

EAST BOLDRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in East Boldre Village Hall on Tuesday 12th October 2021 at 7pm

Present:

Chair - Cllr B Hawker

Vice Chair Cllr I Moyes

Cllr M Husband

Cllr K Holmes

Cllr R Gabzdyl

Cllr L Clark

Cllr D Drodge

In attendance: Mrs Nicola Curzon, Parish Clerk; Cllr Mans, County Councillor; ten members of the public

1.0. To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr Harris

2.0. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda.

Cllr Hawker and Cllr Gabzdyl declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 9.0, application 21/00826.

Cllr Husband and Cllr Clark declared a minor interest in the same item.

3.0. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2021.

Cllr Holmes requested that it was noted that he did not mention the exact number of parking bays offered in a formal lease agreement by Forestry England in 2014.

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

Cllr Hawker invited members of the council to form a working group to consider the parking, traffic and road safety issues in East Boldre. She suggested that this was run in conjunction with the East Boldre speed awareness group. The outcomes will be brought back to council at a later date.

4.0. Clerks' report (Circulated) FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- With regret, the clerk has handed in her resignation. The role of clerk and RFO has now been advertised on HALC and SLCC website. The job has also been advertised in the Lymington Times.
- The clerk, Cllr Hawker and Cllr Drodge carried out the second annual allotment inspection on 6/10/21. Plot holders whose plots require attention have been notified.
- Cllr Holmes raised a matter from March 2020 minutes about land associated with School Fields Trust Hall, on behalf of a member of the public. The matter was looked into by Cllr Gabzdyl in April 2020. It was concluded that this was a private land issue and evidence of land ownership is tenuous. It is not a matter for parish council consideration.
- The clerk has submitted the parish council response regarding the application for the asset of community value nomination of East Boldre Post Office and Community Stores.

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

- Cllr Mans reported that a new household support fund will be administered by the county council, offering financial support to people who need it. It will compensate for the reduction of universal credit and target those who really need the funds.
- HCC has set the savings program for the next two years. Additional funds will be made available for road maintenance.
- HCC supports continued health care, offering step down facilities for those needing help after leaving hospital. There are still issues filling care roles across the county.
- The covid recovery scheme offers people the opportunity to retrain at colleges (ie offering training for mechanics to service electric cars)
- Covid figures across Hampshire are better than the national average.
- Cllr Mans offered his full support to East Boldre for the ongoing broadband issues in the village.

Chairman's signature:

Date: 09/11/2021

5.1 To receive questions on the report by the County Councillor.

Cllr Hawker asked if agenda item 10 could be brought forward for discussion whilst Cllr Mans was present at the meeting.

10.0 To receive a broadband update

Cllr Husband explained the frustrations over broadband faced by the village over the past five years. Further to recent communication with Stephen Harris from Open Reach, he outlined the current situation:

- The village has six broadband structures, four of which are fluid and going ahead imminently. (a full list of properties covered in this phase is available on the website).
- Two further structures towards East End are currently being held up because of a dispute between Open Reach and Natural England about burying junction boxes.
- The outcome is likely to mean that installation of these two structures will be covered by the community fibre scheme.
- If all goes to plan, and following receipt of a list of properties not covered by the current scheme, the two structures towards East End should receive broadband within a year. However, there must be a there will have to be a 75% take up for the East End structures (this is yet to be defined)..
- Cllr Husband asked all councillors if they would be able to help canvass properties not covered by the current Open Reach broadband scheme, to inform them about the community fibre scheme.

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

None

6.1 To receive questions on the report by the District Councillor.

None

7.0 Public session.

Four members of the public asked if they could comment on planning application 21/0826. A member of the public also asked to speak about speed awareness under agenda item 8.3.

8.0 Finance.

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

Resolved: Payments for October 2021 were received as shown on the table below:

East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule					
Date	Payee	Detail	Folio	trans	Amount
Payments					
07/09/2021	Norton	software security	44	d/d	£10.24
16/09/2021	Victim Support	grant	45	bacs	£50.00
16/09/2021	SCAS	CPR training	46	bacs	£50.00
16/09/2021	N F Disability	grant	47	bacs	£50.00
29/09/2021	Lymington Times	Job advert	48	c/c	£325.20
30/09/2021	Royal Mail	po box	49	d/d	£36.60
01/10/2021	plusnet	parish council phone	50	d/d	£7.80
05/10/2021	N Curzon	Clerk salary	51	bacs	£634.88
05/10/2021	N Curzon	Clerk expenses	52	bacs	£44.23
05/10/2021	Signs of Cheshire	Parish council notice board	53	bacs	£684.00
05/10/2021	Viking direct	projector screen	54	c/c	£76.04
06/10/2021	Microsoft	Office 365	55	d/d	£5.99
Total payments					£1,974.98
Receipts					
12/09/2021	HSBC	bank interest	46		£0.13
30/09/2021	NFDC	precept	47		£8,000.00
Total receipts					£8,000.13
Money transferred			48		£1,000.00
Bank reconciliation					
Balance as at date					
HSBC Current					£1,060.76
HSBC Savings					£20,453.13
Less unpresented cheques					
Viking					-£76.04
Microsoft					-£5.99
Net bank balance as at date					£21,431.86
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows					
Opening balances					£15,695.92
Add receipts					£17,423.89
less payments					-£11,687.95
Closing balance as per the balance sheet					£21,431.86

