



Minutes of the Ewelme Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10th July 2024

Parish Councillors present: David Solomon (Chair)
Sally Stockings (SS) Barry Tindall (BT) Rebecca Lanigan (RB)
District Councillor: Sue Cooper (SC)
Joanna Brock (Clerk) 2 members of the public

113/24 **Apologies for absence:** Nigel Layton (NL) is away. Andrea Powell (AP), SC is representing SODC.

114/24 **Declarations of interest:** BT declared an interest in 120/24.

115/24 **Minutes of last meeting 12/06/2024:** Additional information was received regarding planning application P24/S0956/HH since this last meeting. This application has now been approved. The minutes were agreed and signed.

116/24 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but spoke in other sections.

117/24 **County & District Councillor reports:** SC and AP sent a District Council monthly report and SC attended the meeting. SC said that the South Capital grant scheme is now live. The cabinet has implemented a new car park order with changes to fees in Goldsmiths' Lane car park, Wallingford. SODC has purchased four homes under the Local Authorities Housing Fund programme to accommodate migrants. The Active Communities team are offering free exercise classes for residents and also free and low-cost activities for families at locations across South Oxfordshire.

118/24 **Cow Common flooding:** K. Walker and C. Winfield attended the meeting and represented the Benson and Ewelme Cricket Team. There has been a lot of flooding this year on the Common and some matches have been cancelled. DS presented several charts showing groundwater levels since the 1960s. SC will contact an officer at SODC who will be able to advise on this subject. The PC will gain more information and then decide whether to get the area surveyed. Work also needs to be done to the pitch and the flooded area will need to be reseeded. SS may have some machinery the team can hire for this. The team will find out the cost and advise EPC who will then decide whether to share the cost.

119/24 **Bus shelter.** EPC will use Ben Bateman at £1,965 (exc VAT) to have the roof replaced. EPC will apply for a District Councillor grant to refurbish the interior of the bus shelter when the grant scheme opens in September.

120/24 **Metal detecting on Council land.** EPC accepted the metal detecting memorandum previously circulated. BT discovered a silver seal matrix from 1650 whilst metal detecting.

121/24 **Accounts and Administration:**

- (a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.
- (b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised.
RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.

122/24 **Car park expansion and noticeboard.** EPC did not apply for the SODC CIL grant because planning permission is not in place for the expansion of the car park. EPC have paid for preplanning advice but a date has not been set for this. EPC decided against installing toilets on the Common due to the cost. EPC will obtain planning permission first and then ask for quotes for the building of the car park.

National Landscapes approached EPC to apply for a grant for a noticeboard at the Common. EPC will wait until next year when the accessible gates are installed and then apply for the grant.

123/24 **Ewelme News (EN.)** The current editor A. Sayer (AS) has been doing a sterling job of editing and producing the EN for several years, single handed. She and the PC are very aware that the current arrangement means that there are no contingency plans for AS's holidays and any other absences, and no succession plan. EPC are looking for an assistant/understudy to help AS and to provide cover when needed. The EN received positive feedback from the questionnaire asking for resident's opinions on the magazine. It was determined that it's a valuable resource in the village. EPC decided not to approach Benson Bulletin to combine EN within their magazine.

124/24 **Traffic.** The Hazel & Jefferies' CLEUD application is still pending with OCC.

125/24 **Wildling.** WREN are carrying out ongoing bird surveys with Grundon. Grundon were approached by a group who wish to carry out a plant and flower survey on their land. It is not confirmed whether Grundon will agree to this.

126/24 **Health & safety issues.** The tractor has been fixed. The Clerk has been doing the playground checks.

127/24 **Village maintenance.** SS has not been able to contact the local resident to ask whether they can put the PC bins out. The Clerk has received correspondence from two residents on the unkempt condition of the Pound. The Clerk is arranging to meet with the landscaping contractor.

128/24 **Reports from meetings.** None.

129/24 **Correspondence.** NL did not attend the meeting but wanted to advise the PC that there is a new Station Commander at RAF Benson and NL will arrange a meeting soon.

130/24 **Other items of interest.** It was decided not to reconvene in August.

The meeting closed at 1930

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting – 11th September 2024

Appendix

Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts July 2024

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
	Administration costs	1,151.00
DD	E-on	85.50
DD	Grundon	39.83
10.07.24.02	ICO renewal	35.00
10.07.24.03	Oxford IT Solutions	70.00
10.07.24.04	P Fanshawe tractor	95.00
	C. Cuzen pavilion hire deposit return	100.00
	Debit card purchases (below)	16.75
		1,593.08

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
24/06/2024	Benson Lions FC pavilion hire	455.00
		455.00

EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
21/06/2024	Refreshments	14.50
21/06/2024	Refreshments	2.25
		16.75