



**Meeting of the Parish Council  
Held at East Meon Village Hall on  
Monday 10 October 2022**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Steven Ridgeon (Vice Chair), Charles Ritchie, Matt Atkinson, David Cooke, Andrew Hales, Sharon Sillence, Sarah Round. Sam Marchant (PC), Rob Mocatta and 1 member of the public attended.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received via email from Cllr Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake.

**2. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest**

None were declared.

**3. Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Chair asked the Councillors to consider whether they felt the Minutes were a true record of the meeting held on 18 July 2022. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were, and they were approved as read.

Proposed by Cllr Cooke and seconded by Cllr Round and duly signed as a true and correct record.

**4. Open Forum**

A resident reported that Footpath 22 running between Frogmore and the East Meon Road had become impassable, it was suggested that this should be added to the Lengthsman's list of jobs. DC

**5. Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting on 18 July 2022**

**a. Queens Platinum Jubilee Tree, Plaque & Grant to School (SD)**

The Chair reported that the tree had been ordered following consultation with the tree warden, John Mackinlay, the plaque was in progress and that Lucy Cousins had agreed to judge entries for the competition. The competition which would be to paint or draw a picture of Queen Elizabeth II, would be open to all children 11 and under who live within the village or who attend East Meon Primary school.

She also confirmed that Phillipa Tyrwhitt-Drake had been consulted regarding the profit from the Jubilee celebrations and had agreed that it should go to the school. The Chair proposed the Parish Council should round this amount (£493.79) up to £500 as a grant to contribute towards the replacement of the adventure playground. All Councillors unanimously agreed. SD

**b. Litter/Waste/Recycle Bins (SS)**

Cllr Sillence reported that she had not received a date for when the large glass recycling bins would be removed from the village and that she had once again chased EHDC regarding bigger waste bins to be positioned around the village. Cllr Mocatta agreed to assist Cllr Sillence with contact details. SS/RM

**c. EMNG/Environmental Update (SR)**

Cllr Ridgeon reported that the Nature Group had collected positive information regarding hedgehog numbers in the village, including sightings and evidence of feeding in residents' gardens. Members were concerned about the lack of water in the River Meon and were hoping to have this investigated. The abnormally low water level could be due to the very dry year and/or water being extracted. Also the group was looking into registering the part of the river that flows through the centre of the village as an officially designated river. He also reported that TWiG had spoken with SDNPA who had agreed funding for all hedge planting, protection for the young trees and stakes to go on the Recreation ground however further funding for matting might be needed to keep weeds down. Plans for planting teams included two small groups of 3 to 4 people to work in December and January. SR

**d. Ash Die Back Survey (SR)**

Cllr Ridgeon reported that due to holidays he had not been able to speak with the tree warden recently, but he would contact a professional body to assess the affected trees. SR

**e. Lengthsman (DC)**

Cllr Cooke reported that the Lengthsman had completed all jobs given to him and asked if there were any others. Footpath 22 as suggested previously would be added to the list. DC

**f. Potential Grants (SRound)**

Cllr Round reported that sadly her application for a Community Grant had not been successful. She had been in contact with Kirsty Cope at EHDC and Gary Davis at Community First who had given her a list of other grants she could consider applying for. Cllr Round said she had discovered a company that could do funding searches on a voluntary basis and would explore this. SRound

**g. All Sports Court Resurfacing (SRound)**

Cllr Round reported that she had not been able to secure funding for the project. It was agreed that she would revisit previous quotes and enquire when works could be done with the possibility that SDNPA CIL money could be used. Cllr Mocatta supported the suggestion regarding CIL monies. SRound

**h. Play Area by Village Hall Repair (SRound)**

Cllr Round reported that she had not been able to locate a local company to supply a replacement beam. It was agreed that she should contact the original supplier in Wales and have the replacement couriered here at an approximate cost of £500 and that R J Playground should install it. SRound

**i. Clothes Bin (SRound)**

Cllr Round reported that Hampshire Search and Rescue would be installing a collection bin by the Sports Pavilion and that she was currently waiting to receive the paperwork and contract. SRound

**j. Security at the Sports Pavilion (CR/TTD)**

Cllr Ritchie reported that a Wifi connection had been established from the Village Hall to the Sports Pavilion. The cameras are currently on order and would be installed by Matt Milward. He assured Councillors that by the next Parish Council meeting that they should be up and running. A question was raised about who would be monitoring the recordings. Cllr Ritchie agreed to take on this role. Cllr Ritchie reported that the recordings could be accessed via a smart phone or when checking the cameras. It was agreed that the footage should be looked at when needed. He asked whether Harvest Football Club should be allowed access, this was discussed, and it was concluded that footage would not be shared, but if a problem had been reported the relevant footage could then be sent to the police. CR

**k. Youth Engagement (SRound)**

Cllr Round reported that she had had a meeting with Mrs Tebbutt regarding ideas, they had decided to explore using social media to engage young people of the village. SRound

**l. Report of Disability Survey by Sue Williams (SD)**

The Chair reported that there had been no progress at this time and suggested that this matter should be taken off the agenda until there was anything to report. SD

**6. Parish Matters**

**a. BOATS (SD)**

The Chair reported that there was to be a SDNPA members meeting on 20 October. Provided it was confirmed that BOATs were included on the agenda, Cllr Jim MacDonald, EHAPTC Chair, would be giving a presentation at the meeting, and she would also be speaking. It was hoped that the NP would agree to take some responsibility for BOAT maintenance. SD

**b. Yellow Lines Opposite the Village Shop (SD)**

The Chair raised the request from a resident in the July meeting for the Cllrs to discuss having yellow lines painted opposite the Village shop. It was agreed that no action would be taken due to limited enforcement measures. SD

**c. Football Pitch Hard Standing for Spectators (CR)**

Cllr Ritchie reported that Harvest Football Club had moved up into a higher league. In their new league clubs should install hard standing along one side of the pitch for spectators. Following discussion, the Cllrs agreed to invite Harvest FC to present their ideas to the Parish Council. CR

**d. Coombe Road Development New Road Name Suggestions (SR)**

Cllr Ridgeon invited Cllrs to consider the suggestions circulated prior to the meeting. The preferred names emerged as Windwhistle and Wether Down. Cllr Ridgeon agreed to put these to the developer. SR

**e. Emergency Plan Using the Village Hall (AH/SD)**

The Chair referred to the document circulated prior to the meeting and asked Cllrs to consider approving in principle the Village Hall Committee's Village Emergency Plan and the possibility of the Parish Council offering financial support. Following discussion Cllrs confirmed they were supportive of the plan and happy both to commit to becoming involved and providing financial support. The Chair was mandated to find out further details and to make the VH Committee aware of the PC's commitment. Cllr Atkinson and Cllr Round agreed to assist.

SD/MA/SRound

**f. SID to go on Coombe Road (MA)**

The Chair reminded Cllrs of the request raised by a resident in the July meeting for the existing SID to be temporarily positioned along Coombe Road. Cllr Atkinson agreed to investigate this. MA

**g. Report by Working Party on CIL Money Projects**

Cllr Hales informed Cllrs that the working party had looked at the list of proposed CIL projects from a previous meeting and had narrowed these down. The working party are looking to meet in the next month to discuss these further. AH/TTD/DC/SR

**h. Works on Church Street (MA/PC)**

Cllr Atkinson reported that the works were progressing well with limited disruption to the village. The Chair proposed to invite the resident who had requested white lines to be painted outside their house to protect their building to come to the next Parish Council meeting in November to discuss this further. SD

**i. Traffic outside school**

Cllr Sillence agreed to speak with the head teacher to put parking in the next newsletter to parents. SS

**j. Remembrance Sunday (SD)**

The Chair informed Cllrs that the Village Hall had been booked for Sunday 13 November, and arrangements were in hand. She said that she hoped all Cllrs would attend. SD

**k. Allotments (DC/SD)**

The Chair reported a large water bill for the Workhouse Lane allotments and Pavilion had been received and that she along with Cllr Cooke would be looking into a solution. SD/DC

**7. County/District Councillor report**

Cllr Mocatta reported that he was keen to promote the Fruit Trees in Every Garden scheme launched by EHDC.

**8. Planning**

**Report by Chairman of the Planning Committee**

Cllr Ridgeon reported 10 applications had been made, 8 for dwellings and 2 for trees. The Planning Committee had submitted an objection to one of the dwelling applications, he highlighted that the application numbers were back to pre-covid levels.

He reported that Coombe Road developments had now started however there was limited work permitted above ground level until the developers Landscape Plan had been approved by SDNPA. Disappointingly the developers had put in a request not to offer affordable housing, which the Planning Committee had objected to, the conclusion of this request had not yet been issued. The contractors had stated that there would be disruption on Coombe Road in the week commencing 14 November for 5 days for utility connections.

There had been no update on the Westbury House application however the land behind Westbury House had had problems with illegal structures being erected.

The SDNPA Local Plan had been reviewed, with targets for a further 5 years.

SDNPA had also closed their call for development sites. Cllr Ridgeon informed Cllrs he had asked for information on any sites in East Meon Parish. He plans to review the East Meon Neighbourhood plan in readiness. He informed Cllrs that SDNPA had been under considerable pressure from surrounding Local Authorities to take more of the housing allocation earmarked for them.

SD

## **9. Finance**

### **a. To Agree Nomination of External Auditor by the SAAA 5-year Contract**

The RFO asked Cllr to discuss whether the Council should continue to be included within the SAAA (Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments) which looks after all councils in the area collectively and selects the External Auditor for these councils with a 5year contract.

After discussion Cllrs concluded that the Parish Council should continue with the SAAA for the 5year contract in which the External Auditor would be nominated by the SAAA.

### **b. Presentation of actual v budget for the current year**

The RFO presented her report of actual cost against the budget for the current year.

### **c. Approval of payments of invoices (1<sup>st</sup> July – 30<sup>th</sup> September)**

The RFO reported on all payments between the dates of 1 July to 30 September 2022. Councillors unanimously approved all payments. Proposed by Cllr Sillence and seconded by Cllr SRound.

## **10. Any other business including correspondence of note**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21:25

Signed:

Date: