

**EAST BOLDRE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in East Boldre Village Hall on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 7pm

**Present:**

Chair - Cllr B Hawker  
 Vice Chair - Cllr I Moyes  
 Cllr K Holmes  
 Cllr M Husband  
 Cllr R Gabzdyl

In attendance: Cllr K Mans, County Councillor; Cllr M Harris, District Councillor; one member of the public; Liz Welch, Parish Clerk.

**1.0. To accept apologies for absence**

None

**2.0. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda**

None

**3.0. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Resolved:** The council meeting minutes were agreed and they were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

**3.1. Matters arising from the minutes**

- i. Broadband update: Cllr Husband is in regular contact with Mr Harris of Openreach and the planning application discussed at the last Council meeting is progressing. V6001 (Sweyns Lease) is nearing completion. Action – Clerk to include Broadband as a monthly agenda item.
- ii. Cllr Hawker followed up on the '20 is Plenty' campaign with Grace Brennan, who volunteered to circulate information regarding the speedwatch campaign on her village face book page.

**4.0. Clerk's report (Circulated) FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

- i. **Resignation** email received from Cllr Clark on 21/1/22 due to family commitments. She wished her colleagues well, adding that East Boldre has a Parish Council to be proud of. On the 8/2/22 a resignation email was received from Cllr Drodge. Both vacancies are on the Parish noticeboards with immediate effect.
- ii. **Speedwatch update:** Cllr Gabzdyl has offered to lead the project and is encouraged by the news that six new volunteers have come forward. Further meetings are planned and Cllr Gabzdyl is in contact with Hampshire Constabulary and NFDC re signage. Three approved sites for operation.
- iii. **Parish Assembly** agenda approved.
- iv. **East Boldre Community Stores Ltd:** The Clerk received an email from the EBCS Chair which was read to Councillors (appendix 1). Councillors were thanked for their encouragement and financial support; funds (£2,495) will be returned to EBPC. Cllr Gabzdyl added her gratitude to fellow Councillors, and has been heartened by the wonderful community. Cllr Hawker was encouraged that the shop is there for the foreseeable future.
- v. **Newsletter:** The Clerk summarised options for size/cost/timing, and an outline of content. Councillors' preference was for 2 x 4pp newsletters a year. Clerk will contact Councillors directly for contributor contacts. Cllr Holmes offered to design and layout the newsletter content, requesting that the Clerk ensures that text is proofed and consistent. The offer was gratefully received. The Clerk to edit content as needed.
- vi. **Greening Campaign:** A summary of Phase 1 was given. The intention is to create an opportunity for members of the community to come together to discuss climate change and what actions could be taken at local level of benefit to both individuals and the environment. Councillors agreed to

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facilitate an event to encourage community involvement. Cllr Gabzdyl noted that ideally it should coincide with Green Week.

- vii. **Cycling events:** UK Cycling Events Ltd notified the Clerk that an event would take place along the length of East Boldre on 9-10 April. Cllr Husband added that two further events are also planned with between 500-1000 cyclists. Cllr Mans advised the Clerk to write to NPA Chief Executive to ask if she is aware of these events and what steps have been taken to ensure that routes are appropriate and safe. Councillor Harris also noted the unfortunate timing of the April event, which coincides with campsites opening and Easter holidays. Cllr Gabzdyl asked about marshalling near the shop and School Fields. Action: Clerk to seek clarification from NPA CEO and event organisers and add details to the EBPC website.
- viii. **Allotment update:** Cllr Holmes raised concerns with the Clerk on six occasions about the welfare of chickens on one plot. The Clerk has been in touch with the owner and is working with them to resolve the issues raised by Cllr Holmes. The Clerk visited the site on three occasions in the past month and found the chickens to be well. The Clerk had discussed with Cllr Drodge an idea to prepare a code/good practice recommendations in consultation with allotment holders. A FOI request relating to the allotments was received on 1/2/22. Cllr Hawker was concerned there may be safeguarding issues and emphasised the importance of working together. EBPC spent c.£10,000 on allotments over the past few years and a disproportionate amount of the Clerk's time is given to allotment issues. There may be other rules that are not generally adhered to. Cllr Hawker proposed to commission an independent report of the allotments with recommendations on the suitability of the rules in place. Agreed by all Councillors, with a request from Cllr Holmes to the terms of reference be agreed beforehand. Cllr Hawker emphasised the importance of the community working together on this amenity asset. Clerk to action. Lengthsman trimmed back allotment hedges this week.

#### **5.0 To receive a report by County Councillor for East Boldre. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Cllr Mans gave an update on the County's precept for 2022/23. Plans for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations are progressing well, with a visit planned from HRH Prince Charles to mark the beginning of Hampshire's celebrations. Cllr Mans previously committed £1,000 towards the Community Shop initiative which will be returned from EBCS; he invited Councillors to submit suggestions for alternative initiatives as soon as possible. Thanking Councillor Mans for his support, Cllr Gabzdyl agreed to co-ordinate a submission.

#### **5.1 To receive questions on the report by the County Councillor**

N/A

#### **6.0 To receive a report by the District Councillor for East Boldre. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

Cllr Harris offered an overview of cash reserves in the wake of the Omicron virus. County and District officers are working together Rural Authority plans; while challenging, the initiative should increase efficiency. He has been working with Southampton & Waterside on emergency planning. Complimenting Cllr Gabzdyl and EBCS colleagues, Cllr Harris was pleased at the news that the shop will continue. Cllr Harris is involved with the continuing consultation on waste disposal services. Action – Clerk to relay gratitude to EBCS.

#### **6.1 To receive questions on the report by the District Councillor**

N/A

#### **7.0 Public session**

Mr Stuart Newey invited Councillors to consider a Green Canopy initiative as part of the community's Jubilee celebrations. See item 11.0.

#### **8.0 Finance**

##### **8.1 To receive payments in accordance with the budget and to note bank reconciliation (circulated).**

**Resolved:** Payments to 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022 were received as shown on the table below:

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<b>East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule</b>					
<i>Date</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Folio</i>	<i>trans</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<b>Payments</b>					
21/01/2022	HSBC	Total charges to 30/12/2021	83	CHG	£5.80
25/01/2022	SLCC	Clerk annual membership	84	bacs	£144.00
31/01/2022	Plusnet	Parish CI Phone	85	d/d	£7.80
02/02/2022	E Welch	Clerk salary	86	bacs	£645.99
02/02/2022	E Welch	Clerk expenses	87	bacs	£49.53
05/02/2022	microsoft	office 365	88	d/d	£5.99
<b>Total payments</b>					<b>£859.11</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
12/12/2021	HSBC	bank interest	59		£0.16
<b>Total receipts</b>					<b>£0.16</b>
<b>Money transferred</b>			58		<b>£1,000.00</b>
<b>Bank reconciliation</b>					
<b>Balance as at date</b>					
HSBC Current					<b>£1,015.30</b>
HSBC Savings					<b>£16,803.75</b>
Less unrepresented cheques					
Royal Mail					
PO Box					<b>-£36.60</b>
<b>Net bank balance as at date</b>					<b><u>£17,782.45</u></b>
<b>The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows</b>					
Opening balances					<b>£15,695.92</b>
Add receipts					<b>£18,203.21</b>
less payments					<b>-£16,116.68</b>
<b>Closing balance as per the balance sheet</b>					<b><u>£17,782.45</u></b>

## 8.2 To review the first draft budget (circulated)

Cllr Moyle sought clarification of the £1,000 equipment allocation in the first draft budget. Cllr Hawker replied that included a replacement laptop for the Clerk.

## 9.0 To consider planning applications

### 9.1 Tree works application: CONS/22/0045

**Resolved:** No concerns raised.

### 9.2 Planning applications

**Resolved:**

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22/00054	GENGHIS HOUSE, ST LEONARDS ROAD, EAST END, LYMINGTON, SO41 5SR	Alterations, including additional windows, and extension of outbuilding to facilitate incidental use	<b>28/01/22</b>	We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers. NB Not to be used for residential dwelling.
22/00036	WRENS NEST, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7WD	Roof alterations to facilitate additional first floor habitable accommodation; open porch	<b>2/2/22</b>	We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed below, but would accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.  The asymmetry of the extension detracts from the rest of the building and dominates the side elevations (north and south) therefore with regard to DP2 and DP18 – the extension is not sympathetic to the design of the building and appears contextually inappropriate.

### **10.0 To receive an update on Village Hall refurbishment**

Cllr Husband gave an update on progress. Two routes are being considered for the rebuild. Firstly an architect led process the other a design and build contract. One price had been received to date. He envisages that the rebuild will be completed in 2023. Cllr Gabzdyl suggested the rebuild may be eligible for lottery funding.

### **11.0 Plans for Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

The School Fields Trust is planning an event to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 5 June from 1-5pm. Fairweathers will donate a tree for planting. Cllr Husband outlined a new exhibition at the Village Hall, RAF Beaulieu and Forest, from 2-5 June spanning the 70 years of her reign. He anticipates that the exhibition will draw visitors from outside the Parish. Councillors welcomed suggestions from Mr Newey for a Green Canopy initiative as part of the Jubilee celebrations. This might involve tree planting or 'adopting' an existing tree. Cllr Hawker invited Mr Newey to take the lead on this initiative and report back at the next meeting, this was supported by other Councillors. Action – Clerk to forward email from Verderers on tree planting to Mr Newey.

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

Cllr Hawker reported on the SE Quadrant meeting (circulated). Of particular note, the local list of Heritage Assets consists of buildings with an architectural or historic interest which contribute to the character and appearance of the National Park. EBPC has a number of buildings listed; Councillors were invited to advise the Clerk if any more should also be included. The Planning Committee have updated the planning leaflet. It now explains how they work out floor space and includes information on flexibility to adapt conservatories.

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Cllr Hawker also met with the Clerk to discuss training needs.

Cllr Husband offered a summary of the NFALC meeting. Attendees received a report from latest crime figures and plans to reduce them. The 20mph motions were discussed at length and it was decided that the NFALC is against a blanket 20mph speed limit in favour of an arrangement that allows local councils to identify 'at risk' areas for 20mph limits.

**12.0 Agenda items for next meeting**

Broadband and Platinum Jubilee, noting that the Annual Parish Assembly will take place at 8pm.

**13.0 To confirm the next Parish Council meeting as 7.00pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 – East Boldre Village Hall subject to Covid-19 guidance**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.

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**Appendix 1:**

Dear Liz,

Mr. Evans has arrived at his decision following an extensive period during which he has been able to consider several options. This has sometimes been frustrating for the management committee of East Boldre Community Stores Limited (EBCS) but we recognize the importance of getting this decision right for him and his family.

EBCS was formed with the purpose of acquiring and running the village stores. That purpose is now redundant and so we are winding down our operation. We are proud of what we have achieved;

- The post office and stores are listed as an asset of community value
- The planning conditions associated with Barton Villas are very clear
- The community has demonstrated a willingness to participate in, and financially support a major project
- The shop supporters represented the widest cross section of the local population and demonstrated real respect for each other's views
- The community has the benefit of 'best in class' fund raising skills and project management.

We have exercised very strict controls over our expenditure and we have benefitted from the provision of services on a pro bono basis. As a result we are pleased to say that we will return the funds (£2495) so generously granted to us by the parish council.

Thank you once more for your encouragement and financial support at a critical period.

Kind regards

Anna Rostand

Chair EBCS