

**East Boldre Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall  
on Tuesday 13 February 2024**

Councillors present: Ian Moyse (Vice-Chair), Michael Husband, Teresa Morrissey, Anna Rostand  
In attendance: 5 members of public, County Cllr Mans, District Cllr Poole, Liz Welch (Parish Clerk).

**1.0 To accept apologies for absence**

Cllrs Beverley Hawker, Mike Urwin.

**2.0 Declaration of interest in items on the agenda**

MH advised that he is a project manager for the village hall refurbishment, and knows the owners of planning application 24/00073FULL.

**3.0 To confirm minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting**

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2024.

**3.1 Matters arising**

None.

**4.0 To receive Clerk's report**

Liz attended the zoom Passenger Transport Forum on 24/1/24. Key points have been circulated to Cllrs separately. Much discussion was given to proposed cutbacks set out in Hampshire County Council's public consultation, where they face a funding shortfall of £132 million. MH advised that Cllrs will meet informally to consider a response to HCC Future Services Consultation on behalf of the parish council.

Liz had encouraging feedback from clerks in other parishes about East Boldre's emergency planning strategy and in particular the leaflets. This feedback has been passed to Mike Upton.

Allotments – East Boldre Allotment Association's chair has stood down for personal reasons. In his place allotmenteer Steph Bennett has volunteered to take on the role, with effect from 6 February. Steph plans to attend the March parish council meeting.

Village hall grant - trustees have been in touch to request payment of the grant EBPC that previously agreed towards the village hall rebuild. Trustees would like to present an update on the latest plans to Cllrs at the March meeting.

**ACTION:**

Cllrs to agree joint response to HCC consultation.

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

Cllr Mans advised that the budget is under discussion. The budget for the next two years has been agreed, and HCC envisage that Council tax will increase to help meet the shortfall. Central government have recently allocated £600m towards road repairs nationally, this income is in addition to HCC's agreed budget allocation. Cllr Mans' own budget to support local projects has now been used, the Cllr was pleased to advise that around £400 was allocated to the forthcoming village hall exhibition in May.

**Chairman's signature:**

**Date: 12/3/2024**

5.1 To receive questions on the report by the County Councillor

AR asked if there plans to review of council tax calculations which is now very out of date and disproportionate to house values. Cllr Mans suggested that it will be a matter for a future government to review. AR also asked about introducing charges for waste disposal sites in the face of closure; the Cllr replied that this had been considered in a previous review.

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

Cllr Poole advised that the next Community Forum will take place on 27 March, with a focus on improving wellbeing and building greater community resilience. The Cllr was pleased to advise that he was able to provide funding for a wall mounted bike rack East Boldre's community shop.

6.1 To receive questions on the report by the District Councillor

None.

## **7.0 Public session**

Members of the public accepted the chair's invitation to defer comments to other items on the agenda.

## **8.0 To consider next steps to reinstate village post box**

LW advised that pending a late response to Cllr Hawker's letter from Royal Mail, Dr Julian Lewis MP had been informed about the situation. Cllrs were very grateful to the MP for his prompt, detailed and supportive letter to Royal Mail's CEO. Cllrs agreed to review the situation once Dr Lewis had received a reply.

### **ACTION:**

Cllrs to await reply to Julian Lewis MP.

## **9.0 To review bus shelter seating**

IM noted that the bus service is incredibly limited. MH suggested that reinstating seating may recreate the issues from the past. TM had reached out to speak with locals who use the bus service, and they would like to see the seats reinstated. A member of public stated that seating could create a hub for vulnerable young people and individuals bringing in drugs from outside the parish, as it did previously. The previous seats had also been used by adults drinking after the pub closed at night and there is a real concern that past problems will reoccur. Seating brings both pros and cons. Cllrs acknowledged that some problems associated with bus shelter seating were moved elsewhere when the seats were removed, and not resolved. The member of public did not wish to take a stance but rather, request that both sides are taken into consideration. Another member of public emphasised that drug misuse is a separate issue, often involves suppliers from outside the parish, and that police have previously been involved with incidents at the shelter. IM asked TM how many people in bus shelter needing a seat. TM advised, usually three people. Noting that the cost to the parish of vandalism since the seat removed was zero, IM suggested that a compromise is needed. Cllrs agreed to explore the cost and scope for an angled, narrow seat rest in the shelter similar to town shelters. Cllrs went on to agree that the village would benefit from more opportunities for young people. TM had previously explored ideas. IM advised that the community shop is considering some ideas. Cllrs also agreed that an informal chat with PC Roberts about drug misuse was needed, Cllr Poole suggested the possibility of an invitation to the PCSO to discuss at a future parish council meeting.

**Chairman's signature:**

**Date: 12/3/2024**

**ACTION:**

1. Clerk to look into seat rest options for the bus shelter and costs.
2. Clerk to liaise with Hants Constabulary, and to follow up a previous invite for the PCSO to attend a monthly coffee morning.

The chair brought forward agenda item 11 and invited members of public to share their views.

23/01686FULL: A member of public offered to answer any questions from Cllrs. The works are intended largely to resolve structural damp issues. IM was not aware of concerns from neighbours and advised that the application complies with footage. No concerns raised by Cllrs.

23/01632FULL: A member of public offered photographs of surface water flooding from the road, adding that not much of original cottage was left. The property was poorly extended in the 1970s and the roof needed replacing. Original curtilage is too low; owners are seeking to raise it and restore the appearance of a forest cottage. MH had visited the site and confirmed poor extensions previously and welcomed the commitment from current owners to bring it up to standard in keeping with the forest.

24/00073FULL: Cllrs noted that although the extension is very close to neighbouring properties, there is hedging, and the structure is set back from the road.

**10.0 Finance**

- 10.1 To review monthly accounts and to note bank reconciliation.

**RESOLVED:**

1. The monthly report and bank reconciliation for January 2024 were approved (appendices 1 and 2).

**11.0 To review planning applications**

Discussions took place under item 7 above.

## 11.1

23/01686FULL	St Johns Cottage, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7WD	Single storey extensions; replacement windows; addition of double doors & window; render; cladding; outbuilding	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. Works are intended largely to resolve structural damp issues.
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## 11.2

Chairman's signature:

Date: 12/3/2024

23/01632 FULL	Honey Cottage, PAGES LANE, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHU RST, SO42 7WG	Raise roof height; first floor extensions; 2no. dormers; 1no. chimney; removal of existing 1no. chimney; removal of bay window; alterations to doors and windows; render	We recommend PERMISSION, for the reasons listed below. -The property was poorly extended in the 1970s. -Property is currently prone to surface water flooding. -Application will restore the appearance of a forest cottage.
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## 11.3

24/00073 FULL	8 The Wheelhouse, GAZA AVENUE, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHU RST, SO42 7WH	Garage (demolition of existing)	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. Although the structure is close to neighbouring properties, there is hedging and it is set back from the road.
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## ACTION:

Clerk to relay decisions to the NPA.

**12.0 Governance**

- 12.1 To review Financial Regulations.
- 12.2 To agree parish council meeting dates 2024-25
- 12.3 To confirm the APM agenda

MH noted that the parish council meeting may well over run in March.

LW advised that the provisional date for the Internal Auditor is 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

## RESOLVED:

1. Cllrs adopted the revised Financial Regulations.
2. Cllrs agreed meeting dates for 2024/25, with a proviso that alternatives are considered if the February meeting falls within half term.
3. The APM agenda was confirmed, noting the parish council meet preceding it may overrun and delay the start time.

## ACTION:

1. LW to upload policies, APM agenda and 2024/25 meeting dates onto the website.

**12.0 Broadband update**

Chairman's signature:

Date: 12/3/2024

MH noted that significant works are underway in nearby Brockenhurst for over and underground cables and hopes that works will begin in the parish shortly. Cllrs advised that broadband updates were no longer necessary as a regular agenda item.

**13.0 To receive reports from external meetings**

MH attended the recent NFALC meeting, noting that several clerks from other parishes were present. Advising that a Facebook group had been introduced for New Forest clerks, LW confirmed that she had joined the group.

IM advised that the Consultative Committee meeting was cancelled due to bad weather.

**14.0 Agenda items for next meeting**

East Boldre Village Hall rebuild update.

**15.0 Date of next meeting**

The next parish council meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 12 March 2024 at East Boldre Village Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8 pm.

## Appendix 1 - Monthly payment schedule

East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule - Jan 2024					
Date	Payee	Detail	Folio	trans	Amount
<b>Payments</b>					
03-Jan-24	Marsh Commercial	EBAA insurance	86	BP	£103.88
08-Jan-24	Royal Mail	PO Box	87	DD	£39.60
21-Jan-24	HSBC	bank charges	88	DR	£5.00
22-Jan-24	EE Ltd	Parish Cl phone	89	DD	£6.00
22-Jan-24	Go Cardless	Office 365	90	DD	£14.83
25-Jan-24	HMRC	PAYE	91	DD	£283.69
30-Jan-24	E Welch	Salary + backdated 2/3	92	BP	£761.36
<b>Total payments</b>					<b>£1,214.36</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
12-Jan-24	HSBC	interest	66	INT	32.69
<b>Total receipts</b>					<b>£32.69</b>
<b>Money transferred</b>					
26-Jan-24	HSBC	bank transfer	67	TFR	£1,000.00
<b>Bank reconciliation</b>					
<b>Balance as at date</b>					
HSBC Current					<b>£409.73</b>
HSBC Savings					<b>£18,593.51</b>
Less unrepresented cheques					
<b>Net bank balance as at date</b>					<b>£19,003.24</b>
<b>The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows</b>					
Opening balances					<b>£15,285.23</b>
Add receipts					£18,335.65
less payments					- £14,617.64
<b>Closing balance as per the balance sheet</b>					<b>£19,003.24</b>

Chairman's signature:

Date: 12/3/2024

## Appendix 2 – Monthly report

## Monthly report 2023-24

	2022-23	23/24			24/25
	Actual	Budget	YTD	Forecast	Budget
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Council business</b>					
Income	16,076.03	16012.00	16,281.76	16,245.00	16745.00
Expenditure	13,408.43	16325.00	12,094.53	16,662.00	15875.00
Surplus (deficit)	2,667.60	-313.00	4,187.23	- 417.00	870.00
<b>Projects</b>					
Income			-		
Expenditure	4,104.49	-1000.00	137.39	1,200.00	1000.00
Surplus (deficit)	4,104.49	-1000.00	- 100.00	1,200.00	-1000.00
<b>Allotments</b>					
Income	1,530.00	1748.00	1,828.75	1820.00	1921.00
Expenditure	2,599.02	-1695.00	973.22	1760.50	2580.00
Surplus (deficit)	1,069.02	53.00	855.53	59.50	-659.00
<b>VAT recovered</b>	1,308.61		225.14		
<b>VAT paid</b>	1,073.63		413.02		
<b>net</b>	- 234.98		- 187.88		
<b>Total surplus (deficit)</b>	2,270.93	-1260.00	4,754.88	1,557.50	-789.00
<b>Reserve brought forward</b>	14,014.15	9786.00	11,743.22	11,743.22	10185.72
<b>Reserve carried forward</b>	11,743.22	8526.00	16,498.10	10,185.72	9396.72
<b>Cash at bank</b>	15,285.23		19,003.24		
<b>Adjustments</b>					
<b>Cash book balance</b>	15,285.23		19,003.24		
<b>Reserves</b>	11,743.22	8526.00	16,498.10	10,185.72	
<b>Commitment</b>	3,542.37	2509.00	2,505.14	2,505.14	
<b>Total</b>	15,285.59	11035.00	19,003.24	12,690.86	
<b>Council business Income</b>					

Chairman's signature:

Date: 12/3/2024

precept	16,000.00	16000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16500.00
bank interest	76.03	12.00	281.76	245.00	245.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,076.03</b>	16012.00	<b>16,281.76</b>	<b>16,245.00</b>	16745.00
<b>Council business expenditure</b>					
salary	8,427.88	9000.00	7,449.00	9500.00	9300.00
stationery/post/phone	669.16	600.00	508.26	600.00	630.00
travel	216.50	400.00	149.85	400.00	400.00
office	366.63	400.00	234.00	312.00	400.00
equipment		600.00	736.66	900.00	200.00
training	306.42	300.00	60.00	300.00	300.00
newsletter	556.00	450.00	50.00	450.00	300.00
hall hire	300.00	250.00	300.00	300.00	330.00
audit	190.00	200.00	190.00	200.00	200.00
insurance	481.65	500.00	481.02	500.00	500.00
defibrillators	396.00	400.00	396.00	400.00	440.00
Speedwatch	28.00		-		
football pitch	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00
subscriptions	1,211.82	1500.00	1,202.35	1500.00	1650.00
election expenses		500.00	75.00	75.00	
maintenance		1000.00	37.39	1000.00	1000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,375.06</b>	16325.00	<b>12,094.53</b>	<b>16662.00</b>	15875.00
<b>Projects income</b>					
grants					
donations					
<b>Total</b>	-		-		
<b>Projects expenditure</b>					
EBOH other	90.00		-	-	
grants	4,014.49	1000.00	100.00	1,000.00	1000.00
defibrillators			-		
notice boards			37.39	200.00	
public transport			-		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,104.49</b>	1000.00	<b>137.39</b>	<b>1,200.00</b>	1000.00
<b>Allotments income</b>	1,530.00	1748.00	1,828.75	1,820.00	1921.00
<b>Allotments expenditure</b>					
Administration					700.00
rent refund			40.50	40.50	
Rent,insurance	670.32	570.00	668.88	570.00	600.00
water	282.60	125.00	193.66	150.00	280.00
hedging	480.00	600.00	-	600.00	600.00
fencing		200.00	-	200.00	
maintenance	1,166.10	200.00	70.18	200.00	400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,599.02</b>	1695.00	<b>973.22</b>	<b>1,760.50</b>	2580.00

Chairman's signature:

Date: 12/3/2024