Chairman's signature:

Date: 09/11/2021

8.2 To review the budget for 2021-22

Monthly report - date: 6/10/21					
	20/21	21/22			22/23
	Actual	Budget	YTD	Forecast	Budget
Council business					
Income	£15,010.00	£16,010.00	£16,000.89	£16,010.00	£0.00
Expenditure	£15,801.00	£16,315.00	£7,698.80	£16,265.00	£0.00
Expenditure as % of precept	105.34	102.0	48.1	101.7	#DIV/0!
Surplus (deficit)	-£791.00	-£305.00	£8,302.09	-£255.00	£0.00
Projects					
Income	£6,676.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Expenditure	£12,255.00	£3,300.00	£784.00	£3,300.00	£0.00
Surplus (deficit)	-£5,579.00	-£3,300.00	-£784.00	-£3,300.00	£0.00
Allotments					
Income	£1,587.00	£1,423.00	£1,423.00	£1,423.00	£0.00
Expenditure	£2,037.00	£1,500.00	£408.37	£1,530.00	£0.00
Surplus (deficit)	-£450.00	-£77.00	£1,014.63	-£107.00	£0.00
VAT recovered	£2,912.00		£0.00		
VAT paid	£2,643.00		£301.78		
net	£269.00	£0.00	-£301.78	£0.00	£0.00
Total surplus (deficit)	-£6,551.00	-£3,682.00	£8,230.94	-£3,662.00	£0.00
Reserve brought forward	£17,262.00	£10,695.92	£10,695.92	£10,695.92	
Reserve carried forward	£10,711.00	£7,013.92	£18,926.86	£7,033.92	£0.00
Cash at bank	£15,696.00	£12,021.00	£21,431.86		
Adjustments					
Cash book balance	£15,696.00	£12,021.00	£21,431.86	£0.00	
Reserves	£10,711.00	£7,021.00	£18,926.86	£7,033.92	
Commitment	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£2,505.00		
Total	£15,711.00	£12,021.00	£21,431.86	£7,033.92	

8.3 To consider projects for 2022-23

Sue Adams has been running the East Boldre community speed watch group since 2014. The group hopes to purchase a new speed indicator device, which will be shared with Boldre and Pillely community speed watch. The two groups have already secured some reserves for this and asked if the parish council would make a contribution (approximately £400 of costs outstanding). Cllr Hawker confirmed that both Boldre and East Boldre Parish Councils would be happy to consider supporting this. Cllr Hawker noted that the Boldre and Pillely representative for the community speed watch group is currently abroad, she asked if a formal discussion could happen on her return in December.

Chairman's signature:

Date: 09/11/2021

9.0 To consider planning application 21/00826

Two members of the public requested permission to speak against the application for change of use of the shop and post office building from mixed use to solely dwelling house.

- Everyone acknowledged Ian's tireless work in the shop, particularly during lockdown.
- It was noted that there is no viable alternative venue for the shop.
- East Boldre has an aging community with 9% of residents being non-drivers, and a very limited bus service.
- The shop and post office are valuable amenities which the village cannot afford to lose.
- There were 91 letters of support for the planning application to extend the commercial area of the shop.

A member of the public spoke on behalf of Ian:

- The valuation for sale of a mixed-use building would be lower than a solely residential property.
- His business profits have been declining for the past few years.

Resolved

21/00826	Change of use of building from mixed use to solely dwelling house	BARTON VILLA, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7WD	23/9/21	We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed below: policy SP43 - existing employment is at risk. Policy SP39 -The shop and post office are valuable community assets, relied on by many residents in the village. Converting the commercial use into residential would push the property over the permitted 30% increase in size of the dwelling. The East Boldre Community Stores ltd are prepared to purchase the shop at the full commercial rate.	12/10/21
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11.0 To receive reports from external meetings.

Cllr Hawker attended the NFNPA Forest Quadrant meeting:

- There were 370 responses to the NFNPA white paper on planning – the key elements of concern were: Over grazing, better co-ordinated walking and cycle tracks and affordable housing.
- East Boldre Parish Council offered support for the plan, urging all agents to work together to achieve the set targets.
- NFNPA consultation response for Article 4 regarding planning permission of new campsites closes in November. Action BH
- NFNPA is requesting consultation for a draft design guide which has been created and will complement existing planning documents. Action IM
- On 31st October Fawley Tower will be demolished.

Cllr Holmes attended New Forest consultative panel:

- White tailed eagle and hen harrier are being re-introduced to the New Forest.
- Elm trees will also be re-introduced on common land.

12.0 Agenda items for next meeting.

Broadband

13.0 To confirm the next Parish Council meeting as 7.00pm on Tuesday 9th November 2021 in East Boldre Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman's signature:

Date: 09/11/2021