quotes had been sought for three years it was agreed that as the cheapest company had not been used before a clause should be included that should the parish council be unhappy with the work notice could be given by 30 November to terminate the contract for the following year.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That Nick Robbins be appointed to cut the grass for 2020, 2021 and 2022 at a price of £2,698.50 excluding VAT each year subject to the ability to give notice by 30 November to terminate the contract for the following year. Proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Cranstone and agreed unanimously.</p>
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<b>20/64</b>	<b>Emergency Planning</b>
	There was no update on this at this time.

<b>20/65</b>	<b>Finance</b>

<b>20/66</b>	<b>New Savings Account</b>
	As reported at the last meeting during the setting of the 2020/21 budget it had been suggested that some of the parish council funds be moved into a higher interest account. The Clerk had looked into the accounts available but was recommending that a decision on this be postponed until after the election in May.

<b>20/67</b>	<b>Insurance Renewal</b>
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	<p>Quotes had been received for the insurance for 2020/21. The parish council was now out of a three year deal and the brokers Came &amp; Company had provided three quotes. The brokers were recommending that the parish council accept the quote from Ecclesiastical.</p> <p>It was reported that if it was agreed to accept Ecclesiastical the parish council could agree to a three year deal which would provide an additional discount.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b> That the quote from Ecclesiastical be accepted for insurance in 2020/21 and that the parish council agree to a three year deal with the company to secure an</p>
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	additional discount. Proposed by Cllr Jennings, seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed unanimously.																		
<b>20/68</b>	<b>Payments</b>																		
	The following payments were approved and cheques signed:																		
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Firmvalue Payrolls Ltd – March Payroll</td> <td>696.87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Firmvalue Payrolls Ltd – Quarterly charge &amp; outstanding payments</td> <td>270.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Southern Electric Power Distribution plc – connection works on Rec</td> <td>409.31*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Heartbeat – annual fee for Defib</td> <td>123.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Westcotec – SLR and associated equipment</td> <td>3,750.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Came &amp; Co Insurance Premium</td> <td>713.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tree Works</td> <td>450.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>*cheque already issued</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		£	Firmvalue Payrolls Ltd – March Payroll	696.87	Firmvalue Payrolls Ltd – Quarterly charge & outstanding payments	270.00	Southern Electric Power Distribution plc – connection works on Rec	409.31*	Community Heartbeat – annual fee for Defib	123.00	Westcotec – SLR and associated equipment	3,750.00	Came & Co Insurance Premium	713.94	Tree Works	450.00	*cheque already issued	
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	It was noted that this should be the last payments to Firmvalue Payrolls Limited as the new payroll provider would be taking over from April.																		

<b>20/69</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
	The Clerk advised that there was no correspondence that had been received in addition to that already forwarded on and none that needed addressing that had not appeared elsewhere on the agenda.

<b>20/70</b>	<b>Any other business</b>
	Cllr Cranstone raised concerns of a local parishioner about the state of the ground in the SANG area. It had been used for grazing over the winter months and this, combined with the wet weather, meant the ground was very uneven. He was aware that the SANG Management Plan only allowed for cattle to graze from September to March each year and he would like to know if the cattle would be moved to allow the ground to recover. Others raised concerns about the area stating that it was becoming increasingly difficult to walk round the SANG partly due to the cattle gathering round the gates. Another issue was the closing of the boardwalks. The management company had assessed these and advised that minimal work needed to be done to repair them and any remaining budget would be used to fence other areas of the SANG for more grazing. It was felt that the boardwalks were in a poor condition and significant repairs were needed. It was also noted that any fencing should be temporary. Cllr Bennison advised that a meeting of the SANG stakeholders was due to take place shortly and he would request that the parish council be

	<p>included on any correspondence for this. It was agreed that a note be sent to the management company raising the concerns.</p> <p>It was noted that there would be elections in May for the parish council. It was agreed to put up posters on the noticeboards with information on how to stand as a parish councillor.</p> <p>Cllr Bennison confirmed that the waste recycling operation at Peacocks had moved from this site and he understood that it was now operating further down the road behind the garage at Mill Lane.</p>
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**The meeting ended at 8.25 pm**

**Signed**.....

**Dated** .....