



## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Present:** Gemma Benoliel (GB) David Solomon (DS)  
Sally Stockings (SS) Barry Tindall (BT) Nigel Layton (NL)  
Roger Moore (RM) Andrea Powell (AP)  
Joanna Brock (Clerk) 2 members of public

- 64/23 **Election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman:** GB was elected as Chairman and DS as Vice-Chairman.
- 65/22 **Apologies for absence:** Freddie VanMierlo (FVM.) Sue Cooper (SC) as AP is representing SODC.
- 66/23 **Declarations of interest:** NL declared an interest in 70/23 as joint owner of Thatchings.
- 67/23 **Minutes of last meeting 19/04/2023:** These were agreed and signed.
- 68/23 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but spoke in other sections.
- 69/23 **County/District Councillor reports:** FVM sent a report before the meeting. SC and AP were both re-elected along with FVM. AP attended the meeting and said the Councillor Priority fund is open. GB suggested AP contact the preschool regarding this. AP said the grants team at SODC are holding an open day in June in Didcot. GB congratulated the Parish Councillors for being re-elected and also congratulated R. Lanigan (RL) for the large number of votes achieved, although not elected.
- 70/23 **Planning**  
**P23/S1218/S73:** The Stables, Ewelme, OX10 6HP. Variation of condition 2 of approved plans P21/S0598/FUL. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.  
**P23/S1619/HH P23/S1620/LB:** Thatchings, Ewelme, OX10 6HQ. This was received too late for EPC to comment on it at this meeting. This will be discussed at the June meeting.
- 71/23 **Accounts and Administration:**
- (a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.
  - (b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised. *See appendix.*  
RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.
  - (c) RESOLVED year end accounts 2022/23 were approved.
  - (d) Section 1 of the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 was approved and signed.
  - (e) Section 2 of the Accounting Statements 2022/23 was approved and signed.
  - (f) CIL report for 2022/23 has been submitted to SODC.
  - (g) All Councillors provided the Clerk their register of interests forms which will be sent to SODC.
  - (h) 2022/23 VAT reclaim has been submitted and received.
  - (i) The General Power of Competence was adopted.

(j) Grants were decided for 2023/24. EPC received 10 grant requests. The following was decided: Ewelme preschool - £800, Benson library - £250, Home Start - £200, Sue Ryder - £300, Royal British Legion poppy appeal - £100.

(k) The Clerk had an appraisal on 12/05/2023 and it was resolved to go with the recommendations of the appraisal which included the Clerk's pay increase.

**72/23 Allocation of Councillor responsibilities:**

Finance and Administration working group – all Councillors

Pavilion and Common and recreation area working group – BT & NL

Planning Committee - GB, DS, NL & BT

NHP monitoring group – GB, DS, NL & RM

Grundon, Severn Trent and Hazel & Jefferies working group – SS, RM, BT

RAF liaison working group – BT & NL

Watercress Centre working group – RM

VHM liaison working group – DS & GB

Transport representative – Clerk will ask D. Cooper to be the EPC representative.

Benson Millstream Centre representative – DS

**73/23 Number of Councillors for Ewelme Parish Council: RESOLVED** EPC will apply for an extra seat for EPC taking the total number of seats to 7.

**74/23 Traffic issues:** A speed indicator device (SID) was temporarily installed on The Street and it was suggested to have this installed long term with supporting pole and solar panel. DS has had several objections to this. It has been decided to further consult with residents. DS will write an article for the EN. This will be on the agenda for the June meeting and posters will advertise this meeting. DS responded to the Area Weights Restrictions Engagement by OCC. DS submitted a detailed note to accompany the map. The expansion to the 20mph zone in Ewelme will take place by the end of the year. DS will follow up with OCC on the Hazell & Jefferies' certificate of lawfulness.

**75/23 Wilding:** EPC is building a stronger relationship with Grundon. BT spoke to the Earth Trust regarding a quote for a biodiversity plan for the current Grundon site. BT said the verge along the brook outside the village hall where the wildflower seeds have been planted has been cut. GB suggested snake head fritillary plants could be planted on Cow Common. RL suggested BT contact the eco team at the RAF. GB thinks a tree might have died on the Common, BT will ask his team to have a look.

**76/23 Health & safety:** Covered in other sections.

**77/23 Village Maintenance including outdoor gym, pavilion, play area & the Common:** There is some broken guttering at the back of the pavilion, the Clerk will arrange to have this fixed. BT will do the next playground inspection. The Jubilee and Coronation benches were installed on the Common.

**78/23 Correspondence:** RM has been in communication with Thames Water (TW) since the APM and has raised further points to TW.

79/23 **Other items of interest:** RM attended a Grundon liaison meeting today. The Clerk will contact Huntercombe prison regarding community payback.

The Coronation event was moved to the village hall due to the weather. Mugs will be sent to France for the twin town Nolay.

EPC has received a notification from the RAF regarding night flying training for a few weeks. RM noted that the helicopters appear to be flying closer to the village. BT will investigate this.

It was agreed to leave the minutes out of the EN and instead direct the readers to the EPC website and noticeboards. The Clerk will contact the editor. GB, DS & the Clerk will arrange a meeting with the editor.

DS has been liaising with the Benson nature group regarding the stream. Benson Nature Group have expanded its area coverage to include Ewelme. There will be a nature exhibition in Benson parish hall in November. DS will write an article for the EN closer to the time.

The meeting closed at 2200

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## Appendix

### Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts May 2023

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
	Administration costs	1027.53
DD	E-on	182.12
DD	Grundon - public bins	70.40
17.05.23.05	OXIT - website domain name	12.00
17.05.23.06	Grundon - event	426.00
17.05.23.07	VH hire	160.00
17.05.23.08	GB mugs	91.39
	PC debit card payments (below)	436.86
		<b>2,406.30</b>

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
12/05/2023	Howard Chadwick	48.00
09/05/2023	Germanos - mugs - Coronation	30.00
09/05/2023	DS - mugs - Coronation	30.00
05/05/2023	Willett EN	48.00
05/05/2023	Grimebusters EN	48.00
03/05/2023	Greenaway	48.00
02/05/2023	HMRC VAT reclaim	3,966.14
02/05/2023	Benson Lions	180.00
28/04/2023	Busy Baskets	138.00
28/04/2023	Ewelme Preschool	84.00
		<b>4,620.14</b>

### March EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
26/04/2023	Refreshments	10.86
03/05/2023	Grundon - bins for event	426.00
		<b>436.86</b>

