

**East Boldre Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting held at the village hall  
on Tuesday 14 March 2023**

Councillors present: Bev Hawker (Chair), Ian Moyse (Vice-chair), Mike Husband, Teresa Morrissey, Anna Rostand, Mike Urwin

Also present: County Cllr Keith Mans, PC Mark Roberts, Liz Welch (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: 2 members of the public

**1.0 To accept apologies for absence**

None.

**2.0 Declaration of interest in agenda items**

None.

**3.0 To confirm minutes of the previous parish council meeting**

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 14 February 2023. Matters arising have been actioned or are in hand.

**4.0 Report from Hampshire County Councillor**

The County Council budget for 2023-24 has been finalised. Cllr Mans has a devolved budget available for projects in connection with the forthcoming King's Coronation – details available on the HCC website.

4.1 To receive questions on the report from County Councillor:

Cllr Husband commented on the glossy publication 'Get involved: Get informed'; Cllr Hawker noted that the volume of information could be off putting. Cllr Mans was not familiar with the financing and remarked on the helpful Parish boundary map. In response to Cllr Rostand, Cllr Mans confirmed that any bona fide organisation can apply for funding to mark the Coronation.

**5.0 Report from New Forest District Councillor**

None.

**6.0 To receive the Clerk's report**

- Civility & Respect pledge now awarded to EBPC and displayed on website.
- Most of time spent on allotment work, handling concerns raised by individual holders. Invoices and agreements still need to be prepared for period 2023-24.
- Attended a briefing in Lyndhurst organised by NFD's Climate Change Officer together with Cllr Urwin.
- HALC webinar and Clerks' network meet attended, both focussing on end of year accounts.
- Local elections – Cllr applications due to be submitted by hand between 20 March and 4 April at the very latest.
- The policy on anti social behaviour has been updated and circulated to Cllrs for comment.

RESOLVED:

Cllrs approved the revised policy on anti-social behaviour.

ACTION:

1. Clerk to ensure Cllrs have link to complete election forms.

**7.0 Public session**

- A representative from the Community Shop Committee was delighted to report that their target to raise £225,000 had been met, thanks to a multi-layered team effort. 284 members of the community are investors. The hope is that the Chapel will be purchased in time for the King's Coronation volunteer day

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on 8 May, to clean the building and host a BBQ afterwards. Remarking on the value of common ownership, Cllr Hawker congratulated Rebecca Gabzdyl and the Committee for their achievement. A round of applause followed.

- A representative from the Village Hall Trust explained that £300,000 is needed for the village hall rebuild. The deadline for Platinum Jubilee grant applications – a major source – is fast approaching and match funding is needed. The Trust is exploring crowd funding. A meeting is planned with a heritage advisor. A project to explore the 100 year history of the Hall and its impact on the local community is being considered and Cllr Morrissey recommended a member of public with particularly good insight. The Village Hall Trust are also exploring a volunteer event as part of the Coronation celebration weekend. Cllr Hawker emphasised that the Parish Council is very supportive of the village hall and will continue to be so.
- PC Mark Roberts was welcomed. PC Roberts offered an overview of his previous experience, having been a member of the emergency response team for the New Forest as well as Southampton for 18 years. Covering a large area, and assisting the Hythe water team as needed, PC Roberts is supported by 4 PCSOs and neighbouring teams as needed. Incidents over the past year have related to anti-social behaviour, violence, blackmail, criminal damage, a cycle death, road offences, missing persons and equine related. PC Roberts works with the countryside team; Cllr Hawker expressed concern about illegal hare coursing. In response to a question from Cllr Moyse, PC Roberts advised that a separate team specialises in online hate crime and that he would only be involved where it concerns someone in this patch. Councillors thanked PC Roberts for taking the time to familiarise himself with the village and for his informative insight this evening.

## **8.0 Finance**

### **8.1 To review monthly accounts and to note bank reconciliation (circulated)**

Cllrs reviewed monthly accounts and noted bank reconciliation for February. Cllr Hawker advised that a meeting was planned with the Clerk to finalise the forecast based on final expenditure. Cllr Husband requested a breakdown of allotment income and expenditure for 2022-23.

### **8.2 To review the asset register (circulated)**

The Clerk presented the updated asset register for Cllrs to consider.

RESOLVED:

1. Cllrs approved monthly accounts subject to forecast review.
2. Cllrs approved the updated asset register.

ACTION:

Clerk and Cllr Hawker to meet on 22 March to finalise forecast based on year end expenditure.

## **9 To review the Risk Management Policy**

The Clerk presented an updated risk management table, and recommended that the separate policy based on 2010 information should be withdrawn and replaced by an introductory note to the table.

RESOLVED:

Cllrs approved the revised risk management policy.

ACTION:

Clerk to update risk management and anti social behaviour policies (item 4) on the website.

