

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

Councillors present: Bev Hawker (Chair), Ian Moyse (Vice-chair), Mike Husband, Anna Rostand, Mike Urwin
 Also present: County Cllr Keith Mans, District Cllr Michael Harris, Liz Welch (Parish Clerk)
 In attendance: 4 members of the public

1.0 To accept apologies for absence

Received from Cllr Teresa Morrissey.

2.0 Declaration of interest in agenda items

Cllr Urwin expressed a pecuniary interest in agenda item 9 (planning applications).

3.0 To confirm minutes of the previous parish council meeting

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2023. Matters arising have been actioned or are in hand.

4.0 Report from Hampshire County Councillor

County Council Cabinet approved a 5% budget increase, of which 2% is for social services. Cllr Mans observed that, where some other Councils are in significant difficulty, the Secretary of State has allowed council tax increases above the 5% threshold. Unforeseen expense was incurred due to pothole repairs resulting from weather extremes.

4.1 To receive questions on the report from County Councillor:

Cllr Rostand asked about the state of employee pension funds. Cllr Mans replied that the scheme is well managed and fully funded at present. Pension funds have recently been given greater freedom to invest, which could potentially support more local infrastructure projects. Cllr Husband asked about longer term prospects for county councils; Cllr Mans expressed his concern that devolved management of social services is subject to increasingly costly assessment processes and is not supported with sufficient funding in line with inflation from central government. Longer term, Cllr Mans would like to see county councils given greater decision making powers to tackle the situation.

5.0 Report from New Forest District Councillor

Cllr Harris reported that the NFDC Chief Executive now has in place three strategic directors and operation teams (previously 4). Cllr Harris is dedicating much of his time to support local businesses, including start ups through the Incubive initiative. Applications have been submitted to both the Shared Prosperity Fund and the Rural Prosperity Fund. NFDC produces a regular e-newsletter for businesses which the Councillor highly recommends. Cllr Harris recently toured the nearby Exxon facility, which produces 20% of the UK's fuel and is increasing the facility to produce diesel (currently 50% is imported) which will be switched immediately to hydrogen when required.

5.1 To receive questions on the report from District Councillor:

Cllr Husband asked for an update on the new waste strategy; the introduction of wheelie bins is delayed by a year to allow time for HCC waste sorting facilities to be fully operational.

6.0 To receive the Clerk's report

- Allotments: The Clerk and Chair met with two surveyors for quotes to measure the allotments. Cllr Hawker went on to present an overview of the proposed works and quotes.
- Cllrs confirmed 17 February welcome meeting with community police constables Roberts and Brown.

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023

- The clerk has displayed posters across the village and on the website to advise that photo ID is required for the upcoming elections on 4 May. Cllrs were invited to attend a zoom information event organised by the NFDC on 1 March. Cllr Urwin suggested that this could be shared with the e-newsletter.
- A member of public reported that the overflowing bin outside the village shop has not been resolved, and hazardous waste has been left (item 7). The Clerk informed NFDC and awaited a response.

RESOLVED:

Cllrs agreed award the allotment measuring contract to qualified surveyor Simon Taylor.

ACTION:

1. Clerk to inform contractors of Cllrs' decision
2. Cllr Hawker and Clerk to oversee allotment work and consult with Simon Taylor
3. Clerk to share photo ID info with e-newsletter editor.

7.0 Public session

A member of public started by thanking Cllr Husband for relentlessly persevering with the broadband project and for his successes to date.

Commenting on the Clerk's report, a member of public voiced concern that the bins were not being emptied three times a week as promised and that neighbours should no longer have to empty the bins on behalf of NFDC. Within the last few days a hazardous item had also been left by the bin, and had been removed by the member of public. Cllr Husband asked about the state of play with replacing the bin outside the village hall that was destroyed by the hurricane; the Clerk advised that this was a low priority for NFDC. Cllr Harris offered to look into the situation on behalf of the parish council.

A member of public expressed deep concern about a planning application from the owners of Tregonals Bungalow (item 8.1). He explained that the application is in the name of another owner's property incorrectly. Only one of the four neighbouring properties has been informed of the application. Further, planning consent has already been given by the NPA which includes allocated space for a garden store/studio with space for a wheelchair and mobility scooter. Cllrs had previously recommended that the garage be sited to the right of the property but the owners decided against it; the member of public disputes that such a large structure is needed for a garden shed. The member of public went on to ask why the owners are applying for additional development so soon.

ACTION:

1. Clerk to forward email correspondence to Cllr Harris along with a photo.
2. Cllr Harris will follow up on reinstating the village hall bin, possibly a digitalised version, and current collection issues.

8.0 Planning applications**8.1 23/00134FULL Tregonals, Lymington Rd, East End, Lymington SO41 5SS**

Taking on board the comments expressed in item 7, Cllr Hawker recalled that permission has already been sought and granted for sufficient wheelchair storage and questioned why a further garden shed would also need to store electric wheelchairs. Cllr Moyses went on to express surprise at the height and size of the proposed garden shed, particularly when there is already a garden shed. Cllr Moyses confirmed the member of public's understanding that Cllrs did suggest to the owners previously to build the garage to the right of the property, and also expressed concern about overdevelopment, particularly since a sizeable portion of the plot is designated for agricultural use and not residential.

23/001 34FULL	TREGONALS, LYMINGTON ROAD, EAST	We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed below. 1- The positioning of the building is very prominent in relation to the main dwelling, it is pretty much the first thing you see as you
------------------	---------------------------------------	--

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023

	<p>END, LYMINGTON, SO41 5SS</p> <p>Proposal Garden Shed with log store</p>	<p>travel down the drive and into the main part of the residential curtilage and because of its size, use and proximity, it is felt that it detracts from the main dwelling and will make the residential area of the property feel overcrowded.</p> <p>2- The overall size of the building is felt to be excessive for the utilitarian purpose stated. At a footprint of 42m² it is felt that its large size will lead to the property being overdeveloped.</p> <p>3- The applicants have stated one of the uses is for wheelchair charging, which is a doubling up of use on the other outbuilding that has been planned, the council are not sure why two such areas are required and why so much space is required for this purpose, but also the 31.5m² of space for use as a shed is felt to still be excessive.</p> <p>4- The location of the building given its proposed size is also of concern, as it is located close to neighbouring properties and will be visible from them, especially from Tregonals. This is a very rural area and with the addition of yet another utility building so close to these properties a once rural skyline will look cluttered and over populated and suggest a relocation of the building to a different part property would be more suitable</p> <p>5- The new buildings are for utilitarian use and can not be converted at any time into a dwelling or residential use.</p> <p>6- Only 1 of the 4 neighbouring properties have been consulted.</p>
--	--	---

8.2 Tree works

23/00197 CONS	LYNTON HOUSE, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7WT	Prune 1 x Cypress tree	No concerns raised.
23/00217 CONS	Forest Glade, St Leonards Road, East End, East Boldre, Lymington SO41 5SR	Proposal Prune 1 x Conifer tree	No concerns raised.

ACTION:

Clerk to inform NPA.

9.0 Allotments

- The Clerk offered an overview on the need to revise allotment holder agreements and rules. Having undertaken extensive research, revised documents were presented to and supported by the East Boldre Allotment Association Committee. Having sought NAS advice, the Clerk recommended that allotment holders should be given 12 months' notice of the rewritten agreement and rules. For 2023, some changes are necessary and these were circulated to Cllrs beforehand.

RESOLVED:

- Cllrs approved new allotment agreements and rules to enter into effect from April 2024
- Cllrs approved revisions to the existing agreements and rules from April 2023, with the addition of a requirement for courteous behaviour.

ACTION:

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023

Clerk to inform all holders of the rewritten agreement and rules taking effect from April 2024, with a note state they are subject to changes.

10.0 Finance

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

Cllrs reviewed monthly accounts and noted bank reconciliation for January. Cllr Hawker advised that a national pay increase for clerks of 4% backdated to 1 April 2022 and that this would be paid to the Clerk in instalments between January and March.

8.2 To review draft budget (circulated)

Cllr Hawker advised that the forecast is on track and reminded Cllrs of the need to keep a minimum of £8,000 in reserve. In response to a question from Cllr Husband, Cllr Hawker advised that the moneys for the allotment survey and for a possible additional overlay survey were included in the forecast.

RESOLVED:

Cllrs approved monthly accounts and the draft 2023/24 budget.

11.0 To consider the Civility & Respect Pledge

Following discussions at the previous parish council meeting, Cllr Hawker asked if Cllrs wished to sign up to the Pledge put forward by NALC and the SLCC. Cllr Moyses observed that this would demonstrate the parish council's commitment to the principles.

RESOLVED:

Cllrs agreed that East Boldre Parish Council will take the Civility & Respect Pledge.

ACTION:

Clerk to sign up.

12 King's Coronation celebrations

The Clerk had not heard back from the village hall or School Fields Trust about plans to mark the event. Cllr Hawker noted that both organisations have a lot on just now. Cllr Husband advised that the village hall would host a history exhibition, Royalty in the New Forest.

ACTION:

1. Cllrs Husband and Rostand to liaise with the Village Hall Committee and Schoolfields Trust on planned activities
2. Clerk to contact the monthly coffee morning co-ordinator.

13.0 Broadband update

Cllr Husband reported that a few glitches have been encountered recently and that the Openreach project lead has been difficult to contact. Cllr Husband will persevere.

14.0 Date for APM

Cllrs confirmed that the next APM will take place at 8pm on Tuesday 14 March.

15.0 To receive reports from external meetings

Cllr Husband sent apologies for the recent NFALC meeting. Cllr Rostand was pleased to report that planning permission has been given for the Chapel to house the community shop. Following a very successful event the previous week, stakeholder sales are going well but there is still some way to go. Noting the tremendous community spirit, Cllr Rostand in particular praised the Community Shop Committee member Rebecca Gabzdyl for her driving force and dedication. Cllr Rostand has launched a drawing competition for younger members of the village.

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023

The Clerk shared a message from Lord Montagu about his mother, the late Lady Montagu; Cllr Rostand reported that a beautiful memorial service was held.

16.0 Agenda items for next meeting

Greening action plan; broadband

17.0 Date of next meeting

The next parish council meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 14 March at East Boldre village hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.45pm.

Appendix 1

East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule - Jan 2023					
<i>Date</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Folio</i>	<i>trans</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Payments					
21/01/2023	HSBC	Bank charges to 30 Dec	92	dd	£5.00
23/01/2023	Royal Mail	PO Box	93	dd	£38.10
26/01/2023	Gocardless	Rejuvenate IT services	94	dd	£11.28
30/01/2023	SLCC	Clerk membership renewal	95	bacs	£139.00
30/01/2023	E Welch	Salary	96	bacs	£865.99
30/01/2023	E Welch	Mileage + expenses Nov to Jan	97	bacs	£156.19
31/01/2023	Plusnet	Parish Cl phone	98	dd	£8.52
Total payments					£1,224.08
Receipts					
12/01/2023	HSBC	bank interest	68	bacs	£14.22
Total receipts					£14.22
Money transferred			69		£1,000.00
Bank reconciliation					
Balance as at date					
HSBC Current					£532.75
HSBC Savings					£18,781.35
Less unpresented cheques					
Net bank balance as at date					£19,314.10
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows					
Opening balances					£18,455.79
Add receipts					£19,134.24
less payments					-£18,275.93
Closing balance as per the balance sheet					£19,314.10

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023

Appendix 2

Monthly report Jan 2023

	2021/22	22/23			23/24	
		Actual	Budget	YTD	Forecast	Budget
		£	£	£	£	£
Council business						
Income	16,001.66	16,002.00	16,045.63	16,012.00	16012.00	
Expenditure	13,581.84	15,955.00	10,765.47	14,967.00	-16325.00	
Expenditure as % of precept		99.72	67.28	1,045.00		
Surplus (deficit)	2,419.82	47.00	5,280.16		-313.00	
Projects						
Income	4,797.58	-	-			
Expenditure	3,262.00	2,300.00	3,354.49	3,900.00	-1000.00	
Surplus (deficit)	1,535.58	- 2,300.00	- 3,354.49	- 3,900.00	-1000.00	
Allotments						
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	
VAT recovered	228.70		1,308.61			
VAT paid	725.36		920.05			
net	- 496.66	-	388.56		0.00	
Total surplus (deficit)	3,318.63	- 2,228.00	2,791.31	4,228.00	-1260.00	
Reserve brought forward	10,695.52	14,014.15	14,014.15	14,014.00	9786.00	
Reserve carried forward	14,014.15	11,786.15	16,805.46	9,786.00	8526.00	
Cash at bank	18,455.55		19,314.10			
Adjustments						
Cash book balance	18,455.55		19,314.10			
Reserves	14,014.15		16,805.46	9,786.00	8526.00	
Commitment	4,442.00		2,509.00	2,509.00	2509.00	
Total	18,456.15		19,314.46	12,950.00	11035.00	
Council business Income						
precept	16000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16000.00	
bank interest	1.66	2.00	45.63	12.00	12.00	
Total	16,001.66	16,002.00	16,045.63	16,012.00	16012.00	
Council business expenditure						
salary	8,397.87	9,000.00	6,725.35	8,680.00	9000.00	

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023

stationery/post/phone	742.26	550.00	516.65	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	96.42	200.00	300.00
newsletter	149.95	450.00	556.00	556.00	450.00
hall hire	250.00	250.00	-	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	1,166.82	1,500.00	1500.00
election expenses					500.00
maintenance	239.20	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1000.00
Total	13,581.84	15,955.00	10,765.47	14,967.00	16325.00
Projects income					
grants	4,247.58		-		
donations	550.00		-		
Total	4,797.58		-		
Projects expenditure					
EBOH salary		-	-		
EBOH other	90.00	-	90.00		
grants	2,602.00	-	3,264.49	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		-	-		
Total	3,262.00	2,300.00	3,354.49	3,900.00	1000.00
Allotments income	1,423.00	1,580.00	1,530.00	1,520.00	1748.00
Allotments expenditure					
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
Total	1,563.11	1,560.00	1,052.92	2,893.00	1695.00

Chairman's signature:

Date: 14/3/2023