



Minutes of the Ewelme Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th September 2024

Parish Councillors present: David Solomon (Chair)
Rebecca Lanigan (RB) Nigel Layton (NL) Paul Stillaway (PS)
Joanna Brock (Clerk) 6 members of the public

131/24 **Co-option:** Paul Stillaway (PS) was co-opted to EPC.

132/24 **Apologies for absence:** Barry Tindall (BT), Sally Stockings (SS), Andrea Powell (AP) Sue Cooper (SC) and Freddie VanMierlo (FVM.)

133/24 **Declarations of interest:** None.

134/24 **Minutes of last meeting 10/07/2024:** These were agreed and signed.

135/24 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but spoke in other sections.

136/24 **Cow Common flooding:** DS sent a report to the Council before the meeting about the history of the flooding on the Common and possible existing drainage infrastructure. DS shared extracts of this with the members of the public in attendance. Further investigations will be undertaken.

137/24 **Alice Chaucer commemoration.** R. Hazell is organising a two day event in May to celebrate Alice Chaucer's life in collaboration with the church. EPC endorsed the event and suggested the organisers apply for a District Council grant. The pavilion will be booked for the event. It was agreed to waive the cost of the pavilion.

138/24 **Green Spaces.** There is new fencing at the top of Rabbits Hill on Grundon's land where WREN helped to manage the land. Grundon have said the land is being hired out short term for dog walking. The cows have been breaking the fencing on the Common to eat the new hedging planted on the north side. A. Walker thinks they are trying to eat the holly so he has removed it. A member of the public was concerned about the number of rabbits on the Common, this will be monitored. A plan will be drawn up for managing the Common. A. Walker is attending a chainsaw course on Monday. It has already been agreed that EPC is fully funding the course including an additional payment for a licence to cut larger trees. Once the dead ash trees have been cut down, A. Walker will organise selling the wood. It was decided not to allow members of the public to collect it. The kissing gate by the water trough is broken so this has been roped shut. It is hoped it will be replaced next year along with the other gates on the Common.

139/24 **County & District Councillor reports:** SC & AP sent a monthly report before the meeting and FVM sent a report in July.

140/24 **Accounts and Administration:**

(a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.

(b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised.

RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.

(c) The new Financial Regulations will be reviewed and put on next month's agenda for possible adoption.

(d) The internal auditor's recommendations were reviewed and accepted.

(e) The external auditor's report was accepted.

(f) EPC's insurance was reviewed. The Clerk obtained additional quotes and it was agreed to stay with

the company 'Clear Councils' with an annual premium of £830.79.

141/24 **Car park expansion.** The Clerk forwarded the preapplication advice letter received from OCC to the Councillors via email.

142/24 **Bus shelter.** The roof will be replaced in the next few months. DS has been looking for quotes for display boards inside the shelter. DS will have these ready for the next meeting in October. The Clerk will apply for a District Councillor grant for these, applications close in November.

143/24 **Memorial benches on PC land.** It was agreed to erect two memorial benches for Jenny Lee on the Common, at no cost to EPC. EPC will draw up a policy for sponsored benches on PC land.

144/24 **Traffic.** The Clerk received an email from a resident along The Street to consider parking restrictions outside London road cottages due to the width of the road. This was considered and will be monitored.

DS and the Clerk will attend a Highway Engagement meeting on 10/10/24 with OCC.

DS circulated a report before the meeting. Hazell & Jefferies' CLEUD is still being considered. The matter is currently with OCC's solicitor.

FVM asked councils to advise him of any roads in the County that are in need of repair.

145/24 **Health & safety issues.** The Clerk will check the salt bin at the back of the school playground and PS will check the bin on Parson's Lane.

146/24 **Village maintenance.** The Pound has been tidied and will be on the regular village maintenance schedule.

147/24 **Reports from meetings.** None.

148/24 **Correspondence.** Covered in other sections.

149/24 **Other items of interest.** Some villagers have raised concerns over new lights from RAF Benson. NL has contacted the base and asked to speak with the new Station Commander.

The meeting closed at 2100

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting – 9th October 2024

Appendix

Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts September 2024

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
DD	Administration costs	1,152.80
	E-on	85.50
	Ewelme primary school deposit refund	100.00
DD	Grundon - August	52.09
11.09.24.02	Y. Solomon - WIX history website	216.00
11.09.24.03	Enzian - pavilion cleaning	198.00
11.09.24.04	NP Design & Print - EN	568.00
11.09.24.05	HMRC	127.01
11.09.24.06	PATA Payroll	31.05
	Debit card purchases (below)	0.00
		2,530.45

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
05/08/2024	Horticultural Society - pavilion hire	120.00
05/09/2024	Precept	15,000.00
		15,120.00

EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
	Nil	
		0.00