



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council  
held via Zoom on  
Monday 14 September 2020 at 1830**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Steven Ridgeon (Vice Chair), David Cooke, Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake, Matt Atkinson, Charles Ritchie, Andrew Hales, Marc Atkinson

Suzie Brooker (PC), Cllr Rob Mocatta, Nick Beale from East Meon Nature Group and Martin Fulda from Judges Meadow Community Group

The Chair informed the Parish Council that having heard the sad news of the death of Rosemary Hopewell, the Chair of Langrish Parish Council, she had written to the Langrish Parish Clerk expressing condolences on behalf of East Meon Parish Council.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

None received

**2. To receive any Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

No declarations received

**3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2020**

The Chair asked Councillors to consider whether they felt the minutes were a true record of the meeting. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were and they were approved as read. Proposed by Cllr Steven Ridgeon, seconded by Cllr David Cooke and duly signed as a true record.

**4. Presentation from East Meon Nature Group by Nick Beale**

Nick Beale presented the projects the group was working on:-

- Toads on the road – A section of Coombe Lane had been identified as a significant area for toads and registered as a toad crossing. Special signs would need to be in place for a few hours at a time when the toads were being observed and would need approval from HCC. Prior to applying to HCC, EMNG requested confirmation from EMPC that it would be happy for the signs to be in place. All Councillors were in agreement with temporary signs being put up.
- Gravel area by the Pavilion - Nick reported that the EMNG did not wish to take on responsibility for this area, however he agreed to discuss the matter again at their next meeting.
- Grassy margins – EMNG would like to provide a winter refuge for small creatures and invertebrates. The majority of councillors were in favour of a 2m margin along the hedge by the tennis court.
- River restoration - EMNG sought support from the Council to look into extending the enhancements in place along the stretch of river running along the High Street upstream

from the Izaak Walton to Frogmore. Councillors confirmed that they approved the plan and asked EMNG to liaise with Andy Thomas of the Wild Trout Trust.

## **5. Matters arising from the meeting on the 20 July 2020**

### **a) Speed Watch & speed reduction signs, traffic and double yellow lines**

Cllr Matt Atkinson reported the ongoing issue with the speed reduction sign battery in that it only lasted a few days before it needed recharging. Cllr Hales suggested that as the sign was unreliable perhaps an upgrade or replacement should be looked into. MA would research how much an upgrade and more effective solar panels would each cost.

The Chair reported that Helen Galliano had agreed to run a Speedwatch campaign in the village. She had assembled a group of 9 volunteers who would need to be registered and receive appropriate training. The Council would initially borrow speed guns but would hope to receive funding from EHDC/HCC to enable them to purchase their own in due course. Cllr Ridgeon reported he had organised a speed survey to be run by Hampshire County Council. There would be three automatic count sites in the village - near the School, the Church and on the Clanfield Rd. The counts would be in place for a week, 24hrs a day. The data collected from these 3 surveys would hopefully provide part of the evidence to persuade HCC Highways that the village needed traffic calming measures and/or a reduced speed limit.

Cllr Marc Atkinson reported ongoing concerns from residents when the A3 is closed. Following discussion, it was agreed there was very little the Parish Council could do, however if the village was permitted to have a reduced speed limit or traffic calming measures in place these might prevent traffic diverting through East Meon

**MJA**

### **b) Stiles**

Cllr Matt Atkinson reported he had spoken to Andy Gattick and there might be funding available however the stiles would have to be galvanized steel. Matt would pursue the matter in the Autumn.

**MJA**

### **c) Noticeboards**

Cllr Marc Atkinson reported that the reconstruction work had been completed by the Forge and the board would now be passed to Goldburn Finishers.

**MA**

### **d) Village Hall & Pavilion**

Cllr Tyrwhitt Drake reported that the Parish Council would need to apply for planning permission for part of the Pavilion to be used for other activities. If the facility were commercially let it would provide an additional income. Cllr Ridgeon reported that he had submitted a pre planning application to EHDC for partial change of use of the Pavilion and

he had received positive feedback from the Planning Officer. The Parish Council agreed a budget of £500 for planning application costs.

SR

**e) Grass Cutting**

Cllr Tyrwhitt Drake reported that grass cutting was going well and that PTC had carried out less cuts than normal and that the projected costs should not be higher than budgeted.

TTD

**f) Replacement tree on Washers Triangle**

The Parish Clerk reported the tree had been ordered – 7ft Prunus Accolade Cherry Blossom. The Chair proposed that Chris Brooker purchase the tree and invoice the resident concerned. The Parish Council thanked Chris Brooker for sourcing and planting the tree.

PC

**g) Wildflowers on Frogmore verge update**

The Parish Clerk reported that the Cultivation Licence had been received from HCC and that the Parish Council would now be responsible for the verge.

PC

**h) Anti-social behaviour in the village**

The Chair reported that she had been in contact with the PCSO, Almeera Toogood who had recommended that any anti-social behaviour be reported to her or to 101

SD

**i) Tree on the Green and offer by a resident to replace it**

The Chair reported the existing tree on the green was dead and would be removed by Chris Brooker. The resident had chosen to fund a Whitebeam which would be sourced and planted in the general area in memory of the resident's late husband.

**j) Bench on the Recreation Ground**

The Chair reported the bench on the Recreation Ground had been repaired to a very high standard by Ian Bateman.

SD

**k) Registering our pubs as Assets of Community Value**

Cllr Hales informed Councillors that progress had been made and that the relevant forms would be completed.

**6. Parish Matters**

**a) Coronavirus updates**

The Chair reported that the school was open, the Pavilion was shut and new signage had been put up on the play areas.

SD

**b) Lengthsmen**

Cllr Cooke reported we have 10 hours left until the end of March.

DC

**c) Online booking system for All Sports Court**

The Chair reported the court had been well used over the summer. The PC reported she had found a free online app called Skedda and would circulate the link for the Councillors to view.

PC

**d) Application to make Leydene cricket pitch an Asset of Community Value**

The Chair welcomed Martin Fulda to the meeting and confirmed that all Cllrs had received his briefing note. Following a lengthy discussion, the Parish Council voted and the majority supported the application by the Judges Meadow Community Group to register Judges Meadow as an Asset of Community Value.

SD

**e) Dropped kerb at the bottle banks in Workhouse Lane**

Cllr Ritchie reported he had received two quotes to drop the kerb by the bottle banks and that no funding was available. Cllrs present all agreed to accept the lower quote for £450 and authorised work to be carried out.

CR

**f) Village Autumn Picnic report**

The Chair reported that she had cancelled the picnic due to the latest guidance updates from the Government.

SD

**g) Whitewool Farm planning application re: wetlands**

Cllr Ridgeon updated the Parish Council about the application that had been submitted to SDNP to develop a wetlands as part of a scheme to capture nitrates. EMPC had been contacted by Warnford PC and asked to comment on the application. EMPC considered the request and agreed not to comment as the application would not have any direct effect on East Meon.

SR

**h) Update on agreement with Clanfield FC to use our football pitch**

The Chair reported that Clanfield FC would not be renewing their agreement with EMPC, the main reason the Club had given was that the pitches became waterlogged during the winter.

**i) Private security firm to patrol village**

Cllr Hales reported he had contacted a private security firm, staffed by ex-service personnel who would drive round the village at night deterring anti-social behaviour. They charge £15-£16 per hour. Due to the cost it was agreed to put it on hold for the moment.

**AH**

**j) Section 106 monies update**

The Chair reported there was £4643 available to spend on off-site sports field improvements. All applications had to be submitted by November or the funds would be returned to the developer. The Cricket Club had requested an electronic scoreboard and had submitted an application. The Chair would submit an application for a new tennis net and posts for the court but welcomed other project ideas as there would still be around £800 left.

**SD**

**7. County / District Councillor Report**

Cllr Mocatta reported EHDC had announced a process to merge departments at EHDC and Havant Borough Council. This had been approved by both councils the previous week.

Cllr Mocatta also reported that a white paper had been issued about Planning, he did not believe it would affect the SDNPA which would remain a protected area.

**8. Planning**

Cllr Ridgeon reported there had been 4 dwelling, 2 tree and 1 licensing application.

Two applications to highlight

- The Square – the retrospective application for the new building has been approved
- Westbury House – SDNPA Planning Committee has approved, in principle, the main house to be developed into 12 dwellings, 6 of which would be affordable.

**9. Open Forum**

There were no residents present

**10. Finance**

**Report on the Financial Position to date for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

Councillors were provided with a summary for the year to date showing the actual position against the year's budget. The most significant expenditure had been for grass cutting and the painting of the railings. The second instalment of precept money had been received in September.

The Parish Clerk reported that between 18 July – 11 September 2020, 12 payments totalling £4770.60 had been made. All Councillors present approved the payments.

Having received the second precept instalment the current bank balance was £34,297

**11. Any other business including correspondence of note**

- David Cooke had been contacted by a resident about electric car charging points. The Chair confirmed that she had investigated it a while ago and was waiting a response from EHDC.
- Charles Ritchie asked if weed killer could be put down on the Workhouse Lane car park and for TTD to arrange for this to be done.
- Cllr Ridgeon asked if the PC could find out if any CIL money would be available.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.54pm

Signed:

Date: