



Minutes of the Ewelme Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 13th November 2024

Parish Councillors present: David Solomon (DS/Chair) Barry Tindall (BT) Nigel Layton (NL) Rebecca Lanigan (RB) Paul Stillaway (PS)

District Councillors present: Sue Cooper (SC)
Joanna Brock (Clerk) 1 member of the public

167/24 **Apologies for absence:** Sally Stockings (SS) is working. Andrea Powell (AP) as SC is representing SODC.

168/24 **Declarations of interest:** None.

169/24 **Minutes of last meeting 09/10/2024:** These were agreed and signed.

170/24 **Public session:** The member of the public spoke in 179/24 Green Spaces.

171/24 **Planning:**

P24/S3173/LDE: Huntinglands House, Ewelme, OX10 6PE. Use of house over the last ten years for general residential occupancy (not complying with Condition 5 of P00/W0421 for use for gamekeeper). RESOLVED EPC has no comment.

P24/S2724/FUL: Church Barn, Ewelme, OX10 6HP. Erection of oak-framed outbuilding for agricultural equipment storage. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.

P24/S3359/FUL: Ewelme Down Farm, Ewelme, OX10 6PQ. Provision of a weather cover. RESOLVED EPC has no objections but would suggest and recommend solar panels on this south facing weather cover.

172/24 **County & District Councillor reports:** SC & AP sent a monthly report before the meeting. SC attended the meeting and said the Local Nature Recovery Strategy is now out for public consultation. The Joint Local Plan consultation ended last night. Thames Valley Police is asking residents to share their experiences and to have a say on how policing services are shaped in the area. The latest figures show that the number of road collisions are down by 20% in 20mph and 30mph zones. SC reminded EPC to keep their neighbourhood plan up to date. Biffa have just purchased their first electric waste vehicles. The cabinet is currently working on their corporate plan. The District Councillor grant scheme closes in a few days, EPC will be applying *see 177/24*. The Cornerstone theatre in Didcot has lots of festive shows in December.

173/24 **Accounts and Administration:**

(a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.

(b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised.

RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.

(c) The Clerk's pay agreement backdated to April, was acknowledged.

(d) The fixed term bond has matured. It was decided to reinvest £25,000 into a 95 day notice account with Lloyds Bank.

(e) The budget was set for 2025/26. Precept was set as £40,000. Payments expected as £37,663. Receipts expected as £44,175.

(f) Jane Olds was appointed as internal auditor.

174/24 **Bench policy on council land:** DS circulated a policy he had written and this was adopted.

175/24 **Common flooding:** DS will conduct a level survey with R. Moore.

176/24 **Car park expansion.** The pre-application advice said that one of the main issues is the impact it may have on the character and appearance of the National Landscape area. EPC also need permission under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006. BT contacted the Open Spaces Society regarding this and is awaiting their response.

177/24 **Bus shelter refurbishment.** DS has researched display boards totalling approx. £1,000 and will apply for a District Councillor grant to fund these.

178/24 **Traffic.** The Hazell & Jefferies' CLEUD is going to OCC's Planning & Regulation committee on 25/11/24. DS has requested to speak.

179/24 **Green Spaces.** A. Walker (AW) telephoned the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE) and asked if there were any grants available towards nature management plans. TOE advised AW to contact Wild Oxfordshire (WO.) AW is meeting with WO to have an initial walkaround.

AW has started thinning out the ash trees.

The land to the south of the Common, which was being let out for a dog exercise field owned by Grundon, is no longer being leased to the public.

A tree survey needs to be conducted on trees owned by EPC. The Council is trying to ascertain whether it is responsible for the trees to the south of the Common.

It was agreed that the gang mowers will be repaired by Lister Wilder at a cost of approx. £800 exc VAT.

180/24 **Health & safety issues.** The annual playground inspection report has been received and has rated most areas as very low or low risk except the large multiplay equipment which was rated moderate risk. The Clerk will meet BT and NL at the playground to discuss rectifications. Potholes have begun to form in the car park, this will be monitored.

181/24 **Village maintenance.** None.

182/24 **Reports from meetings and training courses.** DS attended a Grundon liaison meeting on 11/11/24. The Clerk will book PS & RB on a Councillor Fundamentals training day on 26/02/25.

183/24 **Correspondence.** Nothing of note.

184/24 **Other items of interest.** NL is waiting for an update from the RAF regarding the bright lights emitting from the base. NL is arranging a date to meet with the new Station Commander.

It was decided to invite Grundon to speak at the next Annual Parish Meeting (APM.) This could be 7th or 21st May 2025. DS will contact Grundon with the preferred dates.

The meeting closed at 2115

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting – 11th December 2024

Appendix

Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts November 2024

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
	Administration costs	1,374.22
DD	E-on	45.63
DD	Grundon	87.95
13.11.24.02	Play Inspection Company	108.30
13.11.24.03	Azalea Landscapes	2,390.00
	Poppy Appeal	50.00
13.11.24.04	VHM hall hire	120.00
13.11.24.05	BT refreshments	5.00
	Debit card purchases (below)	35.12
		4,216.22

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
18/10/2024	E-on credit	400.00
		400.00

EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
28/10/2024	Mobile top up	20.00
21/10/2024	Amazon - memory card	8.99
11/10/2024	Batteries	6.13
		35.12