



Minutes of Ewelme Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 9th August 2023

Present: Gemma Benoliel (GB/Chairman)
Roger Moore (RM) Barry Tindall (BT) Sally Stockings (SS)
Nigel Layton (NL) Sue Cooper (SC) Joanna Brock (Clerk)
4 members of the public

115/23 **Apologies for absence:** David Solomon (DS) is on holiday, Freddie VanMierlo (FVM) has a family event.

116/23 **Declarations of interest:** None.

117/23 **Minutes of last meeting 12/07/2023:** These were agreed and signed.

118/23 **Public session:** No one wished to speak at this time but speak in other sections.

119/23 **Planning**

P23/S2252/S73: Land off Benson Lane, Ewelme, OX10 6HB. Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) on application ref. P19/S4114/FUL - alteration to footprint and position of the proposed new building within the plot (Erection of an office building with access and associated works.) RESOLVED EPC has no objections however we wish for our previous comments on the application to be taken into consideration, that it is an office with some storage, not an office and a builder's yard. We would also ask that the neighbour's comments at Tinkers Moon are taken into consideration. We are concerned regarding the justification for this application, which we believe has changed. A factor we took into account in our 'no objection' to the original application in 2019 was a plea made by the applicant that the development was needed for the future of his business. This issue also played a part in the appeal decision after SODC refused planning. It appears that the applicant has placed the plot of land on the market at some time since the appeal was granted. We feel that this invalidates the 'local business need' justification for the development and would request that SODC takes this unsatisfactory situation into account.

P23/S2343/HH: Dormer Cottage, Ewelme, OX10 6HQ. Extensions and alterations. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.

MW.0131/21: Grundon, Ewelme, OX10 6PJ. Erection of a new building for the storage and processing of hazardous waste. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.

120/23 **Accounts and Administration:**

(a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.

(b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised. *See appendix.*

RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.

121/23 County & District Councillor reports: SC attended the meeting and said that SODC has received money from the government called the Local Authority Housing Fund to accommodate migrants. OCC has rejected a road building scheme in Didcot. SODC has adopted a new policy for spending on affordable housing. SC mentioned the Community Land Trust. A detailed planning application has been submitted for the new SODC offices opposite Didcot railway station. The Capita IT contract comes to an end in 2025. The Councillor grant scheme available to parish councils, is open until October. There is a new integrated care scheme for healthcare services in Oxfordshire. There is a Rural England Prosperity Fund which supports the government's levelling up programme. The consultation into the closure of ticket offices at railway stations has now finished. In July SODC passed a motion asking for something to be done about the closed footbridges over the river Thames. Move Together is a county wide initiative co-ordinated by Active Oxfordshire and district councils across Oxfordshire that provides personalised support for people with long term health conditions. The recent waste survey achieved over 2000 responses. Civil parking enforcement has been successful so far.

122/23 Traffic: Nothing to report.

123/23 Landslide: SC said the pipe has burst again down Benson Road. RM said that the pipe is on the list for replacement. RM has been in communication with Thames Water (TW) and said OCC has decided on the work to be done on the bank and has authorised TW to carry it out. An engineer from OCC has looked at all the affected drains in the village. These have all been drained and cleaned. There are several pipes that need reorganising and replacing and RM said TW have put these into their next year's budget.

124/23 Car park: SS has had a contractor look at increasing the size of the car park. The idea is to go into the cattle holding area. Some bushes would be taken out and the walkway removed to provide more space. SS hasn't received a quote for this yet.

125/23 Ewelme Historical Archive website: This is progressing well and is nearly ready for demonstration.

126/23 Wilding: Working to Regenerate Ewelme's Nature (WREN) have a second meeting with the Earth Trust and Grundon on 24th August with a 10 year regeneration plan. CPRE have earmarked money for EPC to plant hedges. BT has suggested more hedging by the car park and around the Common. It was agreed that A.Walker will apply to CPRE on EPC's behalf. Azalea will plant wildflowers in the triangle by the car park and move the sleepers further in for visibility.

127/23 Health & safety: The cricket net frame on the Common is dangerous and there is a hole in the matting. This belongs to the cricket club. The Clerk will write a letter and ask what the cricket club's plans are for the frame. The playground risk assessment will be done by BT and NL. The bins on the Common need a rota.

128/23 **Village Maintenance including outdoor gym, pavilion, play area & the Common:**
Nothing to report.

129/23 **Reports from meetings, training and other events:** No meetings or training since the last meeting.

130/23 **Correspondence:** Nothing of note.

131/23 **Other items of interest:** GB mentioned the Remembrance Day in November which will be held at the Warhorse sign. EPC will put on a historical exhibition in the village hall that day. GB will arrange a meeting with the organisers of this event.

The meeting closed at 2103

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting – 13th September 2023

Appendix

Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts August 2023

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
09.08.23.01	Administration costs	1074.30
DD	Grundon	48.30
09.08.23.02	NP Design & Print	496.00
09.08.23.03	VH hall hire	120.00
	PC debit card payments (below)	8.99
		1,747.59

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
	Nil	
		0.00

EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
03/08/2023	Memory stick - SanDisk - Amazon	8.99
		8.99