



Minutes of Ewelme Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th March 2023

Present: Gemma Benoliel (GB/Chairman)
David Solomon (DS) Roger Moore (RM) Nigel Layton(NL)
Barry Tindall (BT) Andrea Powell (AP) Joanna Brock (Clerk)
3 members of the public

- 33/23 **Apologies for absence:** Sally Stockings (SS.)
- 34/23 **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 35/23 **Minutes of last meeting 08/02/2023:** These were agreed and signed.
- 36/23 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but spoke in relevant sections.
- 37/23 **County/District Councillor reports:** SC, AP and FVM sent reports before the meeting. AP attended the meeting and said the SODC budget was passed. They are now in a better position than they originally thought with no cuts to services. Council tax will increase by 3.6%, which is below inflation. The Local Plan has strong support and focuses on the environment and nature revival. The interactive consultation website has been nominated for a local government award. SODC encourages councils and residents to report any planning violations or fly tipping. I.D will be required for voting at the next elections.
- 38/23 **Review Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, Planning Committee's Terms of Reference, Pavilion Hire agreement, Risk Assessment, Equality policy, Health & Safety policy, Grant policy, Training & Development policy, Publication Scheme, Data Protection policy and Councillor's Code of Conduct.**
EPC approved the recommendations from the Finance and Administration Working Group. RESOLVED these policies were readopted.
Asset register: DS asked OCC who had ownership of the 20mph poles and street furniture. OCC advised they are not owned by EPC. The Clerk will update the asset register.
- 39/23 **Coronation working group and Festival of Ewelme legacy:** RESOLVED Terms of Reference adopted.
R. Lanigan (RL) has the posters ready for print. RL has arranged for stewards for the event.
RESOLVED two benches will be purchased for the King's Coronation and the Queen's reign, with the cost approx. £1,000. The Clerk will circulate the wording for the benches beforehand.
DS and BT will progress with the idea of a community website.
- 40/23 **Traffic:** A second SID will be purchased for The Street, at a cost of £2400. The pole is too short for a solar panel to be used, DS will ask OCC to install a new pole.

A bracket was purchased and installed on Ayres Lane so the SID functions correctly. DS has been downloading the recent speed information. 20mph stickers purchased by EPC, are available for free from Ewelme Stores for residents to put on their household waste bins

- 41/23 **Wilding:** A. Walker (AW) attended the meeting and said the hedge has been planted along the road by the Common. The grant claim form was returned to TOE today. AW will add this hedge to the Queen's Green Canopy website. AW has written an article for EN and will contact the Henley Standard and the Wallingford Herald. GB noticed a resident had planted an impressive hedge along their property. The Clerk will write to him asking if he is aware that he can add it to the Queen's Green Canopy. AW had a meeting with a representative from the RAF about planting trees and hedges on the base. DS and AW will attend the next meeting with the Benson Nature Group. DS wants to work with the Benson Nature Group for management of the brook as a whole. The four lime trees planted on Green Lane by EPC are overhanging the bus stop and need cutting. The mowing team will trim these. AW will contact A. Sayer with a revised article for the EN explaining how the hedge will be managed in the future. The Clerk will send AW the details of the OALC Green Day later this month.
- 42/23 **Health & safety:** The latest information from OCC to the Clerk, was that Day's Lane would be closed up to the 10th March. RM and the Clerk wrote to the manager of the clear up operation but they have not had a reply. RM will find out Thames Water's escalation process and will also contact County Councillor F. VanMierlo (FVM.) The gravel for the car park needs ordering. RM, BT and the Clerk will organise this.
- 43/23 **Village Maintenance including outdoor gym, pavilion, play area & the Common:** The football team have asked whether they can play on the 18th March. BT will access the pitch tomorrow. The dehumidifiers in the pavilion were removed today and the Clerk has organised the pavilion to be cleaned.
- 44/23 **Accounts and Administration:**
- (a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.
 - (b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised. *See appendix.*
RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.
 - (c) Cricket club grant application: NL will contact the cricket club.
 - (d) The Clerk had a meeting with the internal auditor on 06/03/2023. Her report will be sent after the close of the financial year.
- 45/23 **Reports from meetings, training and other events:** BT attended a waste tour at Agrivert this month.
- 46/23 **Correspondence:** The Clerk received an email from a resident asking whether another child's goal could be bought for the Common and if the football team would finance this. EPC will not purchase another child's goal. A resident was surprised at the cost of the pavilion. GB advised them that it's a set price.

47/23 **Other items of interest:** There will not be a Chiltern Chase this year. The Clerk will chase up Huntercombe prison for a litter pick in the village. All EPC EN articles need to be sent to the editor soon. The Horticultural Society will purchase a bench for Burrows Hill and then EPC will adopt this.

The meeting closed at 2055

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting – 19th April 2023

Appendix

Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts March 2023

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
DD	Administration costs	1043.03
08.03.23.02	E-on	100.00
08.03.23.03	HMRC - 4th quarter	74.76
08.03.23.04	PATA payroll services	25.80
DD	OALC subscription	192.54
	Grundon	58.69
	PC debit card payments (below)	1,242.90
		2,679.03
Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
	Nil	
		0.00

March EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
09/02/2023	Smart Wheelie	195.00
10/02/2023	Ashridge Nurseries	997.91
06/03/2023	Ink cartridges	49.99
		1242.90