**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF**

**ELLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

**ON MONDAY 20th MARCH 2023 AT 7.30PM**

Present: Councillors:

D Hares, M Glover, H Holman, S Withey

M McGrail Chairman

Parish Clerk: J. McKeown

6 members of the public were in attendance

**Action**

**Item 2.1 Dunsmore vacancy** No applicants have come forward so far. Continue to advertise and put it onto both Facebook and Parish Updates **DH/JMcK**

**Item2.2 Apologies** Councillor Panikkar

**Item 2.3 Open Forum.** The following points were raised: -

* Dog waste on recreation ground. Quotes for Dog waste bins with dispensers and extra signage **JMcK/HH/SW**
* The wording of comments on affordable housing submitted by EPC
* Further questions on affordable housing progress with Bucks Council planning

**Item 2.4 Declarations of Interest**. None declared

**Item 2.5 Minutes.** The minutes of Parish Meeting held on the 16th of January 2023 were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Item 2.6 Road Safety Issues.**  Councillor Withey told the meeting that the bid put to North West Chiltern Community Board has now been accepted but will require a design approval from Balfour Beatty the new roads managers so will need to roll over into the new financial year.

**Item 2.6.1** North Lee Lane – the latest appeal letter has been unsuccessful.

Steve Broadbent has been contacted by Councillor Panikkar, and requested once again, to look at a temporary reduction of the speed limit but he wants to wait until after the road closure due in August. He was also asked to write a polite letter to Red Rose Buses as it is not an official bus route but is simply being used as a short cut to the depot in Stone – he said he will do this. Lastly, he was asked about HGV signs at the Bishopstone end and said James Tunnard is liaising with the area technician for this area to follow up.

Contact Clerk’s of Kimble to discuss **JMcK**

**Item 2.6.2 Car park charging** – No commitment from National Trust. Set up a meeting **DH**

**Item 2.6.3 Bus Stop Hardstanding –** JMcK met with James Tunnard who supports the idea but it needs Section 171 licence and accredited builders. He also wants it to be a tarmac standing with buried concrete posts. Follow up **JMcK**

**Item 2.7 Recreational Facilities.**

**Item 2.7.1** Allotment invoices have been issued and some payments have been received – there is a vacancy on Plot 7 – mention on Parish update. Allotment rents need to be reviewed next year 2024/25 **JMcK**

**Item 2.7.2** New car park sign erected

**Item 2.7.3** New items for the Parish websitehave beenpublished – item required for the Russell Arms **MG/HH**

**Item 2.7.4 Green Waste Area** Quote for £160 was discussed and unanimously approved **HH**

**Item 2.7.5** The pedestrian gate to the playing field quote is around £300 to be replaced with a self-closing metal gate. Arrange quotes **JMcK**

**Item 2.8 Finance.** The savings and current account balances as per the reconciliation statements of 28/03/2023 were £25708.32 and £12189.54 respectively and were checked and signed off by Councillor McGrail.

The following payments made since the last meeting were approved:

800324 £144.00 Rex Norris erection and storage of Xmas lights

800325 £150.00 Deposit for Coronation band

800326 £694.86 Zurich insurance for 2023/24 cover

800327 £45.00 Training course Councillor Holman

800328 £5378.81 Clerk’s salary and expenses to 31/03/2023

800329 £1284.00 Paye on Clerk’s salary

800330 £228.00 Rex Norris playing filed hedges cut

**Item 2.8.1 Asset register** the asset register has been updated showing a five-year depreciation rate and now includes values for the recreation ground and the Village Hall car park

**Item 2.9 Planning.** Councillor McGrail said that there were no new applications of concern to the Council.

**Item 2.9.1** a meeting was held with Stoke Mandeville Parish Council just to ensure that as their plan develops it considers any shared bridleways/footpaths

**Item 2.10 Affordable Housing.** Councillor Hares said EPC have submitted further comments since the amended plans were published and waits confirmation that this will go to planning committee on 12th April but this has yet to be confirmed.

**Item 2.11 Clerks Report, Correspondence, Circulars and Consultation Documents**

**Item 2.11.1 Devolution** – EPC receive ~£2600 per annum and spend £4100 on grass cutting. Full review required **MM/JMcK**

**Item 2.11.2 £5000 transfer** completed

**Item 2.11.3 Litter pick** Due to be carried out 24/03/23 on North Lee Lane and 25/03/23 in the village

**Item 2.12 Dunsmore.**

**Item 2.12.1 Footpath before the Church** –The Clerk has discussed the use of this path with James Tunnard and he is happy this can go ahead but again requires a Section 171 licence, accredited contractor, and an assessment of services before any work can proceed. Clerk to follow up **JMcK**

**Item 2.12.2 Church Gates** there is a quote for £419.46 to erect two new oak posts to attach the existing Church gates to for aesthetic purposes only. Following discussion, it was agreed this needs consideration as not sure if this is EPC responsibility – perhaps share the cost with the Church? **MM**

**Item 2.13. HS2.** Nothing further to add apart from road closures which are reported in the Parish Updates

**Item 2.14 Fields in Trust.** Councillor McGrail said he now has valuations on this. There are an estimated £1000 lawyers’ fees **MM**

**Item 2.15 Matters of report**

**Item 2.15.1 Bugler** EPC require a buglerfor this year’sRemembrance service **SW/HH**

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**Item 2.15.2** the verges between Long Acre and Heybote on Ellesborough road are inaccessible due to the hedgerows not being cut back. The Chair said the landowner did cut these but no cutting should be done between Marsh and August. Not convinced of the responsibility to maintain these.

**Item 2.16 King’s Coronation** ongoing with Councillor Glover. This week’s Parish update to include kid’s competition and request for “bottle” donations for the tombola **JMcK**

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held at Ellesborough Parish Hall on Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.30pm followed by the Annual General Meeting on Thursday 25th May.

The meeting closed at 20.48 hrs.

Signed

M McGrail

Chairman

Ellesborough Parish Council