



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held at East Meon Church Hall on Monday 19th March 2018
at 1800**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Dominic Carney, David Cooke, Chris Pamplin, Steve Ridgeon, Sharon Sillence, Marc Atkinson and Philippa Tyrwhitt-Drake.

District/County Councillor Rob Mocatta, Emma Gaisford (PO) Sarah Cowlrick (RFO) and 10 members of the public.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Richard Bartlett.

The Chair informed the meeting that Suzie Brooker would be taking over as Proper Officer. Emma Gaisford would continue as interim clerk until Suzie takes up her post on 16th April.

2 To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest

Cllr Atkinson advised of an interest in planning. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake advised of her interest in an application for a premises licence at the Bereleigh Estate

3

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2018

The Chair asked all Councillors to consider whether they felt that the minutes were a true record of the meeting. Councillors confirmed that they were and they were approved as read. Proposed by DC and seconded by MA.

4 Matters Arising from the meeting on the 30th January 2018

a) Signs

PTD reported that a new sign for the climbing frame had been installed and that a recce had been carried out on the sign by the church. Mr and Mrs Snart had confirmed they were happy for the old signs, attached to the wall to be removed. PTD proposed 'clip-on' signs to be attached to the existing post by the bus stop, since this solution was considerably cheaper. The cost was estimated at £700 plus carriage and VAT. It was agreed that the signs should be ordered.

PTD

SS to pursue Southern Electric for a cash contribution and inform them that replacement signs will be attached to the existing posts.

SS

b) Frogmore car park

The Chair reported that she had sent letters to all residents and had received reactions from nearly all of them. A meeting to discuss the proposal with residents would be arranged within the next month and she would report back on progress.

c) Play area

SS reported that the replacement of the tractor tyres under the see-saw would be carried out as soon as the weather improved. PTD **PTD**
SS advised that a site visit had been carried out and the entrance to the play area would be made less steep, scalplings laid and that a small gate would be put in next to the main gate to allow push chair access. **SS**

She confirmed that the Cricket Club had been informed and was happy with the proposals.

d)Speed Reductions Signs

Cllr Carney confirmed that £2000 grant money had been secured **DC**
(£1000 out of Cllr Mocatta's grant budget for 2017/18 and a further £1000 out of his budget for 2018/19) to pay for the Speed Reduction sign. He advised that the sign had now been ordered and would be delivered in the next two weeks. An application for a management licence from HCC has been made and should be available in 6 – 8 weeks. The four sites for the signs have been mapped out, they are pending an inspection by HCC. The sites are the West Meon Road, Petersfield Road, Coombe Road and Clanfield Road.

A discussion ensued about who would be responsible for installing the signs and moving the signs every two weeks. DC asked the Chair whether if we had a village lengthsman he could assist. The Chair concluded that it was probable that someone would need to be employed to do this job.

Some concern was raised about the effectiveness of the speed reduction sign. It was pointed out that the Council had resolved to purchase the signs at the Council meeting on 30/1/18.

e) Website/emails

Cllr Atkinson advised that the website was in the process of being updated but that the current email system had an out of date security certificate. MA has contacted google for instructions on how to remedy this problem. It is estimated this will be take 2-3 weeks. Once **MA**

the instructions have been sent the email system and website will be updated by him.

f) Kews Meadow Pavilion

RB

Cllr Ridgeon (in Cllr Bartlett's absence) reported that the following had been achieved:

SR

- A rough quotation for repairs and splitting the building to allow for office and sports changing room use had been estimated at around 60K (three quotes would be needed)
- Clanfield FC has been approached and confirmed they would be happy to use a split use premises
- A letting agent has been approached and had been positive about the letting potential of an office in this location, estimating rental value between 5K – 7.5 K per annum

The next steps are to investigate potential funding for this project and then to re-evaluate. It was agreed that raising this amount of money would be a challenge. At the very least the building would need to be maintained. There are various options to be investigated, including S106 money.

g) Ditch at Workhouse Lane

DC

Cllr Carney reported that HCC had confirmed that all responsibilities for the ditches in Workhouse Lane lie with EMPC. He advised that the biggest problems were located at the eastern end of the ditch where the drainage was poor. It was thought this was due in part to the large tree located in this area.

DC to request Hampshire Highways to carry out a site visit and advise a course of action. DC to inform PTD when the meeting is confirmed so a Bereleigh representative can attend.

h) River Meon Enhancement

SD

SD reported that the residents of the Cross and Workhouse Lane had met on 26th February to listen to Andy Thomas from the Wild Trout Trust and Elaina Whittaker-Slark from SDNP talk about options to enhance the River Meon downstream from Church Street.

The Chair reported that a letter dated 27th February, from Andy Thomas had since been received asking for the support of the EMPC to approach the EA for permission to investigate possible improvement options and funding.

It was unanimously agreed that the Chair should confirm support for these requests. The Chair also gave special thanks to George Thompson for organising the meeting.

5. Parish Matters

a) Meon Matters

DC

Cllr Carney advised that a request for funding from Meon Matters had been received. This proposal had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Chair invited Lesley Hussel and Ron Ingerson to speak. A discussion ensued on the possible options.

Cllr Carney suggested 3 options:

- 1. EMPC donates £1000 to pay for a final colour issue of MM
- 2. EMPC donates £200 to pay for an appeal flyer
- 3. EMPC does nothing

A private vote was taken and suggestion 2 was carried. The Chair abstained and thanked Lesley and Ron for their time.

b) Village Womble

SD

SS

The Chair advised Councillors that Gloria Nixon was retiring from her volunteer litter picking duties and confirmed she would be writing to thank Gloria for all her hard work. A discussion then ensued about a replacement. Cllr Sillence suggested that litter picking should become a whole village concern and residents could be encouraged to litter pick whenever possible. SS to raise awareness via Facebook. An appeal to residents would also be made at the Parish Assembly, on the village website and in Meon Matters.

