

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**27 September 2021**  
**19:15, East Woodhay Village Hall**

**Chairman:** Cllr Mitchell (Chair)

**Present:** Councillors Mr P Hurst, Mr A Watson, Mr G Dick, Mr M Hainge, Mrs S Cooper, Mr P Jarvis, Mrs K Titcomb, Mr M Rand

**In Attendance:** One Parishioner (Colin Bonner), Cllr Izett

**Clerk:** Amy White

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**Item 1: Apologies**

**40/21** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Thacker.

**Item 2: Declarations of Interest**

**41/21** None.

**Item 3: 42/21 Matters Arising from 26 July 2021 Meeting**

Item	Action	Owner
<b>30/21</b>	Clerk to rearrange to meet with CSPO. <b>Not actioned</b> due to clarification of roles of CSPO and PCSO- see item 11.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>32/12</b>	Clerk to post the information received regarding Watermill Bridge on Facebook and the website and point to <a href="http://www.keepwashwaterrural.co.uk">www.keepwashwaterrural.co.uk</a> , a community page set up by residents in Enborne. <b>Actioned</b> .	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>33/21</b>	Clerk to publish the biodiversity report on the website and Facebook. <b>Actioned</b> .	<b>Clerk</b>

**Item 4: 43/21 Borough and County Councillor Reports**

**Cllr Thacker** sent a report (at the end of the minutes).

**Cllr Izett** attended on behalf of Evingar Ward Councillors.

- He updated on the recent BDBC Local Plan meeting. The Evingar Councillors will be listening to Parishes to feedback to the planning policy team at the next BDBC Local Plan meeting in November.
- BDBC is going out to public consultation from 06 October 2021 asking for views on how to rejuvenate Basingstoke town centre.
- BDBC Finances are in good shape but council tax will rise (approx. £5 a year for a band D house).
- Councillor Community Grant Scheme: each ward councillor has a 'pot' of money to award, designed for capital community projects. Awards can be made from £250-£1000 per project. Deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

## **Item 5: Planning**

**44/21** Please see [planning minutes](#) for full responses to applications.

- Cllr Titcomb reported that an application to build four houses on land at Ball Hill has been refused at Appeal. This follows an earlier refusal to grant planning permission for the development of land behind Glenrosa, located nearby, also at Appeal. The Appeal documents were specifically based on BDBC's lack of housing supply but it is pleasing to see that at Appeal this was considered but that it was felt that AONB and other factors outweighed the housing supply issue.
- Cllr Titcomb is liaising with Mr Garrett of Enborne Parish Council regarding the [www.keepwashwaterrural.co.uk](http://www.keepwashwaterrural.co.uk) pressure group and the proposed Wash Water development known as Watermill Bridge.
- Cllr Webb of Newtown PC has come to EWPC and Highclere PC to potentially coordinate a joint response from North West Hants Parishes, regarding the scale of planning applications being received in the North Hampshire area. Cllr Titcomb will update the PC as necessary.
- Cllr Titcomb has not heard anything from the AONB regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, despite contacting Cllr Paul Miller directly, in his capacity as Chairman of the Management Working Group at North Wessex Downs AONB. Cllr Titcomb asked for Cllr Izett's assistance in this.
- Potential development in Mount Road- Cllrs Hurst and Titcomb have met with the school; Thakeham Developers have asked to meet with the school; the school will likely meet with them to see what Thakeham is proposing.
- The Wash Water (Watermill Bridge) application is likely to be with BDBC by the end of October.

## **Item 6: 45/21 Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Please see Cllr Hurst's report at the end of the minutes.

Cllr Izett encouraged the PC to get the completed NP into BDBC by mid 2022. The plan will have some degree of primacy for the 2 years after it is made (before the Local Plan update due 2024).

## **Item 7: 46/21 Local Plan Update Review: Formal Response**

Please see Cllr Hurst's report at the end of the minutes (including recommendations to be made to BDBC). He asked for the support of the PC.

Cllr Izett asked for any response to be copied to the Evingar Ward councillors; Cllr Izett had discussed the Local Plan update feedback with the BDBC Planning Officer, highlighting the proposed zero housing allocation to the parish. They acknowledged this reflected the larger number of houses developed during the present Local Plan period than was required (10 houses required, 65 built). Cllr Izett said they were looking to see if legal support could be given to challenge the Watermill Bridge development in the light of the above, ref number of houses built. He will report back to the PC.

Cllr Dick proposed to agree to the recommendations made by Cllr Hurst.

Cllr Jarvis seconded.

***All the PC voted to support Cllr Hurst's recommendations.***

## **Item 8: 47/21 Amenities**

Please see Amenities Minutes [here](#).

Cllr Rand confirmed the names of those who have so far volunteered to assist with the biodiversity project:

- Cllr Rand
- Cllr Cooper
- Ms Wyatt (representing local schools)
- Mr Fenwick (experience of biodiversity and wildflower improvements at Boxford House)
- Mrs Girdler – very keen on biodiversity improvements

Cllr Rand also updated the PC on the footpath project. 19 of the 40 paths have been logged as part of the project, assisted by John Priest. Cllr Rand asked the rest of the PC if they would volunteer to assist with the remaining paths- Cllr Watson will identify to interested parties those paths which still require to be logged.

**Action:** Cllr Watson to identify relevant footpaths.

### **Item 9: 48/21 Highways**

Please see Cllr Dick's report at the end of the minutes. We now have outline plans regarding the new pavement along Tile Barn Row and Trade Streetroad improvements near the Doctor's Surgery. Council agreed for Cllr Dick to agree to Tile Barn Row, but to have a further discussion on the current plan for Trade Street. Cllr Dick reported that clinical priorities have so far prevented discussion about Trade Street issues with the Doctors' surgery management.

Cllr Dick did send CSPO info on WHSC- The clerk will pass this information to PCSO Joshua Revett.

**Action:** Clerk to pass information on speeding and exit safety issues along WH Road by Sports Club to CSPO and PCSO.

### **Item 10: 49/21 Speed Awareness Project Update- first location**

Cllr Hainge confirmed the installation of the SID and its first location along Church Road. Feedback from the community has been positive. The Clerk has the list of locations and will liaise with Premier Grounds for the placement of the SID. We are fortunate to have the help and expertise of Chris Loane, who has offered his technical expertise on the data download and review<sup>1</sup>. Once we have a 2-week set of data, Chris will help pull it together into a useable format<sup>2</sup>. The SID will be moved every 2 weeks on a planned schedule.

Cllr Dick has offered the use of his spare android phone. Cllr Jarvis is happy to assist with the data download.

### **Item 11: 50/21 Police Update**

Cllr Cooper will be our PCSO liaison councillor. Cllrs Cooper, Jarvis and Hainge will be meeting with Joshua Revett in December to discuss current issues with East Woodhay including speeding, anti-social behaviour and suspected drug dealing in the Woolton Hill car park.

### **Item 12: Finance Update**

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**51/21** Please see Cllr Mitchell's report at the end of the minutes.

**52/21** The Clerk presented the following accounts for payment for August (approved via email in August) and September 2021:

**August**

25/08/2021	Clerk Salary (incl £17.67 WFH expenses)	£605.24	£0.00	£605.24
25/08/2021	Litter Warden Salary	£386.10	£0.00	£386.10
25/08/2021	Litter Warden Expenses	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
26/07/2021	Clerk Expenses-zoom.pro	£11.99	£2.40	£14.39
25/08/2021	HMRC PAYE Month 04 (Clerk PAYE £151.40, NI Employer Contribution £2.78)	£154.18	£0.00	£154.18
27/07/2021	Red76 Payroll Services July	£12.00	£2.40	£14.40
02/07/2021	John Priest footpath project	£246.50	£0.00	£246.50
06/08/2021	Royal Mail Neighbourhood Plan Mailing	£686.08	£137.22	£823.30
26/07/2021	Hampshire County Council post and site set up for Speed Indicator Device	£875.22	£0.00	£875.22
23/08/2021	Westcotec Speed Indicator with bluetooth	£3,525.00	£705.00	£4,230.00
31/07/2021	Scofell grass cutting 10 July	£166.25	£33.25	£199.50
31/06/2021	Scofell grass cutting 21 July, 04, 17 Aug	£498.75	£99.75	£598.50
			<b>Total VAT</b>	<b>Total Payment</b>
			£980.02	£8,182.33

**September**

27/09/2021	Clerk Salary (incl £17.67 WFH expenses)	£623.41	£0.00	£623.41
27/09/2021	Litter Warden Salary	£386.10	£0.00	£386.10
27/09/2021	Litter Warden Expenses	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
20/09/2021	Clerk Expenses-zoom.pro September	£11.99	£2.40	£14.39
25/08/2021	HMRC PAYE Month 06 (Clerk PAYE £151.40, NI Employer Contribution £2.78)	£154.18	£0.00	£154.18
27/08/2021	Red76 Payroll Services August	£12.00	£2.40	£14.40
27/09/2021	Red76 Payroll Services September	£12.00	£2.40	£14.40
31/07/2021	Scofell Monthly Grounds Maintenance	£316.25	£63.25	£379.50
31/08/2021	Scofell Monthly Grounds Maintenance	£316.25	£63.25	£379.50
09/09/2021	PKF Littlejohn external audit	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
18/09/2021	Premier Grounds non glysophate weedkiller for Parish Field- purchase and application	£179.25	£35.85	£215.10
			<b>Total VAT</b>	<b>Total Payment</b>

**58/21 Completion of external audit:** The Clerk confirmed the external audit has been completed by PKF LittleJohn with no recommendations. The letter and certificate are on the website [here](#).

**Item 13: 59/21 Grant Funding Request: St Martin’s Church (moved to the start of the meeting due to Mr Bonner’s attendance).**

Colin Bonner, Treasurer of St Martin’s Church, came along to discuss the grant request (open amount), initially received in May 2021, towards the replacement of the leaking roof and repairs to the clock. Total costs for both projects will amount to c.£40,000, with c.£14,000 still to raise. Cllr Titcomb introduced and explained the grant proposal on behalf of Mr Bonner. The Parish Council had been sent in advance a copy of the church’s accounts. Mr Bonner added that the church’s fundraising ability had been impacted by Covid possibly to a total of c£10k. He explained that both projects were listed on The Good Exchange programme, where each could be given matched funding to a total of £5000 per project.

Cllrs queried some aspects of the accounts, to clarify their understanding of the amount of the request. Cllr Rand commented the accounts presented to the PC were slightly confusing, and clarified whether the grant request is for a cultural or religious purposes; this could positively affect other grant options for consideration.

The Parish Council were reminded that this is an important building within our AONB, a heritage asset and a building which is used for community purposes – the Parish Council had been given a paper confirming the use of the building as a recording studio, venue for live concerts much used during Newbury Spring Festival and with longer term thoughts on holding other suitable events there to ‘fund-raise.’ It also represents an opportunity for the PC to support something within the Parish, but outside the immediate Woolton Hill area, which supports interests in the community in music and the arts.

Councillors with grant experience offered to assist Mr Bonner with identifying and applying for further grants.

Cllr Hurst proposed that the budget line of £1500 be used to grant to St Martin’s Good Exchange Project for the repair of the tower roof.

Cllr Mitchell seconded the vote.

Vote taken: 6-3 in favour of the grant of £1500: ***The motion was passed with the majority vote.***

**Action:** Clerk to confirm payment details of grant to St Martin’s Church Fund.

**Item 14: 60/21 To agree advert for Councillor Vacancy**

The Clerk shared in advance an advert for a councillor vacancy.

**Action:** Clerk to advertise Councillor vacancy.

**Item 15: 61/21 To agree new councillor to represent EWPC to East Woodhay Village Hall**

Cllr Jarvis has offered to sit as the EWPC representative for EWWH.

**Action:** Clerk to inform Peter Stanley of Cllr Jarvis’s offer to represent EWPC for EWWH.

**Item 16: 62/21 Freedom Of Information request received**

The Clerk confirmed a second FOI request has been received from a Parishioner. The deadline for response is 04 October 2021.

The Council feels that the receipt of this FOI request from the same Parishioner, repeating many of the same requests as the initial FOI in 2018, was frustrating and time-wasting for the Council when there are important projects to focus on to benefit the community.

**Item 17: 63/21 Items to carry forward to next meeting**

- Trade Street plans from HCC (S106)
- Councillor vacancy update

*The next meeting will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October in Woolton Hill Church Hall.*

**Actions 27/09/21**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Owner</b>
<b>47/21</b>	Cllr Watson to identify footpaths requiring to be logged.	<b>Cllr Watson</b>
<b>48/21</b>	Clerk to pass information on speeding issue along WH Road by Sports Club to CSPO and PCSO.	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>59/21</b>	Clerk to confirm payment details of grant to St Martin's Church Fund	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>60/21</b>	Clerk to advertise Councillor vacancy	<b>Clerk</b>
<b>61/21</b>	Clerk to inform Peter Stanley of Cllr Jarvis's offer to represent EWPC for EWWH.	<b>Clerk</b>

**Councillor Reports September 2021****Item 4: HCC Update: Cllr Thacker**

September 2021

[Trade Street progress](#)

I have requested an update from the Project Manager. He will respond directly to the PC, in time for its meeting.

### HCC Ref 21553017: Church Road Woolton Hill

This is a bit of a complicated issue. The senior engineer reported to me that the Parish Council have formalised a path on their land and that once the PC had finished its works, it then asked HCC to put in a crossing point.

He says that there are some problems with this location and he has raised the following points:

- *Firstly, the path exits opposite a layby/bus stop. Therefore, it will not pass a safety audit for this location. Given this, Hampshire Highways will not install a crossing point at the location required as it is not considered safe.*
- *There is also the issue of funding. The pathway over the field is private, therefore providing access onto it is not something HCC would cover the costs for.*

As it stands HCC has no plans to install a crossing point here. He has agreed to meet with me and someone from the Parish Council, should it wish to discuss this further.

### Roadside Verge Obstructions

EWPC has said that it doesn't, quite rightly, want to enforce HCC policy. Indeed, this isn't EWPC's job; it is for HCC to deal with any enforcement. Therefore, I suggest that if any parishioner has an enquiry, the PC points the resident to the enquiry site, or passes specific enquiries on to me to raise on their behalf.

Where the PC is aware of specific issues it would like investigated, HCC could write to residents and ask that they remove any obstructions from highway verges (assuming they are highway) but the standard letters are formal and do mention legal issues. It is unlikely that HCC would ever actually take any formal action unless it was causing a safety issue.

To that end, the senior engineer could arrange for some letters to be sent but HCC would need to know which properties the PC believes have obstructions outside, then HCC would need to carry out boundary searches to establish if each verge is public highway, before sending out any such letters.

Tom Thacker

### **Item 6: Neighbourhood Plan report, Cllr Hurst**

EWPC Neighbourhood Plan Report September 2021

The Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 consultation period of 6 weeks was completed over the summer time.

- All statutory requests for feedback, specified by BDBC, were completed.
- A flyer to all households in the parish went out via the post office (2500 flyers) to notify the community on their opportunity to join the consultation.
- A wide range of opportunities were given to the community to discuss and feedback on the NP. This included open forums at the village halls, sessions at the village market and the East Woodhay Flower Show, Zoom meetings and meetings with local groups were offered and many ad-hoc discussions with local people took place.
- these were all open discussions where people gave their views on the NP, identifying any issues and gaps.

- Even after completion of the consultation, people are still giving input (for example at the recent village market feedback was still being offered).

We received a large amount of feedback from the community ranging from a few words to many pages of detail. At the village market alone, we received feedback from over 50 people, including our local MP. The NP team thanks everyone who gave feedback for this great response.

A number of statutory bodies responded, including BDBC and English Heritage. Considering the bulk of the parish is in the AONB, it was disappointing they have not responded. This has been escalated to the AONB.

The feedback has now been fully collated and initially reviewed. A more detailed analysis is now underway and this work will generate the consultation report (feedback and responses will be documented in this) and any updates required to the NP.

From the initial review the following is an interim summary update for the PC of some of the key themes that came out of the consultation responses. This is not the definitive feedback report, as said above, this will come after more detailed analysis of all responses:

- the vast majority of feedback was supportive and positive about the NP and complementary regarding the work that went into it.
- a large majority of the community supported the vision, objectives and policies within the NP.
- points raised were highly consistent with earlier community feedback, with the key gap raised being the omission of climate change policies (not included as they are not supported in the present Local Plan).
- few other additional gaps in policies were raised but there were many suggestions on making policies much stronger (many of these in fact cannot be put in place as they would put the NP in conflict with the Local Plan and the NPPF).
- most of the feedback was highly constructive, suggesting changes that will enhance the NP.
- some of the feedback suggested changes that were not relevant and out of scope to the NP.
- there was very little negative feedback but some of this did challenge aspects of the NP that will be reviewed.
- there was a large majority of support for the zero housing allocation policy in the NP.
- there were strong feelings about the “urbanisation” of Woolton Hill perceived by the community after the Meadowbrook development. This development has clearly had a significant impact on the community.
- a number of people questioned the relevance of being in the AONB as it appeared to have offered little protection from development.
- strong feedback that we have “gone way over our allocation” of houses in Woolton Hill (allocated 10 and have delivered 65 plus).
- strong majority therefore did not support further development in the Parish.
- although a zero allocation was proposed by the NP, SHELAA sites were openly discussed, in particular the Mount Road and Wash Water potential developments.

- a large majority of people were strongly opposed to both developments, but a minority did support them.
- however, people felt that if development did happen then the policy for more affordable / smaller housing should be followed to support young families and those who wished to down size.
- there was real concern on the proposed density of housing in the proposed developments (“not appropriate for a rural area”).

Considering the opposition to developments the common objections were:

- the parish has over delivered significantly on housing, there is no further need.
- further development in and around Woolton Hill will continue to urbanise the AONB.
- continued, uncontrolled windfall development in the countryside will undermine and urbanise the AONB.
- overall concern of further and existing development on our natural environment and greenspace.
- the medical surgery is at full capacity
- drainage and sewerage issues (especially the recent impacts on the Chase were quoted).
- our roads are small and rural and struggling with increased traffic from recent development (the impact on our roads was some of the most emotional feedback).
- the need to have good size green gaps between Woolton Hill and Highclere and Woolton Hill and Newbury. A concern that the Woolton Hill SPB is creeping into the countryside.
- with the Wash Water development additional points were noted, namely the impact on flooding by building in a flood plain (already floods), the incursion of light into the AONB and the traffic flow impact on local roads.

#### **Local Plan Update meeting.**

A Local Plan Update meeting was held with BDBC Planning. A separate briefing document has been produced on this, but key points in relation to the NP:

- the Local Plan Update proposes zero allocation of houses, we support this and it is in line with the NP.
- the housing supply challenge for the Borough will likely remain in place until the approval of the Local Plan Update (2024) or potentially longer. If the zero allocation is overridden by the housing supply issue then the other NP policies need to be brought into play to ensure the development is in line with community requirements (eg number of smaller and affordable houses, green space, biodiversity gains, density of housing etc). The strength of these policies in the NP will be reviewed again in the light of this ongoing issue.

#### **Item 7: Local Plan Update review, Cllr Hurst**

##### **Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan Update.**

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, we met (via Zoom) with Robyn Milliner, Senior Planning Officer from BDBC for an update on the BDBC Local Plan Update.

As background, the PC will recall we submitted a substantial response to BDBC Local Plan Update: Issues and Options Consultation in November 2020. This has been incorporated

into a full feedback document which is available on BDBC website:

<https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/issues-and-options>

As a refresher for the PC:

- BDBC agreed in May 2019 to start the preparation of an updated Local Plan
- National guidance now promotes the concept of an on-going cycle of plan making and review, which is reinforced by a legal requirement to review Plans every five years (*and will therefore have an impact on our Neighbourhood Plan review periods.*)
- The plan period will be extended to cover additional 10 years (2039) as national guidance requires plans to look 15 years ahead

An update was given on the BDBC Housing Requirement forming the basis of the Local Plan Update:

- Adopted Local Plan figure is 850dpa
- National policy has since changed and housing need is now set using a formula set at a national level (calculated using the 'standard method') reflecting Governments intention to boost supply
- This gives a rounded figure of 900dpa
- Based on a longer plan period to 2039 the boroughs housing requirement would be 16,200 dwellings (900 x 18 years)
- Taking account of existing commitments this would result in an outstanding requirement of approx. 7,700 homes to delivered across the borough.
- It was highlighted that it is unlikely the present housing supply issue will be resolved until the Local Plan Update is approved, planned 2024.
  
- For note to the PC, the lack of resolution of the housing supply issue leaves the Local Plan suspended and therefore the parish exposed to the threat of new developments until 2024. Any new development would need to be opposed on technical terms. In our view there is a risk that this position may continue beyond 2024.

Specifically, BDBC are now seeking our collective views on:

1. The Settlement Study categories
2. The indicative housing figure requirement
3. Appetite to prepare a neighbourhood plan (and whether this would be likely to include site allocations, if required by indicative figure).

Within the Local Plan Update meeting we also covered related issues to the three points above. Most of these were covered in previous meetings and we put our formal response in writing.

Subject to agreement at this meeting, we propose to respond and re-emphasise our position as follows:

## 1. Settlement Study Categories

Woolton Hill is categorised from the Settlement Study carried out as part of the Local Plan Update, as a Large Village – based on BDBC stated criteria: provision of services and facilities, accessibility, employment, and size.

We support this categorisation.

We would not wish to see this changed into a 'larger' category (which would be Small Local Service Centre). We do not have the infrastructure to support the likely larger housing development that would come from this categorisation. These constraints can be evidenced in the present infrastructure issues the parish faces from recent developments:

- GP surgeries at bursting point, drainage and sewerage at full capacity; roads are small and not designed for additional traffic.

We regard the character of the Woolton Hill SPB as not fitting a larger categorisation as it is rural in nature and backed by our Neighbourhood Plan, the community do not wish to see further erosion of the AONB/ countryside through development.

## 2. Indicative Housing Figure

Within the draft Local Plan Update the indicative housing requirement for East Woodhay is set at Zero.

We support the zero allocation.

BDBC noted the number of houses the parish has delivered in the present Local Plan period.

We have contributed 65 houses with the Meadowbrook development as well as a further number of houses which are considered windfall.

The present Local Plan allocation for the parish was 10 houses, so with the Meadowbrook development alone we have significantly over delivered on our allocation.

This also accords with the allocation policy proposed in our emerging Neighbourhood Plan. This is also supported by the majority feedback from the recent Reg 14 consultation. There are some recurring themes from this: an overwhelming request from members of the parish that there is no more major development and incursion into the countryside. The community feel we have absorbed significant development within the SPB (65 houses) and it has undermined its rural character, becoming over urbanised in their eyes. There is grave concern about the inability of the infrastructure to cope with what is already here, let alone with further development – GPs, drains, sewerage, roads etc.

SHELAA Sites

In relation to the SHELAA site proposals in the Local Plan Update, two sites are being actively progressed by developers (EW008 and EW003), despite the lack of any further housing allocation for the parish. As we have said in previous meetings with BDBC, we regard these as inappropriate for development within the parish.

A large majority of the community feedback in the Neighbourhood Plan Reg 14 consultation opposes the developments based on:

- a) Urbanisation of a rural area that they will cause
- b) Removal of 'green gap' between villages
- c) Sustainability issues – eg. not building on a floodplain – which is simply irresponsible.
- d) Issue of density – which is less in the countryside than in urban areas
- e) Sewage facilities – as evidenced this year – at full capacity with the closure of the NT property known as The Chase whilst it was cleaned up.
- f) Lighting issues within or adjacent to an AONB
- g) Dense development adjacent to AONB and effect on wildlife etc

#### Further Feedback on Housing Development

We would also like to re-emphasise our previous written response to the Local Plan Update:

#### **Road Infrastructure**

We continue to be disappointed with the lack of liaison between HCC and BDBC on the impacts on our roads from housing development– even though in their feedback to you (Nov 2020) they confirm their desire to work together.

#### **Housing Supply Issue and Potential Impact on Development in the countryside**

The suspension of the Local Plan, due to the housing supply issue is of grave concern to the parish. It undermines the criteria of 'locally agreed need' – leaving a strong feeling of vulnerability across the parish with concern that all of the good intentions of the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan will be easily overturned, causing an uncontrolled spread of development across the countryside and not recognising the 'locally agreed need.'

#### **Windfall Sites**

We continue to be disappointed that developments of less than 5 houses do not count towards our provision of new homes in the borough – even though BDBC will count them. This makes no sense – whether 1 to 5 or more than 5 – they are all new homes which have a major impact on our Parish and should be counted as part of our contribution to the overall housing target. We further understand that whether they are counted or not is a decision driven by BDBC – not at government level – and we would urge you to reconsider and count them all.

(We will be raising this with our Ward Councillors as the present system does not feel democratic.)

#### **Strategic Gaps**

We have referenced several times the need to ensure that there is adequate green space between settlements within our Parish. We note Policy EM2 (page 104) of the LP deals with strategic gaps, but this only relates to Basingstoke and some of villages and towns close to it. This can't be right!

A large majority of the feedback in our Neighbourhood Plan Consultation relates to the deep concern of the 'coalescence of villages/hamlets' within the parish and the coalescence of East Woodhay and Highclere or Newbury. The community wished to maintain substantial green gaps.

How can we (para.6.15 of Local Plan) "maintain the separate identify of settlements" (first sentence of the policy) or "maintain a sense of place for both residents of, and visitors to, the settlements on either side..." if there are no gaps to distinguish one part of the parish from another, or indeed one parish from another? Paragraph 6.15 continues: "When travelling through a strategic gap (by all modes of transport) a traveller should have a clear sense of having left the first settlement, having travelled through an undeveloped area and then entered a second settlement." We would ask that this is maintained within our Parish and the countryside and not just within the environs of Basingstoke.

### **3. Neighbourhood Plan**

We reconfirm our appetite to complete the Neighbourhood Plan. We acknowledge the results of the Local Plan Update may require future changes to our Neighbourhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan is well underway with the 6 week consultation process complete and the revisions in course of preparation before submission to BDBC.

From the Local Plan Update discussion with BDBC planning, we would wish to re-emphasise the importance of the present Local Plan policy related to building in the countryside. We regard it as a key policy support to our emerging Neighbourhood Plan. BDBC are aware a large proportion of our parish is rural and in the AONB. However, we are seeing this threatened by more and more windfall sites being brought forward (at present opportunistically due to the housing supply impact). The building in the countryside policy is an important defence against further urbanisation of the AONB. We request that any proposed changes to this policy are discussed in detail with ourselves and other rural parishes in the Borough, before being included in the Local Plan Update.

We would also request that the North Hampshire Parishes should be reviewed together – not in isolation eg. as already referenced, potential developments in Highclere and in this parish, will see a joining up of the two parishes, which is not acceptable – yet they are considered in isolation of each other.

## Item 9: Highways Report, Cllr Dick



### Highways Report

**EWPC Meeting Date:** 27.09.2021

#### Highway Maintenance Reports

Please see updated Highways log.

#### HCC Highways Maintenance Schedule

The HCC list of works scheduled for 2021 – 2022 is not currently functional for access on-line. A review of the information provided on [one.network](#) indicates the following activities planned over the coming 3 months, some of which have been postponed from earlier dates. As a significant nearby local diversion is indicated the map is extended beyond the immediate parish boundaries



#### 27 Sept – 1 Oct

##### A343 & B6460

Diversions in place. Roadworks, delays possible

#### 28 - 30 Sep

##### Woolton Hill Road: East of access to property 'Lorian' - RG20 9XE

Traffic control (two-way signals)

Take up and dispose of existing concrete weir offlet kerb and 1 PC1 kerb either side. Upgrade and install new combined gully and weir kerb Type 1 plus overbanding to patch. Footway patching required to wider area as marked.

#### Potholes

See highways log for updates.

#### WH Doctor Surgery Parking

Further request for stakeholder information provided to Cllr Thacker 05/08/2021. Detailed response including outline remedial plan for consultation awaited. (mail attached). Meeting with Drs' practice manager requested but not yet scheduled. Ad hoc comment suggests no information yet supplied to or sought from practice management on this matter.

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**Mobility access to Parish Field entrance – corner of Church Road/ Woolton Hill Road (ref:GE313372883; Highways ref. 21553017)**

Further explanatory mail provided to Cllr Thacker 05/08/2021 with request for supportive action. Detailed action response awaited. (mail attached)

**Roadside Safety**

**Highways Ref 21549376 - Degradation of danger bollards. Abbey Wells Road - East side**

Recorded as having been updated and progressing 05.09.2021.

**Sports Club Exit Safety**

Correspondence and briefing provided to Community Safety Patrolling Officer awaiting attendance at a EWPC meeting.

GCD 25.09.2021

**Annex: Interim Correspondence ref HCC Highways**

**From:** Graham Dick [mailto:GrahamDick.ewpc@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 05 August 2021 16:10

**To:** 'Tom Thacker (tom.thacker@hants.gov.uk)'

**Cc:** 'EWPC Clerk'

**Subject:** Follow up to TT Report

Dear Tom

Thanks for your “virtual” attendance at the last East Woodhay Parish Council meeting, and for your reports which included those on the issues below.

You asked that any further specific questions or comments be put in writing. For simplicity, the outstanding explanations/queries/comments related to your recorded responses in green are therefore appended in red as follows:-

**Woolton Hill Doctors’ Surgery, Trade Street**

The designer has prepared a draft preliminary design for the Trade Street element which has been passed to HCC Flood Water Management team for comment. The proposal is to construct a new parking layby within the highway verge, opposite the doctors surgery, with the existing ditch being culverted beneath the layby. After a review, the FWM team have approved the proposal in principle. The designer is now finalising the preliminary design and details/drawing will be available shortly which will be sent to me and the Parish Council for information and comment.

The scheme will soon go to ‘Gateway Review’, which is the governance process which moves a scheme from preliminary design into the detailed design phase and moves it onto the Capital Programme. Following this Gateway review, timescales to delivery will become more certain.

**This is helpful to know. We look forward to receiving the outline proposals for consideration.**

**The original issue to be resolved related to the constant degradation of the road along its non-kerbed edge due to heavy or wide vehicles – especially buses, coaches and refuse collection vehicles - being unable to readily pass along the stretch of road sometimes extending up to 30 metres beyond the doctors’ car park entrance in either direction; this is due to the kerb- parked vehicles of clinic patients leaving inadequate space for wide vehicles to pass through without dropping wheels off the metalled edge.**

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Available patient car parking in the designated car park has been adversely impacted by the increasing number of clinic staff engaged to cope with the raised demands on its services. Parking demand for patients of the clinic has also increased over time as a result of large housing developments within its patient catchment area, but outside realistic walking or public transport access. With further such developments currently in prospect, this situation can only deteriorate if they go ahead.

Questions are therefore:

- What is the assessment of parking and traffic movements at this location which has contributed to the proposed action?
- Has discussion with the practice management been undertaken in relation to enhancing the availability of on-site parking (e.g. by extension of staff parking options)?
- If so, what is the view of the medical practice on the potential sighting of car parking for the clinic on the opposite side of the road from its entrance?
- Will the views of EWPC be formative in the decision as to the suitability of expenditure of its S106 funds on the scheme as planned?
- For speed and ease of communication, will it be possible for EWPC to enter direct communication with the “designer” in assessing the deliverables of the proposal?

**HCC Ref 21553017: Church Road Woolton Hill This was a request for assistance in facilitating kerb drop for disabled and child buggy access to Parish Field Path at Church Road x Abbey Wells Road – aka Brownies Corner**

On 9th July the engineer visited the site. His site visit note states that when he returns from his leave, he will contact the PC, asking who is funding the works - consideration

It is helpful to now that some progress is in hand and that contact from the engineer is shortly to be expected. However, without knowing the projected work to be undertaken and the likely costs, EWPC is not yet in a position to define the source of funding. It does however note that recent house builds nearby have received drop kerb access seemingly as a matter of course.

- Will EWPC be able to liaise directly with the engineer to determine best outcomes for its parishioners?
- With regard to the community safety aspects of wheelchair and child buggy kerb crossing access, is this something which you as Division Councillor may advocate be funded by HCC?

#### **Roadside verge obstructions**

Without knowing any detail of the advice being sought on verge obstruction, HCC officers say that they can't offer much assistance, by citing a specific policy. For example, situations such as wooden posts in a verge which were not authorised, if and when brought to HCC's attention, will often prompt a standard letter to the property owner, (or persons believed to be responsible for putting them in place), stating that, as they were not approved or licenced, they contravene the Highways Act and should be removed. PCs are sometimes asked to put out messages in newsletters etc., but the area manager cannot recollect ever asking a PC to 'enforce HCC policy'.

For clarification the background to the advice sought was defined in enquiry ref:24211884. The request for your assistance cited the HCC response to that enquiry, which I re-attach for your convenience viz:

*In addressing your enquiry about obstructions on verges, the highway extends between the adjoining property boundaries on either side (fences, hedges, walls etc) and covers the whole area over which the public has a right to pass and re-pass, including carriageways, footways, cycleways, paved areas, roundabouts, traffic islands, planted borders, grass verges, traffic signs, street lighting columns, railings, telephone/electricity poles and other street furniture.*

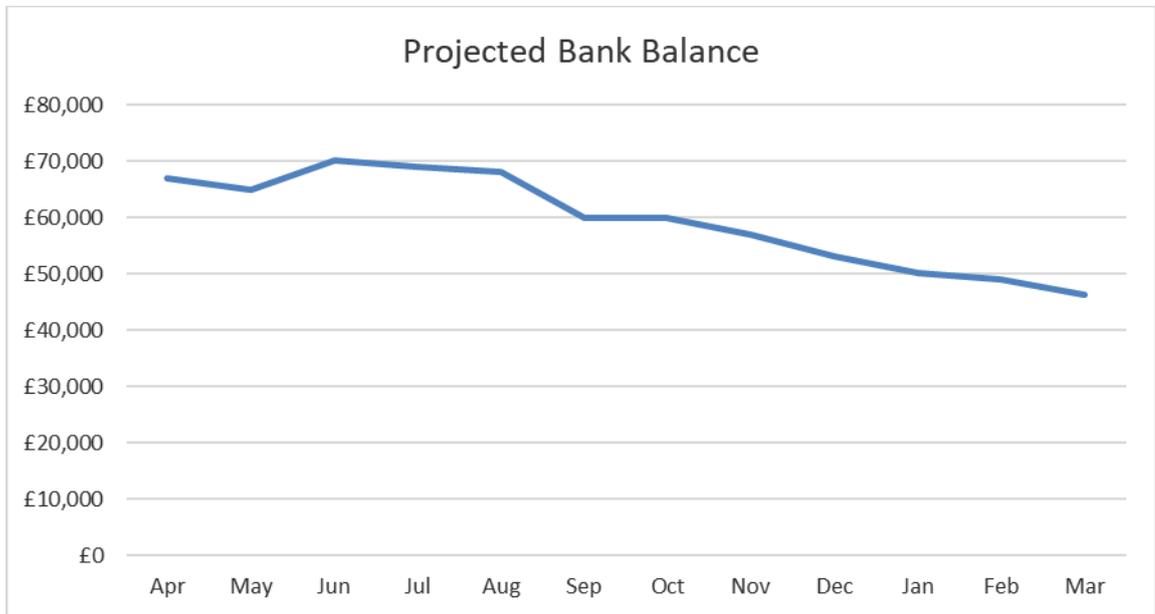
**EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCE TEAM UPDATE 2021/22  
Presented to EWPC 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**1. SUMMARY**

- Bank Accounts £60,072 (Current £19,478 Redwoods £40.6k)
- **£21K is ring-fenced for projects – see (c)**
  
- a. INCOME STATEMENT
  - £30,500 100% of precept received
  - £4,622 Litter warden grant received
  - £4,067 CIL Payment
  - £2,032 Grass cutting grant received
  - £4,067 BDBC CIL payment received
  
- b. EXPENSE STATEMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (following list not conclusive)
  - Normal monthly expenses
  - £18,060 payment for Parish Field path
  - £3,525 Westcotec Speed Indicator
  - £1,493 Neighbourhood Plan (Consultancy and Printing)
  - £1,414 Insurance
  - £875 HCC post and site set up for Speed Indicator Device
  - £632 Scofell Monthly Maintenance Payment (£316 pcm)
  - £707 HALC Affiliation (16% increase on last year)
  - £686 Royal Mail Neighbourhood Plan Mailing
  - £664 Grass cutting
  - £660 Greentip tree removal
  - £600 CCTV maintenance
  - £368 NP Consultant
  - £246 John Priest footpath project
  - £240 Audit fees
  - £215 Weedkill Parish Field
  - £149 Boardwalk maintenance
  - £84 Tennis net maintenance
  - £35 Hall hire for Audit
  - £50 domain name renewal
  
- c. CAPITAL STATEMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
  - Ring Fenced :
    - I. £9,837 S106 from 2019/20 for spend on Orchard

- II. £1,000 for Neighbourhood Plan work
- III. £9,000 for Footpaths

**2. CASHFLOW PROJECTION**  
Including ring fenced projects in (c)



### 3. FISCAL YEAR TO DATE TRANSACTIONS BY MONTH

EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL															
Receipts and Payments - 2021/22															
RECEIPTS	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Precept	£ 15,250.00					£ 15,250.00							£ 30,500.00	£ 30,500.00	100%
Double Taxation													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Litter Warden Grant	£ 4,633.20												£ 4,633.20	£ 4,633.20	100%
Rental Income							£ 600.00						£ -	£ 601.00	0%
S106 Grant		£ 991.36											£ 991.36	£ 601.00	0%
Other Grants		8800	£ 4,067.31	£ 1,765.00									£ 14,632.31	£ 601.00	#DIV/0!
Grass Cutting	£ 2,032.00												£ 2,032.00	£ 2,032.00	100%
VAT Recovered													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Bank Interest													£ -	£ -	#VALUE!
	£ 21,915.20	£ 9,791.36	£ 4,067.31	£ 1,765.00	£ -	£ 15,250.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 52,788.87	£ 37,766	140%
PAYMENTS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Clerk's salary	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 605.24	£ 623.41							£ 3,722.29	£ 9,114.03	41%
PAYE	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18							£ 925.08	£ 400.00	231%
Litter Warden Salary	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10							£ 2,316.60	£ 4,633.20	50%
Litter Warden Exps	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00							£ 210.00	£ 750.00	28%
Clerk's expenses	£ 11.99	£ 223.69	£ 54.14	£ 50.49	£ 11.99	£ 11.99							£ 364.29	£ 274.86	133%
Admin (inc Courses and payroll)	£ 85.00	£ 12.00	£ 12.00	£ 150.00	£ 12.00	£ 24.00							£ 295.00	£ 800.00	37%
Insurance		£ 1,413.50											£ 1,413.50	£ 1,350.00	105%
Audit		£ 240.00				£ 200.00							£ 440.00	£ 450.00	98%
Subscriptions	£ 707.51												£ 707.51	£ 695.64	102%
Grass Cutting					£ 665.00								£ 665.00	£ 1,224.00	54%
Misc Maintenance			£ 744.00		£ 680.54	£ 179.25							£ 1,603.79	£ 2,200.00	73%
Annual Maint Agmnt	£ 86.00	£ 316.25	£ 316.25	£ 316.25		£ 632.50							£ 1,667.25	£ 3,795.00	44%
Footpaths	£ 18,060.00		£ 148.96	£ 119.00	£ 246.50								£ 18,574.46	£ 4,000.00	464%
Highways													£ -	£ 1,000.00	0%
CCTV			£ 600.00										£ 600.00	£ 1,978.80	30%
Donations & Sec 137													£ -	£ 1,500.00	0%
Chairmans Allowance	£ 80.70												£ 80.70	£ 250.00	32%
Neighbourhood Plan		£ 367.50	£ 1,493.00	£ 778.50	£ 686.08								£ 3,325.08	£ 2,500.00	133%
VAT	£ 3,631.60	£ 68.05	£ 483.48	£ 72.14	£ 1,116.13	£ 209.55							£ 5,580.95	£ 1,387.03	402%
Grant Refund													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Other	£ 100.00				£ 4,400.22								£ 4,500.22	£ 9,804.21	46%
	£ 23,961.49	£ 3,839.68	£ 5,050.52	£ 2,685.07	£ 8,998.98	£ 2,455.98	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 46,991.72	£ 48,107	98%

### 4. Forecast for remainder of Financial Year 2021/22

#### Forecast for FY21/22 – On track

EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL														FORECAST	
Receipts and Payments - 2021/22															
RECEIPTS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Precept	£ 15,250.00					£ 15,250.00							£ 30,500.00	£ 30,500.00	100%
Double Taxation													£ -	£ 0.00	0%
Litter Warden Grant	£ 4,633.20												£ 4,633.20	£ 4,633.20	100%
Rental Income							£ 600.00						£ 600.00	£ 601.00	100%
CTS Grant		£ 991.36											£ 991.36	£ 601.00	100%
Other Grants		8800	£ 4,067.31	£ 1,765.00									£ 14,632.31	£ 0.00	1463231000000000%
Grass Cutting	£ 2,032.00												£ 2,032.00	£ 2,032.00	100%
VAT Recovered													£ -	£ 0.00	0%
Bank Interest													£ -	£ 0.00	0%
	£ 21,915.20	£ 9,791.36	£ 4,067.31	£ 1,765.00	£ -	£ 15,250.00	£ 600.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 53,388.87	£ 37,766	141%
PAYMENTS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Clerk's salary	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 605.24	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 623.41	£ 7,462.75	£ 9,114.03	82%
PAYE	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 154.18	£ 1,850.16	£ 400.00	463%
Litter Warden Salary	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 386.10	£ 4,633.20	£ 4,633.20	100%
Litter Warden Exps	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 420.00	£ 750.00	56%
Clerk's expenses	£ 11.99	£ 223.69	£ 54.14	£ 50.49	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 11.99	£ 436.23	£ 274.86	159%
Admin (inc Courses)	£ 85.00	£ 12.00	£ 12.00	£ 150.00	£ 12.00	£ 24.00							£ 295.00	£ 800.00	37%
Insurance		£ 1,413.50											£ 1,413.50	£ 1,350.00	105%
Audit		£ 240.00				£ 200.00			£ 200.00				£ 640.00	£ 450.00	142%
Subscriptions	£ 707.51												£ 707.51	£ 695.64	102%
Grass Cutting					£ 665.00		£ 2,032.00						£ 2,697.00	£ 1,224.00	220%
Misc Maintenance			£ 744.00		£ 680.54	£ 179.25			£ 1,000.00				£ 2,603.79	£ 2,200.00	118%
Annual Maint Agmnt	£ 86.00	£ 316.25	£ 316.25	£ 316.25		£ 632.50		£ 1,500.00					£ 3,167.25	£ 3,795.00	83%
Footpaths	£ 18,060.00		£ 148.96	£ 119.00	£ 246.50								£ 18,574.46	£ 4,000.00	464%
Highways								£ 500.00			£ 500.00		£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	100%
CCTV			£ 600.00										£ 600.00	£ 1,978.80	30%
Donations & Sec 137								£ 500.00					£ 1,000.00	£ 1,500.00	67%
Chairmans Allowance	£ 80.70												£ 80.70	£ 250.00	32%
Neighbourhood Plan		£ 367.50	£ 1,493.00	£ 778.50	£ 686.08		£ 500.00		£ 500.00		£ 500.00		£ 4,825.08	£ 2,500.00	193%
VAT	£ 3,631.60	£ 68.05	£ 483.48	£ 72.14	£ 1,116.13	£ 209.55							£ 5,580.95	£ 1,387.03	402%
Grant Refund													£ -	£ 0.01	0%
Other	£ 100.00				£ 4,400.22								£ 4,500.22	£ 9,804.21	46%
	£ 23,961.49	£ 3,839.68	£ 5,050.52	£ 2,685.07	£ 8,998.98	£ 2,455.98	£ 3,742.68	£ 3,710.68	£ 2,910.68	£ 1,210.68	£ 2,710.68	£ 1,210.68	£ 62,487.80	£ 48,107	130%

## 5. Waterfall To Date for FY 2021/22

No comment

