

# MINUTES OF EAST PENNARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## Held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.00pm

- Public Participation** Sylvia and Steve Appleby and Nick Hiscox to speak
- Present** Adrian Pearse (Chairman), Roger Cock, Paul Heal, Martin Llewellyn, Hilary Tripp (Clerk), Kerry Dodd (Footpath Officer) and 7 members of the public
- 1. Apologies** Martin Dearden
- 2. Minutes of Last Meeting** The minutes of the meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025 were approved as being a true record on the proposition of Roger Cock and seconded by Martin Llewellyn and were then signed by the Chairman.
- 3. Matters Arising**
- **Cockmill Lane junction** – the boulders in place are working and more are to be put out there.
  - **Flagstones** – Clive Millington will start work when the weather improves.
  - **Barn in Ty Cook’s field [Pilton parish]** – Refusal
  - **Yew Tree cottage** – Still no decision
  - **The Gardens** 2024/1971/HSE – Approval
  - **Pembroke House** APP/E3335/D/24/3355817 – Nothing heard
  - **Withial Barn** 2024/2239/PAA – Nothing heard
  - **Batch Farm** 2025/0026/HSE – Approval
- 4. Financial Report** No further cheques had been written but website hosting had been paid via direct debit. A request was made for a donation for churchyard maintenance. Martin Llewellyn proposed that this be granted, Roger Cock seconded - agreed, and a cheque was written. Further cheques to be written for village hall hire, clerk salary and insurance.
- 5. Glastonbury Festival Donation Spending** This money donated by GFL is to be spent for the benefit of the parish. Using this money a number of stiles and bridges have already been done and Clive Millington will be repairing village stone footpaths. Martin Llewellyn reported that the grant for a free defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation had been declined; he proposed that GFL money be used to buy one; all agreed. ML to look into this further.
- 6. Planning Applications**
- i) **Yew Tree Farm** 2025/0278/AGB Notification only. *Application for prior notification of agricultural development for a proposed building*  
This was refused.
- ii) **Yew Tree Farm** 2025/0372/FUL *Proposed new access track to serve Yew Tree Farm Bungalow*  
The applicant, Nicholas Hiscox, spoke about this and the above application, explaining that the track will be for the bungalow only; this was discussed. There were concerns regarding access and visibility splays.  
**Decision: Leave to the Planning Officer**

## **7. Shooting Ground**

There remains a problem with noise disturbance. Paul Heal had a copy of a petition drafted by Pilton Parish Council but not used, which he will circulate. Martin Llewellyn will draw up a map with concentric circles showing distances allowed for noise from SSG.

## **8. Glastonbury Festival**

A liaison meeting was held with GFL on February 18<sup>th</sup>. A special meeting with offsite campsite organisers is to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> March. Martin Llewellyn will represent the council.

## **9. Village Hall**

Secondary glazing has been fitted. There is to be a talk by Allen Cotton called 'Looking Back' about wartime reminiscences. EPPC again reiterated the urgent need for wifi; however the Village Hall trustees are against installing it. Again there was support for the proposal that the annual donation to the Village Hall be made contingent on wifi being installed. It was suggested that an alternative venue might be found to hold council meetings.

## **10. The Hunt**

As agreed at the last meeting the Chairman wrote to the Police and Crime Commissioner. A response was received, stating that the Rural Crime Team and Neighbouring Police Team were aware of the issues raised and were working on them and collecting evidence. The Wildlife Crime Team are to have regular meetings with hunt monitors and hunt masters to discuss behaviour and conduct during a meet and to ensure that a map of the trail can be provided.

## **11. Footpaths**

Kerry Dodd had distributed a map detailing current problem areas on the footpaths, which had been reported to Somerset Council. These included:

- stile having been removed and replaced with barbed wire fence
- finger sign missing, totally overgrown, no access
- a footpath sign erected (by an unknown person) where there was no footpath
- asbestos bridge closed
- barbed wire put up across the path
- illegal burning of plastic
- large potholes at entrance to lane
- loose dogs on footpath

These issues were discussed and Kerry Dodd thanked for all her work.

## **12. Kennel Lane, Hembridge and other drainage problems in the parish**

Work had been done on Kennel Lane and seemed to be working; the headwall still needs to be done. Also work still needs to be done clearing drains at Hembridge and at the bottom of the hill from Sunnyside. A letter from Graham Loader was read out; the state of the path at the Gardens makes it dangerous for him to use his wheelchair. The Chairman assured him that work had been commissioned on this and would be done shortly.

Sylvia and Steve Appleby detailed problems they had been having with drains near Blindstile Cottage which were resulting in flooding of their treatment plant and costs. The council agreed to write a letter to the landowner, Pete Richards, asking him to clean the ditches. When this had been done previously, it had solved the problem for a while.

**13. Correspondence**

Nothing new

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be the **Annual Assembly** held on **Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025** at **7.00pm**, followed by the **Parish Council meeting** at **7.30pm**.

*The meeting closed at 8.12pm.*