



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held at East Meon Church Hall on
Monday 28th January 2019 at 1830**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Steven Ridgeon (Vice Chair), Dominic Carney, Marc Atkinson, David Cooke, Philippa Tyrwhitt-Drake, Sharon Sillence, Chris Pamplin, Rob Mocatta (arrived at 19.17)

Sarah Cowlrick (RFO), Suzie Brooker (PO) and two residents.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr Matt Atkinson

2. To receive any Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

No declarations received

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2018

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 DMC and seconded by MA.

4. Matters arising from the meeting on the 26th November 2018

a) Play Areas

Village Hall Play Area - Cllr Tyrwhitt Drake reported that the gate latch was missing from the play area and a replacement had been purchased. PTD also reported a slat was missing from the fence. SS to ask Arrow Fencing if it can be replaced. PTD had researched replacement football posts for the All Weather Court but had been unable to find a suitable solution. PTD would ask Scott Kerley to enquire what the alternatives were.

Recreation Ground - PTD reported the tarmac at the recreation ground was quite worn and would need replacing in the future. She suggested that meanwhile it be cleaned to remove the moss growth.

PTD

b) Speed restrictions

Cllr Carney reported that HCC were ordering post extensions and hoped they would be in place by March. The suggested rotation time was 2 weeks and this could be added to the worklist for the Lengthsman.

DC

c) Website/emails

The PO reported the Parish Council website had been made public and any relevant Council information could be easily added. It was agreed that a link to www.roadworks.org would also be added to the website so residents could track roadworks that may impact them. Cllr Marc Atkinson reported that the new site was gradually climbing up the Google search list. The Chair thanked the PO for the work involved on the website.

PO/MA

d) Parking outside the school

Cllr Carney reported very few objections had been received following the consultation before Christmas. EHDC were waiting for the legal work to be completed and line painting was due to be carried out in March. The Cllrs agreed the plan would be available on the EMPC website.

DC

e) Lengthsman

DMC reported he attended a meeting with all cluster members. A number of applications had been received and 3 candidates had been shortlisted. Interviews are due to be carried out at the end of February. It was agreed that any work carried out by the Lengthsman would be approved and signed off by Cllr Cooke. DMC requested tasks for the Lengthsman to complete and suggestions included clearing the moss under the climbing frame and cleaning of road signs. It was agreed that Cllrs would email DMC the signs that needed work.

DMC

f) Stiles

Cllr Davenport reported that Cllr Matt Atkinson had attended a meeting with Simon Hills and that she had a positive conversation with SDNP about replacing existing stiles with kissing gates providing easier access for those less able.

MJA

g) Grass Cutting

Cllr Marc Atkinson reported he had approached Stuart Powney, who had confirmed that he was currently not in a position to provide the service the Council required. It was agreed to accept the quote from LRS with the situation to be reviewed for 2020.

MA

5. Parish Matters

a) Allotments – DMC reported that one allotment was currently available at the Frogmore site. The PO is to advertise this on the website.

PO

b) **APA & Parish Award** – The Chair reported that sadly Mrs Harfield had passed away before being presented with the Parish Award. At the request of the family the Chair placed the award on Mrs Harfield’s coffin at her funeral. SD had written an article about Mrs Harfield to be published in Meon Matters and on the Parish Council website. PTD to arrange for Mrs Harfield’s name to be added to the Parish Award board in the Village Hall. The Chair asked that if Cllrs had any other nominations for the 2019 Parish Award, these needed to be emailed to PTD before the next meeting. Cllr Davenport went on to report that she had spoken with the Area Country Watch Police Officer, PC Scott Graham, who had said that he would be happy to speak at the APA. It was agreed that she should advise him that the Parish Council would like him to come.

SD

c) **Road Closures** – Cllr Carney reported he had contacted Stagecoach about the Church Lane road closure. They were aware of the works being scheduled but were unable to confirm the temporary bus stops or amendments to the timetable. Once more information had been established, DC would notify the PO and it would be added to the website.

DC

d) **Pavilion & Village Hall** – The Chair reported that she had met with SR, PTD, RM and George Thompson, Chair of the Village Hall Committee, to discuss ideas of enhancing the services the Village Hall offers the community. They had looked at expanding the facilities at the village hall to include a café and possibly a farm shop as well as providing sports changing facilities. It was agreed that at the next Parish Council meeting the group’s proposals would be presented and then at the APA when residents’ feedback and opinions would be sought. Cllr Mocatta suggested completing a CIL Project Application Form prior to the deadline of 15 February. SD and George Thompson would put forward a joint application.

SD

6. County / District Councillor Report

Cllr Mocatta reported the Visitor Centre at QE Country Park had now closed for refurbishment and was due to reopen in the Summer. RM also reported a new CEO had been appointed at EHDC. RM reported that HCC were reorganising the way they operate the grant system so that a grant would in future be applied for through the Community Fund.

7. Planning

Cllr Ridgeon advised that there had been 7 planning applications; 3 housing applications and 4 tree applications with no objections or comments.

8. Open Forum

A resident raised concern about the weeds on the gravel area next to the bottle banks. PTD reported that weed killer had been sprayed in the past and would look at this again. A resident asked about the hedge by the Glebe strip and if it could be cut. PTD would find out if Hoares or the Tyrwhitt-Drake family had cut it in the past.

9. Finance

Financial Report - The RFO gave a fiscal report to date and commented on any variances between actual and budget, most of which were reported at the last meeting and included the unexpected grant of £4117 which has financed the extra work on improving the play areas, benches and the purchase of speed signs. The lack of grass growth this summer enabled a significant saving on grass cutting to be made. The Neighbourhood Plan is complete, and the monies shown on the report relate to the final movement of monies. The cost of the PO and RFO as previously advised relates to having an overlap and an approved increase in fees for the PO relating to the extra workload relating to the excellent website which is now managed by the PO. The RFO advised that she was confident that the outcome at the end of March 2019 would be within budget as long as February and March spend were in line with the budget.

Some income was still expected in relation to the Car Park and Allotments. The closing bank balance at 20th January was £25805.67.

Bank Mandate - The RFO requested Council's approval to amend the signatories on the HSBC Parish Council Current and Deposit Account Namely that the Chairman, (Susan Davenport) the Responsible Financial Officer (Sarah Cowrick) and the Vice Chairman (Steven Ridgeon) be signatories and that the Responsible Finance Officer be fully empowered on behalf of East Meon Parish Council to enter into any agreements relating to electronic and or telephone banking services of any kind whatsoever. The resolution was passed unanimously and the RFO advised that when the minutes were available she would be able to submit them with the request to HSBC to implement the change.

Subscription - It was agreed to continue the subscription to the CPRE at a cost of £36 per annum

Request for Grant to CAB - Councillors had been furnished with figures regarding the high usage of the CAB service by people living in the Parish and DC requested that the PC consider making a grant of £400 which was the same as last year. Councillors supported the application and it was agreed to donate £400 to the CAB which DC would facilitate.

Grass Cutting - The RFO requested a formal written quote for the verbal quote to MA for 2019 at the same rate as 2018 being £5500

Financial Section of the website The RFO would furnish the PO with appropriate documents for the Financial section of the EMPC website in line with the Transparency and Openness policies and these would be updated as appropriate.

10. Any other business including correspondence of note

Cllr Pamplin raised concern about the blue Hospital sign located by Westbury House. The Chair would contact the Highways Agency to request it be removed.

Cllr Sillence requested some information to assist the new PO at Alresford Parish Council in her role. The PO would send the relevant information to Cllr Sillence.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.20pm

Signed:

Date:

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