



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

Present: Gemma Benliel (GB/Chairman) David Solomon (DS)
Roger Moore (RM) Sally Stockings (SS) Barry Tindall (BT)
Andrea Powell (AP) Joanna Brock (Clerk)
2 members of the public

175/23 **Apologies for absence:** Freddie VanMierlo (FVM), Sue Cooper (SC) as AP is representing SODC and Nigel Layton (NL) who is attending a conference.

176/23 **Declarations of interest:** None.

177/23 **Minutes of last meeting 11/10/2023:** These were agreed and signed.

178/23 **Public session:** The public didn't speak at this time but spoke in other sections.

179/23 **County & District Councillor reports:** FVM sent a report before the meeting. SC & AP also circulated a report and AP attended the meeting. AP said there is a grant scheme for residents without gas boilers. SODC has been given money to improve swimming pools in the area. There have been national changes to proxy voting including I.D requirements and online applications. DS said the SODC interactive planning map isn't working, AP said it doesn't work on Chrome but does work on other web browsers.

180/23 **Planning**

P23/S1233/FUL: Amended ownership certificate and block plan to show solar arrays. Address: The Stables, Ewelme, OX10 6HP. RESOLVED EPC does not wish to comment.

P23/S3500/HH: Proposed ground floor rear extension, partial garage conversion and internal alterations. New front porch. Address: 4 Green Lane, Ewelme, OX10 6DA. RESOLVED EPC has no objections.

181/23 **Accounts and Administration:**

- (a) RESOLVED finance report accepted.
- (b) RESOLVED new income and expenditure authorised. *See appendix.*
RESOLVED all invoices to date authorised.
- (c) EPCs fixed term deposit will mature on 13/11/23. RESOLVED £25,000 will be invested into a one year 3.6% fixed term deposit with Lloyds Bank.
- (d) RESOLVED EPC will grant £200 to the Wild about Benson exhibition which will be held in March 2024.

182/23 **Bench:** A member of the public asked whether a bench could be erected on the Common in commemoration of her father. The Clerk and GB have spoken to the member of the public and provided types of benches and costs. This has not proceeded any further.

183/23 **Bus shelter:** This has been cleaned and tidied by the mowing team.

184/23 **Wilding:** WREN had a meeting with the Earth Trust and Grundon. BT said that Grundon were not keen on the idea of grazing cattle on their land. However, BT still feels this is progressing but the plan for the land needs to be altered.

A. Walker (AW) sent a report to EPC before the meeting and also attended. He said 20 trees need to be planted to complete the hedging round the car park at a cost of £50. EPC will fund this. This will be planted on 15th December. EPC will advertise for volunteers and will provide refreshments. AW and M. Powell attended a hedge laying course. AW needs some wood chip so will ask local tree surgeons, SS may also be able to provide this. The wood chip will be stored next to the car park. AW has asked whether they can lay another 20 metre hedge section in Cow Common and also plant some hedging in the wooded area at the end of the Common road. It was agreed that he could.

185/23 **Traffic:** The SIDs are working well in their new locations. In a few weeks they will be deployed on Green Lane. The SIDs will be swapped round to check their accuracy. OCC is conducting an unannounced site visit to a local operator. The certificate of lawfulness has still not been received by OCC. DS said OCC need more evidence of the number of HGVs using Green Lane. DS will organise volunteers to count this for a day again. DS will ask OCC whether HGVs can use the Benson relief road when completed.

186/23 **November Remembrance event:** This will be held on 11/11/23. SS will help GB and DS set up the hall. The keys will be collected on Friday evening.

GB suggested the Pound could be better utilised by parishioners by planting and clearing the area. This will be added to December's agenda.

187/23 **Landslide:** RM has exhausted all avenues with TW, the next step is to contact the Consumer Council. EPC will put an article in the EN advising affected residents to write to the Consumer Council.

188/23 **Car park:** This will be discussed before the next meeting and put on the December agenda.

189/23 **Ewelme Historical Archive website:** Many hours have been put into creating this and it is running well.

190/23 **Health & safety:** The defibrillator at the pavilion appeared to be malfunctioning. This has been checked. The Clerk will register the defibrillators in the village with the emergency services.

191/23 **Village Maintenance including outdoor gym, pavilion, play area & the Common:** The leaves outside the village hall are a problem for vehicles and pedestrians. This is the responsibility of OCC however, EPC will fund the clearing of the leaves up to 4 times a year to a total of £200.

BT will put the Common bins out for the next collection.

The BBQ left on the Common has been removed.

The annual Play Inspection report has been received. The Clerk and BT will meet at the play area to go through and remedy the areas noted in the report that need attention.

192/23 **Reports from meetings, training and other events:** None.

193/23 **Correspondence:** Nothing of note.

192/23 **Other items of interest:** There is a rural crime questionnaire which may be of interest to SS.

The meeting closed at 2145

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Date of next meeting – 13th December 2023

Appendix

Ewelme PC Payments & Receipts November 2023

Ref no:	Payments for authorisation:	
	Administration costs	1,211.11
DD	Grundon	37.12
06.11.23.02	Merchant Makers - website	255.00
06.11.23.03	Enzian Services Ltd	204.00
06.11.23.04	Play Inspection Company	99.00
06.11.23.05	Azalea Landscapes	2,265.00
06.11.23.06	Oxfordshire County Council	2,474.97
06.11.23.07	G Benoiel	23.75
06.11.23.08	Ewelme village hall	120.00
681/682	HM Land registry	4.00
	PC debit card payments (below)	4.99
		6,661.82

Date	Receipts since last meeting:	
	Nil	
		0.00

EPC debit card purchases

Date	Item	Cost
06/11/2023	Ordnance Survey map	4.99
06/11/2023	Calendar	10.99
		4.99