Cllr Mocatta kindly offered to supply 12 litter picker sticks.

c) Lengthsman

SD

The Chair advised that HCC had been contacted and confirmed they would fund an East Meon Village Lengthsman. She had also contacted the Steep Parish Clerk to enquire about the possibility of joining the Steep Lengthsman cluster. It was unanimously agreed that this should be progressed. The Chair will pursue this.

d) Remembrance Sunday 11/11/18

SD

Cllr Davenport reported that All Saints' PCC had purchased 21 "There But Not There" silhouettes and outlined Rev Jane's plans to involve East Meon Primary School and the wider parish in this year's commemoration.

The Councillors resolved to make a contribution of £100 towards the cost of purchasing the silhouettes, one for each of the East Meon men who lost their lives in the First World War

It was also agreed that the silhouettes could be placed in various village locations the weeks prior to 11/11.

e) Annual Parish Meeting

SD

Cllr Davenport reported that Elaina Whittaker-Slark had been booked to speak at the APM. Cllr Mocatta agreed to confirm with Elaina her speech outline and timing, which was suggested as 15 minutes plus 15 minutes for questions.

RM

PTD advised that she and Cllr Bartlett would arrange the cheese and wine. It was agreed that everyone should arrive at 1800 to help set up the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Sillence and Cllr Ridgeon.

PTD

RB

PTD reported that the recipient of the Parish Award had been agreed by the Councillors via email.

6. County/District Councillor Report

Cllr Mocatta reported that all council tax demands had recently been published. Cllr Carney questioned how the 7.5% increase noted on the East Meon Council tax demand had been calculated, since a 3% increase has been agreed by the Parish Council in the East Meon precept. Cllr Mocatta and the Finance Officer to investigate further.

RM

SC

7. PLANNING

Cllr Ridgeon reported on applications considered by the Parish Council since the last meeting. All responses by the Parish Council are on the SDNP website.

SDNP/18/00198/DEM	2 The Square	Garage demolition
SDNP/18/00335/HOUS	Horsedown Farm	Biomass
SDNP/18/00494/TCA	The Court House	Tree felling. This application was withdrawn before the Planning Committee could consider it.
SDNP/18/00835/HOUS	Farriers	Dormer window
SDNP/18/00881/HOUS	Drayton Bridge	Single storey extension
SDNP/18/01093/TCA	Brambles	Tree felling

SDNP/18/01141/TCA	The Orchard	Tree felling
SDNP/18/01140/TCA	Trebarwith	Tree felling

8. OPEN FORUM

The Chair invited members of the public to raise any issues. There was nothing raised.

9. Finance

a) Presentation of actual v budget accounts for the current year by the Responsible Finance Office

The Responsible Finance Officer was asked to report on the Actual v Budget accounts for the Parish Council to date. She advised those present that she had negotiated a reduction in the Rates for the Recreation Ground on behalf of the Cricket Club from 1096.93 to £109.70. She then went on to present the accounts which are attached to these minutes looking at the near final position for the year to 31st March 2018 and advising that there was currently a £612.11 deficit (not including what has subsequently been agreed at this meeting) without accounting for any Improvement Costs. The Income was as expected. One Frogmore Car Park Fee was overdue. The Grant for the Speed Restriction signs was included at £1000 which was not budgeted for and would be spent in the next financial year.

The items of note in expenditure which were over budget had been reported previously and related to two water leaks, one at the Allotments and one at the Pavilion. In addition grass cutting was over budget at the Recreation ground. Conversely other predicted costs were less and some were close to budget. The grants awarded by the Parish Council were over by £664.85. They included grants to the Poppy Appeal, CAB, Church Yard Grass Cutting, Defibrillator parts, CPRE and the Rosemary Foundation in lieu of litter picking by Gloria Nixon. SC went on to highlight that monies held as well as the £1000 grant was also the Neighbourhood Plan fund which now stood at £989.90 and was expected to be utilised.

The predicted outcome was a deficit on income over expenditure of approx. £4000 which included improvements of £3118 which it was agreed at the time would be taken out of reserves. Some of the expenses were of course not expected i.e. the leaks the total of which made up the deficit figure. SC advised that she had looked at the Precept over the last 10 years and the increase in that time averaged out at 4.5%. She cautioned against any future high Precept request

with the strong reserves in situ and suggested that the Parish Council considered an improvement plan to predict the likely requirement for reserve funds in the ensuing year. The final balance having taken into account monies held and VAT due back at the 31st March was £21052.24. SC was thanked for her comprehensive report.

b)Mandatory signatory for the bank account

SC

It was agreed that Alan Redpath would be replaced by Cllr Davenport as a mandatory signatory with PTD and SC remaining as mandatory signatories.

c)Section 106 update

The Chair informed the meeting that she had met with EHDC who confirmed that there are two sums of money available. Firstly, £14K which could be available to improve the footpaths on the edge of the village together with £4.6K which was technically to be used to improve our sports field but could possibly be used to improve the Pavilion.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: CORRESPONDENCE OF NOTE

The Chair advised that emails concerning the tree wardens had been circulated prior to the meeting. She invited any Councillors that were concerned by this to ask for the matter to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. It was noted that the parties could speak with each other as they see fit.

PTD updated the meeting on the Bereleigh application for a premises licence. She informed the meeting that a mistake had been made with the map submitted with the application.

The map has now been re-submitted showing a smaller area.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.17pm

Signed:

Date: