



Minutes of Ewelme Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th January 2023

Present: Gemma Benoliel (GB/Chairman) David Solomon (DS)
Nigel Layton (NL) Roger Moore (RM) Sally Stockings (SS)
Andrea Powell (AP) Joanna Brock (Clerk) 4 members of the public

- 1/23 **Apologies for absence:** Barry Tindall (BT) is on holiday. Freddie VanMierlo (FVM) is unwell.
- 2/23 **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 3/23 **Minutes of last meeting 14/12/2022:** These were agreed and signed.
- 4/23 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but spoke in relevant sections.
- 5/23 **Wilding:** A. Walker said that the diseased elm trees have been removed. A. Walker asked what EPC's decision was on the hedge around the Common. A. Walker suggested that a 20 metre part of the fence which is in poor repair could be removed, the hedge replanted to encourage wildlife and the fence then put back in good condition. It was agreed to go ahead with this plan. A. Walker has applied for a tree thinning licence in the woodland area at the end of the Common road. The Ewelme nature group is still in talks with Grundon but no decisions have been made yet. A. Walker asked whether EPC would agree to a hedge in place of the current wooden posts which line the Common recreational area and overlook the cricket pitch. EPC agreed to the possibility of a hedge in this location and a grant could be applied for from The Woodland Trust.
- 6/23 **County/District Councillor reports:** FVM, SC and AP sent reports before the meeting. AP attended the meeting and said the government has launched a consultation on the levelling up bill as part of the national policy framework. One of the proposals is that neighbourhood plans should have weight for the whole of their adoption, not just for the first two years they are adopted. The bill puts communities at the centre of planning decisions. CIL rates will also increase for councils. Concerns were raised that traffic levels would be increasing in Ewelme due to construction work in Benson.
- 7/23 **Planning:**
- (1) Whitehouse Lodge, Brightwell Baldwin, OX49 5NT. **P22/S4278/HH:** Alterations to existing kitchen roof. Alterations to existing car port and construction of new room on first floor. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.
- (2) Whitehouse Farm, Brightwell Baldwin, OX49 5NT. **P22/S4403/HH:** Proposed re-roofing of existing storage buildings and insertion of new walling, windows and doors. Proposed new window openings in front elevation of existing dwelling. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.

8/23 Accounts and Administration:

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

9/23 Nancy Warhorse commemoration: On Saturday 11th November D. Orpwood is proposing a commemoration of Nancy the warhorse. He would like to include representations from the RAF and the Royal British Legion. The village hall will be booked that weekend (11th and 12th) with an exhibition of Ewelme and refreshments.

10/23 Festival of Ewelme Legacy: DS and BT have a meeting planned with the Nettlebed website editor on the 20th January to discuss developing a community website. There's been no progress on commemorative benches. This could become part of the hedge project (*see 5/23 wilding.*)
The Outreach charity will host the Coronation event on Monday 8th May. 12 stalls have been booked so far. All organisations in the village will be invited to get involved in the event. Mugs will be given to local children. A working group will be set up. The Clerk will draft the group's terms of reference.

11/23 Traffic: The SID was positioned temporarily in The Street, it will soon be moved to Green Lane. Extra road markings in Ewelme will be discussed when the 20mph zone is possibly extended. GB suggested residents put 20mph stickers on their wheelie bins and EPC fund this. The Clerk will check with SODC that stickers are allowed on the wheelie bins.

12/23 Annual Parish Meeting and Meeting of the Parish Council: The public EPC April meeting will be held on the 19th April. The A.P.M with waste talk will be the 26th April. The public EPC May meeting date will have to change due to PC elections on the 4th May. With there being a bank holiday following this, Councillors will not take up their seats until the 9th May. All least 3 clear days is needed to summon Councillors to a meeting, so the PC meeting in May will be 17th May.

13/23 Health & safety: A. and D. Critchley have cleared the gutters on the village hall and the leaves outside on the road. GB feels this is unsafe and this needs to be addressed with the VHMC.

14/23 Village Maintenance including outdoor gym, pavilion, play area & the Common: The pavilion has suffered a burst pipe. An electrician and plumber have accessed the building. No decision has been made on whether to use EPC's insurance.

15/23 Correspondence: Nothing of note.

16/23 Other items of interest: Permission is granted for The Horticultural Society to park on the Common during the Open Gardens on Sunday 4th June.
SS has heard that Airband has decided not to install new superfast broadband in the village. Clerk will contact Tim Wilson for more information.

The meeting closed at 2125

Signed:

Date:

Date of next meeting – 8th February 2022

Appendix

**Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts January
2023**

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
11.01.23.01	Administration costs	1025.03
DD	E-on	100.00
DD	Grundon	24.20
11.01.23.02	VHML - hall hire	120.00
11.01.23.03	Handyman	50.00
11.01.23.04	C&R Outdoor Lighting - SID part	211.68
11.01.23.05	SLCC membership	146.00
	PC debit card payments	62.78
		1,739.69

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
06/01/2023	Horticultural Society - pavilion hire deposit	100.00
15/12/2023	OCC grant	1,000.00
		100.00