

**East Boldre Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall
on Tuesday 11 March 2025**

Councillors present:

Beverley Hawker (Chair), Mike Husband, Mike Urwin, Anna Rostand, Ian Moyse

In attendance:

2 members of public, County Cllr Mans, Katie Walding (Locum Parish Clerk)

1.0 To accept apologies for absence

Cllrs Cranton and Morrissey had offered apologies for being unable to attend.

2.0 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

MH – 9.4 Glenstone House and IM – 9.1 Markham.

3.0 To confirm minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2025.

3.1 Matters arising

BH asked members to review the Local Plan consultation which requires a response prior to 18th March.

MU noted considerable communications regarding the cycling events. The Charter encourages that events are not run as races, and that results must not be presented in time order to further the 'ride not race' message. Organisers have agreed to change their results publication style for this year. It has been noted that the Charter is currently not really fit for purpose. The charter is published on the NFNPA website. However, organisers can work around this by setting their race HQ technically off the forest. The Safety Advisory Group get to comment but don't seem very engaged.

The event cannot be stopped from happening, but it has been agreed instead to observe, review and consider any changes needed based on feedback after the event. Overall this is positive progress. BH offered thanks for all the work and effort put in by MU and Cllr Poole.

The response to the standards in public life consultation had been submitted.

4.0 To receive Locum Clerk's report

KW has handed the 'desk' back to LW the previous week. All matters directed through the office are therefore back with LW, and KW will continue clerking meetings and drafting minutes until LW is able to return to them herself.

The Handy Trust will attend the April meeting to outline their ideas for detached youth work in the parish and neighbouring parishes.

NFALC have confirmed that they are cancelling the meeting on 19th March and the next meeting will therefore be 15th May from 6pm at Appletree Court. He will forward an agenda before that. Also

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noted that their LGR event at Lyndhurst Community Centre will be 5-8.30pm on Monday 28th April and a parish/town council training session would take place at Ringwood on 18th April.

ACTION: Seek clarification on SE Quadrant meeting dates as two have been missed.

5.0 To receive a report by the County Councillor for East Boldre

Cllr Keith Mans attended and noted that Wednesday 12th March would see a new consultation opening, on Hampshire County Council future services. A chance for the public to consult on money saving proposals to balance next year's budget; focused on planned highways maintenance, adult day services, 16+ transport.

Regarding the likely amendments to planning legislation – a white paper was published today setting out the framework for potential new legislation; the part most relevant to this parish (noting that EBPC sits within the NFNPA as its Local Planning Authority (LPA)) they will give more authority to planners rather than councillors, to make some decisions. KM feels that this is positive in some respects, as it will hopefully be not on outline applications but rather the more technical details which can hold up decisions as they are cumbersome and currently have to keep going back to the LPA committee.

The Govt is trying to speed up the process – and it will be interesting to see how that works. This will give LPAs more discretion on pricing for applications which would be particularly helpful for NFNPA, who cannot tax to cover costs in the way a principal council can and rely only on the Govt grant and current fee structure.

KM has grave doubts that the new housing targets can be achieved however – whilst moving the planning process along, it is the rate of building and selling that really affects the delivery numbers. For example, a massive development near Kingsworthy is many years behind and still not finished. Hampshire has approaching 50,000 applications awarded for housing but where no building had started yet. Much more complicated to make it happen than simply speeding up the application process.

The proposed changes for permitted development rights and lightening planning requirements will be less impactful directly in this parish as the National Park Authorities are excluded from the proposals.

5.1 To receive questions on the report by the County Councillor

AR noted her concern at the risk of NFDC being merged with Southampton, given NFDC manage their finances very well and it would be wrong to see money 'for' the New Forest going to the city who are in huge debt. KM agreed and suggested that monies would perhaps be ringfenced for their original locations. It was important that town and parish councils consider how they can get more involved to make sure their services are maintained.

BH asked whether there is a potential for parishes to get merged? KM feels this would be much further down the line if at all. The focus would be hopefully to parish the currently non-parished areas and there would be some opportunities for larger parish and town councils to consider asset transfers.

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BH noted that there will be a series of consultations, and it is really important to encourage residents to get involved and give their feedback as well throughout the whole process.

MH asked about the alleged car park discussions happening – KM feels that charging for parking would be a good idea, if locals were given a pass. The car park at the village hall is licensed by Forestry England for use by the village hall and that could be a worry if suddenly a lot of cars are here, or people are then verge parking.

BH thanked KM for taking the time to come.

6.0 To receive a report by the District Councillor for East Boldre

Cllr Dan Poole was unable to attend.

6.1 To receive questions on the report by the District Councillor

None

7.0 Public session

A resident attended to ask when would the bus shelter seat be replaced? It has been a very long time missing. BH noted that the work is still proposed but has been delayed and that a lean bar was still planned.

A discussion was also held with the resident about needs of younger residents in the village and extended them an invitation to come along to the April meeting, when Handy Trust are attending. KM noted that East Boldre Educational Trust have funds that might be available to apply for to support this type of youth service.

The 'no overnight parking' sign by the bus stop has been knocked over by stock. A resident has reported to Forestry England but received no response.

ACTION: To report the failed sign to Hampshire Highways and cc: Cllr Mans

MH noted that Forestry England are being very slow to respond on the progress of the village hall development as well.

8.0 Finance

8.1 Members had received the monthly report and bank reconciliation for February (attached)

The forecast has been updated and shows no concerns. There will likely be a higher surplus expected at the year end, due to no newsletter or the reprinted leaflets, and lower expenditure on maintenance due to being unable to deliver the work, which was still planned.

8.2 To receive the payment schedule for February (attached)

8.3 Internal audit update

Eleanor Green has confirmed the internal audit will be completed on 15th May.

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RESOLVED:

1. Monthly accounts for February were reviewed and approved
2. The payment schedule for February was approved

9.0 To review applications:

- 9.1 25/00124FULL: Markham, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, SO42 7WD
Recommend approval (Decision 1). No other concerns.
- 9.2 25/00171CONS: Forest Ponies Cottage, HATCHET LANE, BEAULIEU, SO42 7WA.
Response submitted. No objections.
- 9.3 25/00197CONS: Oak Meadow, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, SO42 7WU
No concerns.
- 9.4 25/00246CONS: Glenstone House, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, SO42 7WT
No concerns.
- 9.5 25/00109VAR: Wormstall House, ROWES LANE, EAST END, SO41 5SU
Recommend refusal (Decision 2) for the following reasons:
 - there are no valid grounds to increase the size of the permitted building
 - the undeclared change from gym to garden room is in direct conflict with condition 3 of the permission granted in application 21/00701
 - shielding against neighbour building is not a valid reason to permit
 Members are very concerned that this is stealthily being turned into a second habitable dwelling. If agreed, the condition should remain to exclude from habitable accommodation.

10.0 Request to place a sign on the back of the telephone box opposite Hatchet Pond

AR proposed a sign be placed at this location to promote the shop, directing people onto the Lymington Road towards it. The telephone box is currently a listening post but does not contain a defib. Some discussion about how it would be fixed and that it would need to be a stylish design.

ACTION: AR would organise a design and bring forward to the next meeting

11.0 To receive reports from external meetings

- 1.1 Decarbonisation initiative from Beaulieu PC
A meeting is taking place on 4th April at 2pm – MU and MH will attend.
- 1.2 Scarecrow Trail – parish council involvement
A good meeting took place; the event will run for a week. People can pay £5 to enter (at the shop) and put up scarecrows on the prior weekend, 21st/22nd June; with the main event on the weekend of 28th/29th June. Residents can then pay a small amount and follow a trail to see the scarecrows and complete quiz questions on the way round. One person from each organisation will be nominated judge and have a score sheet and on the Sunday afternoon winners will be announced at an event, and some prizes given. Raising money for HoneyPot primarily, any money raised on the Sunday event, eg refreshments, will go towards the replacement of the building roof at School Fields. Lots of interest so far and a fun event for the village. People who can't place scarecrows outside their house due to open forest or stock risk, can bring them to display in the school fields instead. Looking for sponsorship of, and ads to go in, a

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booklet. The council could consider sponsoring if a price can be confirmed at the next meeting. Will be a really good event for the village.

ACTION: The Parish Council will make a scarecrow to enter the competition

12.0 Agenda items for next meeting

Scarecrow competition / decarbonisation meeting / Handy Trust

Other items noted:

BH - Allotment inspection proposed for 6th April

BH - Sad to report some thefts from the allotments, police report was made.

BH - attended part of the NFDC Waste Strategy briefing. Hampshire won't be able to recycle as much as other authorities because of the limitations of the processing plants.

BH - Beaulieu PC are hosting a HALC knowledge and skills course, with spaces if any cllrs wish to attend. LC and TM may like to attend as newer cllrs?

BH - Brockenhurst SpeedWatch – have a new piece of equipment which cost £4300 (but only requires two people to use) and records everything itself - no paper needed. Invited to have a look at it and consider for the future.

IM – attend the consultative panel; focused on paying car parks which is very likely to happen, hopefully with some concessions for locals and/or 'membership' pass system.

Unclear how it would be monitored and enforced and concerns on the impact to surrounding verge parking and roadside/gateway blocking.

13.0 To confirm next Parish Council meeting as 7.00pm on 8 April 2025 in East Boldre Village Hall

AR offered apologies.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8:21 pm.

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East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule - March 2025

<i>Date</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Folio</i>	<i>trans</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Payments					
04-Feb-25	Ambulance Trust	Ambulance Trust	80	BP	£65.00
04-Feb-25	K Walding	Locum support	81	BP	£266.00
06-Feb-25	E Welch	Salary January	82	BP	£413.58
21-Feb-25	EE LIMITED	Parish Clerk phone	83	DD	£6.47
21-Feb-25	HSBC	TOTAL CHARGES TO 30JAN	84	DR	£5.00
24-Feb-25	GOCARDLESS	Office 365	85	DD	£24.72
24-Feb-25	ROYAL MAIL FINANCE	PO Box	86	DD	£42.60
Total payments					£823.37
Receipts					
12-Jan-25	HSBC	Interest	71	INT	£29.38
Total receipts					£29.38
Money transferred					
04-Feb-25	HSBC	Internet transfer	69	TFR	£300.00
06-Feb-25	HSBC	Internet transfer	70	TFR	£400.00
Bank reconciliation					
Balance as at date					
HSBC Current		28/02/2025		£71.31	
HSBC Savings		28/02/2025		£18,887.47	
Less unpresented cheques					
Net bank balance as at date					£18,958.78
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows					
Opening balances		£13,573.12			
Add receipts		£19,221.57			
less payments		-			
Closing balance as per the balance sheet					£18,958.78

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Monthly report 2024-25

	2024-25	24/25		25/26
	Actual	Budget	YTD	Forecast
	£	£	£	£
Council business				
Income	16,340.00	16745.00	16,836.10	16,760.00
Expenditure	14,241.00	15875.00	12,016.11	15,007.74
Surplus (deficit)	2,099.00	870.00	4,819.99	1,752.26
Projects				
Income			-	
Expenditure	100.00	1000.00	-	1,000.00
Surplus (deficit)	100.00	-1000.00	-	-1000.00
Allotments				
Income	1,829.00	1921.00	1,841.73	1850.00
Expenditure	1,648.00	2580.00	1,399.79	2635.82
Surplus (deficit)	181.00	-659.00	441.94	- 785.82
VAT recovered	225.00		543.74	
VAT paid	581.00		420.01	
net	356.00		123.73	
Total surplus (deficit)	1,825.00	-789.00	5,385.66	- 33.56
Reserve brought forward	11,743.00	13534.44	13,568.00	13,568.00
Reserve carried forward	13,568.00	12745.44	18,953.66	13,534.44
Cash at bank	13,573.00		18,958.78	15,539.58
Adjustments				
Cash book balance	13,573.00		18,958.78	15,539.58
Reserves	13,568.00		18,953.66	13,534.44
Commitment	5.00		5.14	5.14
Total	13,573.00		18,958.80	13,539.58
Council business Income				
precept	16,000.00	16500.00	16,500.00	16,500.00
bank interest	340.00	245.00	336.10	260.00
Total	16,340.00	16745.00	16,836.10	16,760.00
Council business expenditure				
salary	9,227.00	9300.00	8,068.98	9700.00
stationery/post/phone	623.00	630.00	492.79	630.00
travel	216.00	400.00	121.30	200.00
office	312.00	400.00	130.00	312.00
equipment	737.00	200.00	225.62	225.62
training	125.00	300.00	-	150.00

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newsletter/leaflets	50.00	300.00	-		£ 300.00
hall hire	300.00	330.00	330.00	330.00	£ 330.00
audit	190.00	200.00	190.00	190.00	£ 200.00
insurance	481.00	500.00	490.12	490.12	£ 500.00
defibrillators	396.00	440.00	405.00	405.00	£ 435.00
Speedwatch			-		
football pitch	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	£ 225.00
subscriptions	1,247.00	1650.00	1,337.30	1650.00	£ 1,650.00
election expenses	75.00		-		
maintenance	37.00	1000.00	-	500.00	£ 1,500.00
Total	14,241.00	15875.00	12,016.11	15007.74	£ 16,340.00
Projects income					
grants					
donations					
Total			-		
Projects expenditure					
EBOH other			-		
grants	100.00	1000.00	-	1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
defibrillators			-		
notice boards					
public transport			-		
Total	100.00	1000.00	-	1,000.00	
Allotments income	1,829.00	1921.00	1,841.73	1,850.00	£ 2,550.00
Allotments expenditure					
Administration		700.00		700.00	£ 700.00
rent refund	41.00		-		
Rent,insurance	669.00	600.00	731.81	731.81	£ 600.00
water	194.00	280.00	204.01	204.01	£ 250.00
hedging	500.00	600.00	300.00	300.00	£ 400.00
fencing			-	0.00	
maintenance	244.00	400.00	163.97	700.00	£ 600.00
Total	1,648.00	2580.00	1,399.79	2,635.82	£ 2,550.00

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