## **10 King's Coronation celebrations**

Both the Village Hall Trust and the Community Shop Committee would like to organise volunteer activities as part of the Coronation celebrations. Cllrs considered whether the Parish Council should have a role in co-ordinating events; it was felt that the Village Hall, School Fields Trust and Community Shop representatives should be in direct contact. Cllr Morrissey suggested that local businesses might offer volunteer capacity in

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exchange for advertising opportunities; the Village Hall Trustee advised that an e-noticeboard is available to facilitate that. Cllr Husband welcomed the opportunity for a more joined up approach across the community, for example with a joint School Fields Trust and village hall booking system. Cllr Hawker recommended that representatives from community associations meet up to explore this further.

### **11.0 Greening strategy for East Boldre**

Cllr Urwin presented a paper on opportunities and challenges for kickstarting a greening approach. The Greening Campaign (supported by HCC) offered a package to engage the community, but Cllr Urwin felt that a more tailor-made approach would better engage villagers.

The aims should focus around: Nature and working to improve the environment; Community engagement to a) share workload, b) applaud those involved, and c) to further improve the already significant sense of community; To reduce East Boldre's carbon footprint; Health and wellbeing; To save individual residents money.

Based on advice from community groups in neighbouring Brockenhurst, Cllr Urwin recommended that the strategy should not be led by the Parish Council, but that the Council should be supportive. With time and capacity limitations a targeted approach with only a few pilots could be trialled with a view to informing and engaging people. Specific projects might focus on a 'Can I Borrow' WhatsApp group or sewing/mending sessions at the village hall. Once again, there are opportunities for the village hall and community shop to connect.

Cllr Rostand pointed out that the Countryside Education Trust in Beaulieu recently launched its Climate Centre and could provide an excellent opportunity. Cllr Morrissey added that Beaulieu primary school are encouraging greening awareness.

Thanking Cllr Urwin for his informative brief, Cllr Hawker suggested that the 2024 APM might focus on greening, bringing together groups and any findings of working groups. Cllr Urwin felt that a meeting to engage community members well in advance of that is necessary. Picking up on the value of connecting, Cllr Hawker suggested that the East Boldre Allotment Association might wish to liaise with the Beaulieu Horticultural Society in advance of their autumn 'Taste of East Boldre' event.

#### **ACTION:**

Cllrs to consider how best to take forward following the May Local Council Elections.

### **12.0 Broadband update**

Cllr Husband reported that there have been difficulties with establishing Openreach's plan for the Community Fibre Scheme. This has been taken to Chief Executive level and shortly we anticipate a plan for the completion. Having checked with Hampshire County Council, Cllr Husband has been advised that the outstanding plan for Masseys Lane and circa six properties in Main Road should be announced by the end of March.

### **13.0 To receive reports from external meetings**

- Cllr Urwin reported that an introductory meeting with PC Roberts went well and was helpful. It was agreed that regular beat surgeries should be held. The first surgery was poorly attended, most likely due to timing.
- Cllr Hawker attended two meetings. The HALC AGM was disappointingly organised but Cllr Hawker voted in favour of HALC's recommendations. Cllr Hawker circulated a report of the Quadrant meeting, a focus was on the detrimental impact of dog mess on the ecology of Forest and public awareness of the issue. The introduction of Public spaces Orders should be in place by June. These will focus on lighting of fires and BBQ's and Petting and feeding of livestock.
- Cllr Moyse attended the New Forest Consultative Panel. Of particular note was plans for the Freeport at Waterside. The plans include 'Tax Sites' and could create 9000 jobs. The A326 would need to be upgraded to cope with heavier traffic. A key concern is the impact the Freeport will have on the New

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Forest National Park, and the risk that East Boldre might be used as a traffic rat run. The Consultation is underway.

**14.0 Agenda items for next meeting**

Broadband

**17.0 Date of next meeting**

The next parish council meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 11 April at East Boldre village hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

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## Appendix 1

East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule - Feb 2023					
Date	Payee	Detail	Folio	trans	Amount
<b>Payments</b>					
01/02/2023	EB Village Hall	Hall hire 2022-23	99	bacs	£300.00
01/02/2023	School Fields Trust	Grant approved by CI Nov 22	100	bacs	£1.00
06/02/2023	School Fields Trust	Grant approved by CI Nov 22	101	bacs	£749.00
21/02/2023	HSBC	Bank charges to 30 Jan	102	bacs	£5.00
22/02/2023	Gocardless	Rejuvenate IT services	103	bacs	£11.28
23/02/2023	Royal Mail	PO Box	104	bacs	£38.10
27/02/2023	E Welch	Salary	105	bacs	£704.15
27/02/2023	South Central Ambu	CPR training	106	bacs	£50.00
<b>Total payments</b>					<b>£1,858.53</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
12/02/2023	HSBC	bank interest	71	bacs	£16.13
<b>Total receipts</b>					<b>£16.13</b>
<b>Money transferred</b>			70&72		<b>£2,000.00</b>
<b>Bank reconciliation</b>					
<b>Balance as at date</b>					
HSBC Current					<b>£674.22</b>
HSBC Savings					<b>£16,797.48</b>
Less unpresented cheques					
<b>Net bank balance as at date</b>					<b>£17,471.70</b>
<b>The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows</b>					
Opening balances					<b>£18,455.79</b>
Add receipts					£19,150.37
less payments					- £20,134.46
<b>Closing balance as per the balance sheet</b>					<b>£17,471.70</b>

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## Appendix 2

## Monthly report Feb 2023

	2021/22 Actual £	22/23			23/24
		Budget	YTD	Forecast	Budget
		£	£	£	£
<b>Council business</b>					
Income	16,001.66	16,002.00	16,061.76	16,012.00	16012.00
Expenditure	13,581.84	15,955.00	11,865.77	14,967.00	-16325.00
Expenditure as % of precept		99.72	74.16	1,045.00	
Surplus (deficit)	2,419.82	47.00	4,195.99		-313.00
<b>Projects</b>					
Income	4,797.58	-	-		
Expenditure	3,262.00	2,300.00	4,104.49	3,900.00	-1000.00
Surplus (deficit)	1,535.58	2,300.00	4,104.49	- 3,900.00	-1000.00
<b>Allotments</b>					
Income	1,423.00	1,585.00	1,530.00	1,520.00	1748.00
Expenditure	1,563.11	1,560.00	1,052.92	2,893.00	-1695.00
Surplus (deficit)	140.11	25.00	477.08	- 1,373.00	53.00
<b>VAT recovered</b>	228.70		1,308.61		
<b>VAT paid</b>	725.36		928.28		
<b>net</b>	496.66	-	380.33		0.00
<b>Total surplus (deficit)</b>	3,318.63	2,228.00	948.91	4,228.00	-1260.00
<b>Reserve brought forward</b>	10,695.52	14,014.15	14,014.15	14,014.00	9786.00
<b>Reserve carried forward</b>	14,014.15	11,786.15	14,963.06	9,786.00	8526.00
<b>Cash at bank</b>	18,455.55		17,471.70		
<b>Adjustments</b>					
<b>Cash book balance</b>	18,455.55		17,471.70		

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<b>Reserves</b>	14,014.15		14,963.06	9,786.00	8526.00
<b>Commitment</b>	4,442.00		2,509.00	2,509.00	2509.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,456.15</b>		<b>17,472.06</b>	<b>12,950.00</b>	<b>11035.00</b>
<b>Council business Income</b>					
precept	16000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16000.00
bank interest	1.66	2.00	61.76	12.00	12.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,001.66</b>	<b>16,002.00</b>	<b>16,061.76</b>	<b>16,012.00</b>	<b>16012.00</b>
<b>Council business expenditure</b>					
salary	8,397.87	9,000.00	7,429.50	8,680.00	9000.00
stationery/post/phone	742.26	550.00	557.80	550.00	600.00
travel	157.15	400.00	183.60	300.00	400.00
office	433.29	400.00	199.98	400.00	400.00
equipment	73.61	600.00	-	200.00	600.00
training	491.00	500.00	146.42	200.00	300.00
newsletter	149.95	450.00	556.00	556.00	450.00
hall hire	250.00	250.00	300.00	250.00	250.00
audit	440.00	440.00	190.00	200.00	200.00
insurance	450.27	440.00	481.65	482.00	500.00
defibrillators	396.00	400.00	396.00	396.00	400.00
Speedwatch		-	28.00	28.00	
football pitch	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00
subscriptions	1,136.24	1,300.00	1,171.82	1,500.00	1500.00
election expenses					500.00
maintenance	239.20	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,581.84</b>	<b>15,955.00</b>	<b>11,865.77</b>	<b>14,967.00</b>	<b>16325.00</b>
<b>Projects income</b>					
grants	4,247.58		-		
donations	550.00		-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,797.58</b>		<b>-</b>		

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<b>Projects expenditure</b>					
EBOH salary		-	-		
EBOH other	90.00	-	90.00		
grants	2,602.00	-	4,014.49	3,900.00	1000.00
defibrillators		250.00	-		
seats		50.00			
bus shelters etc		1,000.00			
notice boards	570.00	1,000.00	-		
public transport		-	-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,262.00</b>	<b>2,300.00</b>	<b>4,104.49</b>	<b>3,900.00</b>	<b>1000.00</b>
<b>Allotments income</b>	1,423.00	1,580.00	1,530.00	1,520.00	1748.00
<b>Allotments expenditure</b>					
rent refund	12.50	-			
Rent,insurance	428.64	550.00	670.32	568.00	570.00
water	221.97	250.00	282.60	125.00	125.00
hedging	500.00	360.00	-	800.00	600.00
fencing	400.00	200.00	-	200.00	200.00
maintenance		200.00	100.00	1,200.00	200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,563.11</b>	<b>1,560.00</b>	<b>1,052.92</b>	<b>2,893.00</b>	<b>1695.00</b>

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