**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF**

**ELLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

**ON TUESDAY 20TH JULY 2021 AT 7.30PM**

Present: Councillors:

D Panikkar (Chairman) N Gordon

M Glover M McGrail

H Holman

Parish Clerk: R Norris

15 Members of the public were in attendance

**Action**

**Item 4.1 Apologies.** Apologies had been received from Councillor Hares.

**Item 4.2 Open Forum.** Mr Crouch read a statement regarding his resignation from the Parish Council. Ms Robinson asked what the Council’s policy was for commenting on planning applications. Mrs Cotton expressed her concerns about the effects that HS2 work would have on traffic numbers around the parish but especially on Nash Lee Road. Mrs Hancock mentioned a problem with a log across the bridleway at the bottom of Lodge Hill. The meeting agreed to ask Councillor Hares to investigate. Other comments were made regarding the accessibility of the parish notice board, the screening and recording of meetings and having minutes published in the village magazine. Lastly, a query was raised about the position of the open forum item in the agenda – should it be at the start or the end.

**Item 4.3 Declarations of Interest.** There were no Declarations of Interest from any of the Councillors present.

**Item 4.4 Minutes.** The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 17th of May 2021 were amended by the Chairman and the amendments initialled. They were then unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Item 4.5 Road Safety Issues.**  Councillor Gordon briefed the meeting on the progress of identifying replacement Vehicle Activated Signs. Also, more use will be made of the Speedwatch system.

**Item 4.6 Recreational Facilities.** All allotments are now in use. Costs have been obtained for an additional piece of equipment for the playground and investigations are continuing into the provision of matting for the playing field.

**Item 4.7 Finance.** Councillor Holman had carried out the pre meeting financial check and there were no discrepancies in the figures. The savings and current account balances as per the reconciliation statements were £35,625.90 and £14,625.90 respectively. The following payments made since the last meeting were approved:

Steve Webb (Grass Cutting May 21) 800232 £680.84

Ellesborough Guide Centre (Donation) 800233 £500.00

Steve Webb (Grass Cutting Jun 21) 800234 £805.84

The following payments were made

Bluepepper Designs (Litter Competition) 800235 £108.00

R Norris (Litter Comp Materials) 800236 £26.44

**Item 4.8 Planning.** Councillor McGrail’sbrief recommended that EPC comment on the applications for Guide Centre and Molloway House. This was agreed and Councillor McGrail will draft them for submission by the Clerk. Discussions need to be held with Stoke Mandeville PC regarding their Neighbourhood Plan and its effect on Ellesborough Parish. **MMcG,,RN**

**Item 4.9** Affordable Housing. In the absence of Councillor Hares, the Chairman stated that the survey was complete and should be distributed by the end of the week. A banner will be used to advertise the survey.

**Item 4.10 Clerks report and Correspondence, Circulars and Consultation Documents.** Only the normal circulars had been received.

**Item 4.11 Dunsmore.** Councillor Gordon explained why a defibrillator was not suitable for Dunsmore. Therefore, this is no longer required. The occupants of Well Cottage didn’t want matting put down on the common as they thought the access across the common was satisfactory.

**Item 4.12 HS2.** Stoke Mandeville have produced plans resulting from HS2’s works, but not considered what happens at the parish boundaries. Improved access for cyclists needs to be incorporated into the Marsh Lane works. Progress is being made with the application for a cycleway/footpath on the A4010 between the filling station and the nursing home.

**Item 4.13 Fields in Trust.** Whilst we have deeds for the playing field, the land needs to be registered with the Land Registry. Then we can take action to have all of the land owned by the PC put into trust to protect it from any development in the future.

**Item 4.14 Communications Policy.** The meeting unanimously agreed to adopt the draft Communications Policy. The Clerk is to incorporate it into the Standing Orders. **RN**

**Item 4.15 Standing Orders.** These will be considered at the next meeting.

**Item 4.16 Appointment.** The meeting unanimously agreed to confirm Councillor Gordon responsibility for Traffic, Road Safety and Footpaths and Rights of Way.

**Item 4.17 Matters of Report.** Councillor Glover reported on the problems of providing wi-fi in the Parish Hall and also on the improvements to be made to the hall in the near future. Councillor Holman told the meeting about the Litter Competition.

**Item 4.18 Next Meeting.** The next Parish Council Meeting, is scheduled for Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 7.30pm in Dunsmore Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.10 hrs.

Signed

D Panikkar

Chairman

Ellesborough Parish Council