**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF**

**ELLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD**

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

Present: Councillors:

 M.McGrail, D.Hares, S Withey, H Holman, J Hamer

 Parish Clerk: J. McKeown

2 members of the public were in attendance.

 **Action**

**Item 7.1 Apologies** Cllrs Panikkar & Glover

**Item 7.2 Open Forum.** The following points were raised: -

* Potholes in the Dunsmore area
* HS2 and HGV vehicles travelling through Dunsmore **JMcK/DP**
* Construction management plan for building work in Dunsmore. **MM**
* Mr Steve Webb outlined his programme of works regarding grass cutting.

**Item 7.3 Declarations of Interest**. Councillor Hamer has added comments onto the Molloway House planning application prior to being elected as a councillor.

**Item 7.4 Minutes.** The minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on the 18th of September 2023 were unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Item 7.5 Road Safety Issues.**

* Grit bin on North Lee Lane, we would have to purchase or move the existing bin from the church, or bear the cost of £400 for new bin, the salt is supplied by Bucks council, and they continue to refill as used.  **MM**
* Hard standing at the bust stop on the A4010 at the fuel station, this is now an unsafe area to have a bus stop, due to increased traffic, One option is to see if it can be moved further down the road, this would also help the flow of traffic, as when the bus stops it blocks the entrance/exit of North Lee Lane. (Hardstanding is not an option) two bollards have been placed at that corner but it is felt that they were possibly not placed in the best position. **DP**
* At the Marsh crossing end of North Lee Lane, concerns were raised by a resident that it would be an opportunity to place barriers to prevent cars traveling at speed over the crossing to prevent them going through the hedge into her field (this has happened a couple of times I believe)However, James Tunnard has indicated that there are either mains supplies or BT cables running along the road side which would make installing barriers difficult. However, they will look at sorting the existing signage out as it is leaning into the adjacent field.
* Sign at Elm Close has been reported on Fix my Street about 5 times since it has been down. There are apparently 700 street signs in the north of Bucks which need attending to and due to the changes in Bucks C this is all on hold.
* Terrick roundabout is in a state of disrepair, James Tunnard is contacting the lighting team to get this sorted, also Cllr Panikkar will email “Shepards outdoor day nursery who sponsor the roundabout to find out what plans they have going forward to improve the aesthetics of the roundabout. **DP**
* Speeding along the A4010 towards Terrick and speeding through the village as a whole - the speed limit cannot be changed easily, and Bucks council would be reluctant to reduce further, we need to attempt to change /alter the behaviour of the drivers, Community speed watch is the way forward in the first instance. We need more volunteers out on the roadside; Posters from PC Lee Turnham are in the notice boards, on the website, and on our facebook page and The Follies whatsapp group.
* Moveable Vehicle Activated Signs - EPC have been asked to provide evidence to Jackie Binning of North West Chilterns Community Board, on a number of questions prior to moving forward, e.g. risk assessments, insurance, and contacting residents near the 9 locations, The location map needs to go on the website and facebook page, asking if residents near these locations object? It was also suggested a mail drop and “lamppost “notices could be used **JMcK/DP**
* Still awaiting the results of the traffic/speed survey that happened some months ago along Chalkshire Road. **DP**
* Handrail at the church is being replaced by Ellesborough Trust.
* It has been reported that Network Rail contractors have not been provided with a portaloo, and subsequently the crossing at the end of North Lee Lane is being used as a toilet. **DP**
* Bucks Council are now working with Balfour Beatty as their contractor, and they are getting used to new processes,

**Item 7.5.1 Yellow Lines on Chalkshire Road –** EPC have applied to highways to have double yellow lines along the frontage of the proposed affordable housing site. Despite reminders we are still awaiting a response. Clerk to chase up. **JMcK**

**Item 7.5.2 Road safety working party -**Clerk to email interested parishioner to discuss a remit to follow this up **JMcK**

**Item 7.6 Coombe Hill Car Park** Councillor Hares stated that Parking Enforcement need to follow this up to discuss any mitigating circumstances of car park charging. No further action as yet. Councillor Hares to follow up **DH**

**Item 7.7 Recreational Facilities**

Following the annual playground inspection, a number of issues were raised.

The roundabout has been sealed off from use due to a potential head injury assessment, and several other issues itemised which in total, Councillor Holman told the meeting would potentially cost in the region of £10000 to repair given a few contactor quotes. After lengthy discussion it was suggested that as EPC do not have available funds to cover this, we should seek support from a number of areas e.g., North West Chiltern Community Board, the Ellesborough trust, and Bucks Council. The critical assessments should be addressed first and then follow up on the others over the next 12 months. **HH**

**Item 7.7.1 Website content** Russel Arms content to be provided to the Clerk **MG**

**Item 7.7.2 Allotment –** Chair to review allotment agreement **HH/MM**

**Item 7.8 Finance.** The savings and current account reconciliation statements of 31/10/2023 were checked and signed off by Councillor McGrail.

The following payments made since the last meeting were approved:

800358 £950.95 Grass cutting September 2023.

800359 £787.42 Grass cutting October 2023.

800360 £219.36 Rex Norris water supply and storage costs

800361 £234.00 Playground inspection invoice

**Item 7.8.1 Budget 2024/2025 –** Clerkdiscussedthe potential budget for next year and a precept of £21000 was agreed. (same as this year)

**Item 7.9 Planning.** Councillor McGrail circulated a summary report prior to the meeting – apart from a tennis court application in Dunsmore which EPC have commented on no other actions required.

**Item 7.10 Affordable Housing.** Councillor Hares told the meeting that Hastoe have now put out tenders and chosen a contractor. Work is expected to commence in spring 2024. Cllr Hares to contact Hastoe Affordable Housing to gain support for the yellow lines’ proposal, and also to discuss a construction management plan to protect the nearest local residents from traffic movements. **DH**

**Item 7.11 Clerks Report, Correspondence, Circulars and Consultation Documents**

**Item 7.11.1 Bucks Council Grass Cutting Devolution** – Clerk to forward the contract for the next five years to be signed off by the Chairman. **JMcK**

**Item 7.11.2 Dunsmore Grass cutting –** Councillor Hamer suggested that locals could continue to cut the grass areas in Dunsmore and that a salutary sum of £100 annually should be offered to the Church to cover the cost of fuel used. This was agreed unanimously, and the Clerk will contact the Church of Dunsmore. **JMcK**

**Item 7.11.3 Zero Hour Climate Bill –** a request has been made for funds to support this bill that goes before Government on 24th November. Given current finance commitments this was declined.

**Item 7.11.4 D Day Beacons 6th June 2024 –** it has been suggested that in memory of 80 years since D Day that beacons should be lit across the country. Cllr Hares to follow this up with the landlord of Beacon Hill **DH**

**Item 7.12 Dunsmore.** Councillor Hamer has measured and assessed the condition of stiles in the Dunsmore area, and many are broken or damaged. Follow up with landlords **JH/MM**

**Item 7.13. HS2.** The Princes Risborough to Aylesbury railway line has now been successfully moved and located onto a bridge under which HS2 will eventually pass underneath. North Lee Lane, however, will remain closed until April 2024 whilst Network Rail upgrade the level crossing.

**Item 7.14 Fields in Trust.** Councillor McGrail has spoken to Fields In trust and is seeking the deeds and documents to discuss whether this project is actually worth pursuing. **MM**

**Item 7.15 Tree planting Mr G Bird –**Ellesborough trust have agreed to fund this, and EPC have suggested an eating apple tree should be planted in the recreation ground. **SW**

**Item 7.16 Dog Waste Bins** This has now been completed.

**Item 7.17 Matters of report** Councillor Withey said the Village Hall had held their AGM and distributed the annual accounts to the Clerk to forward on to the Chairman **JMcK**

Other discussions included erection of a porch on the car park entrance and refurbishing the toilets. Hall booking continue to be very successful currently.

Councillor Holman said she would recruit the bugler for next year’s Remembrance service **HH**

 **Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held at Ellesborough Parish Hall on Monday 15th January 2024 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 21.40 hrs.

Signed

M McGrail

Chairman

Ellesborough Parish Council