



## Minutes of Ewelme Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th March 2024

**Present:** Gemma Benoliel (GB/Chair) David Solomon (DS) Barry Tindall (BT)  
Andrea Powell (AP) Joanna Brock (Clerk) 2 members of the public

- 47/24 **Apologies for absence:** Nigel Layton (NL) and Sally Stockings (SS) are away. Sue Cooper (SC), AP is representing SODC. Freddie VanMierlo (FVM) also sends his apologies.
- 48/24 **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 49/24 **Minutes of last meeting 14/02/2024:** These were agreed and signed.
- 50/24 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but spoke later in relevant sections.
- 51/24 **County & District Councillor reports:** FVM sent a County Council report before the meeting and SC and AP sent a District Council report.  
DS asked AP if the Hazell & Jefferies' traffic would be using the Benson relief road once completed, AP couldn't confirm this. The large new pond and wildlife habitat which has been created for the Flood Alleviation scheme at the new housing estate in Benson was discussed.
- 52/24 **Decide the date and topic of the Annual Parish Meeting.** This will be on 1st May from 7pm. Topics will include the expansion of the car park.
- 53/24 **Planning**  
**P24/S0395/FUL:** Downs Farm House, Ewelme, OX10 6PQ. Change of use of existing garden room to allow for dual use of garden room. RESOLVED EPC have no objections.  
**MW.0023/24 & P24/S0751/CM:** Landfill No 2 Site, Goulds Grove, OX10 6PJ. Installation of a fire suppression and prevention system comprising two 30,000 litre water tanks and a pumphouse cabin (retrospective.) RESOLVED EPC have no objections.  
**P24/S0695/S73:** Land off Benson Lane, Ewelme, OX10 6HB. Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on application P23/S2252/S73. Alteration to footprint and position of the proposed new building within the plot. RESOLVED EPC have no objections.
- 54/24 **Accounts and Administration:**  
(a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.  
(b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised. *See appendix on website.*  
RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.  
(c) **Asset register:** the Clerk will include the defibrillator at the village hall and the old chalk pit and then this is up to date.  
(d) Review and readopt policies:-  
**Financial Regulations:** the current regulations state to strive for three quotes on work over £100. It is felt this is too low so it will be changed to strive for 3 quotes over £2,000 and then readopted.  
**Standing Orders:** the latest NALC Standing Orders were adopted.  
**Planning Committee's terms of reference:** item 13 will be changed to visit the site 'if necessary' and then readopted.  
The following policies will be readopted without changes: **Risk Assessment, Tractor risk assessment, Equality policy, Health & Safety policy, Grant policy, Training & Development policy, Publication Scheme, Data Protection policy, Councillor's Code of Conduct, Debit card policy, Reserves policy.**

- (e) The current pavilion hire rates will remain the same.
- (f) It was decided to grant the cricket club £1,200 for the practise net on the Common.
- (g) It was agreed to grant the Ewelme Twinning Society £250.
- (h) BT amendment form has been submitted to SODC.
- (i) It was agreed to approve direct debits to E-on, Grundon and Castle Water

- 55/24 **Cow Common gates:** It was agreed that at least two gates need urgently replacing on the Common. BT and GB will walk the Common and check the other gates. The Clerk will enquire about a grant from TOE.
- 56/24 **The Pound:** WREN will take down the fence.
- 57/24 **Bus shelter:** More quotes will be sought for the work on the roof.
- 58/24 **Traffic:** The SID is moving tomorrow morning. DS will write up the results from these. EPC is still waiting for the decision from OCC regarding the CLEUD that Hazell & Jefferies have applied for, DS will chase this up.
- 59/24 **Landslide:** The drains were not cleaned when Thames Water said they were to be cleaned, this issue is ongoing.
- 60/24 **Car park expansion:** a group met at the car park on 07/03/2024. It was decided that the car park needs 30 more car spaces so the total parking would be for 50 cars. A public toilet would be installed beside the pavilion. A quote has been received for this work and GB will express an interest in a grant from SODC.
- 61/24 **Neighbourhood Plan (NHP):** EPC had a meeting with the NHP team at SODC today. EPC will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan but there is no requirement to submit a formal review to SODC at this time.
- 62/24 **Wilding:** WREN is looking to erect owl boxes in the village. A parishioner has donated £150 for this project.
- 63/24 **Health & safety:** Nothing to report.
- 64/23 **Village Maintenance including outdoor gym, pavilion, play area & the Common:** The exterior of the pavilion has been refurbished. The front door, back door and veranda need painting, the Clerk will arrange this.  
The football team reported that the pavilion showers are not working. BT checked and they are all working but the pressure's low. This cannot be rectified.  
GB will contact the owner of the boundary fence to the Common and ask them to cut back their foliage.
- 65/24 **Reports from meetings, training and other events:** Benson Millstream have an event to officially open their extension on 19/04/2024, GB will attend this.
- 66/24 **Correspondence:** The Clerk received an email from Ewelme primary school's headteacher regarding inconsiderate parking around the school at drop off and collection times. DS will contact the team at Highways. The Clerk will reply to the headteacher and say EPC are looking into this but it may take some time to find a resolution.
- 67/24 **Other items of interest:** The April finance meeting will be held at GB's house on 18<sup>th</sup> April at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 2110

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Appendix**

**Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts March 2024**

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
13.03.24.01	Administration costs	1215.29
DD	Grundon	15.61
DD	E-on	85.50
13.03.24.02	PATA Payroll	31.05
13.03.24.03	OALC membership	196.78
13.03.24.04	HMRC	136.11
13.03.24.05	J Martin	535.00
	PC debit card payments (below)	1.89
		<b>2,217.23</b>

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
08/03/2024	Busy Baskets - EN	138.00
08/03/2024	Iswariah - EN	48.00
04/03/2024	Nicholas Drum - EN	48.00
04/04/2024	Millstream Pilates	48.00
01/03/2024	Kinash - EN	48.00
29/02/2024	Chadwick - EN	48.00
28/02/2024	Grimebusters - EN	48.00
		<b>426.00</b>

**EPC debit card purchases**

Date	Item	Cost
08/03/2024	Folder	1.89
		<b>1.89</b>