

**East Boldre Parish Council  
Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall  
on Tuesday 9 January 2024**

Councillors present: Beverley Hawker (Chair); Ian Moyse (Vice-Chair), Michael Husband, Teresa Morrissey, Anna Rostand, Mike Urwin.

In attendance: County Cllr Mans, District Cllr Poole, Liz Welch (Parish Clerk), 3 members of public.

**1.0 To accept apologies for absence**

None.

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

MU declared a non-pecuniary interest in planning application Tregonals.

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

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2023.

**3.1 Matters arising**

Item 3.1 BH advised that the notice board is now located at the village hall. Cllrs expressed gratitude to the Village Hall Committee for facilitating this. MH will relay this.

BH brought forward item 6.

Cllr Poole advised that the NFDC Corporate Plan consultation is underway and invited the Parish Council to give their input. The Plan reflects the lead political party's election priorities, with a focus on engagement.

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

AR expressed concern about huge cuts in HCC spending and the implications for museums and organisations like Nightstop. Is NFDC taking up any of the shortfall? Cllr Poole replied that the district council, towns and parishes may all have a role, particularly where local needs are identified. Cllr Mans advised that county and district councils have some cross over in their work, for example, with regard to adult social services.

Item 5 was brought forward.

Picking up on item 6.1 above, Cllr Mans said that £137m has been allocated to adult social services, with particular support for older people. HCC provides much of the county's nursing home facilities and has contracting expertise with private providers. Acknowledging the pressure for resources, HCC is prepared for the longer term, with anticipated support from central government for personal care for individuals. In Hampshire, the Cultural Trust manages and supports museums, art galleries and arts centres. Cllr Mans is a trustee. The Trust was set up to help meet any shortfall from HCC, and to apply for Arts Council funding.

A new app has been launched: OurHants. It can be used for reporting potholes and service information.

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

MU requested an update on repairing potholes, noting that temporary repairs are still pending permanent repair. Cllr Mans will relay the concern raised to colleagues at HCC. BH suggested that an online schedule or repairs on the OurHants app might be helpful so that the public can see the state of play. Cllr Mans agreed to relay this request to colleagues. MH asked a further question about potholes. A few in the area have caused severe vehicle damage and there are safety concerns.

A member of public received a public consultation email from HCC regarding future community grants. Cllr Mans considers that community support grants are very useful to meet local needs and gaps in services.

TM asked a question about blocked drains in the light of recent severe flooding. Acknowledging the problem, Cllr Mans replied that different authorities are involved, including the Environment Agency. The issue is that drain or ditch clearing in one place often diverts the water elsewhere. MU hopes that residents can be reminded directly to clear ditches, and interconnecting drains, regularly.

#### 4.0 To receive Clerk's report

The Clerk picked up on some key points in her report. December had been a challenging month as the PC laptop crashed, the email address hosted by HCC ended and Plusnet terminated mobile contract services. The PC phone is now on an EE contract. The new laptop would be set up on 10<sup>th</sup> January. Reporting back on a meeting with NFDC Chief Executive Kate Ryan, a Local Resilience Forum has been set up on emergency planning. East Boldre coordinator Mike Upton will attend. Speaker suggestions were invited for the APM in March. The newly refurbished noticeboard is terrific; to access it, the Clerk was given a key to the village hall outer door.

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

Item 3 above.

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

Item 3 above.

#### 7.0 Public session

East Boldre Community Stores (EBCS) representative, Rebecca Gabzdyl, offered an update on EBCS. Terrible weather conditions in November and December have delayed works. The new opening date will now be Fri 16 February 2024. The existing village shop owner has kindly agreed to keep the existing shop open to ensure continuity of services.

BH brought forward the item 10.1.

Planning application 23/01507FULL. A member of public is 100% in favour of the existing shop being turned into a home with the change of use application. They understood that it will be a single family house, although the plans suggest there could be two dwellings with separate

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entrance doors. Ms Gabzdyl advised that the Postmaster was unable to attend in person and added her support for the change of use to residential use as there is no need for two shops in the village.

IM questioned granting the change of use before the new shop is up and running. Ms Gabzdyl replied that EBCS are confident this was not an issue.

MH sought clarification that the application is solely for change of use from commercial to residential. There is some confusion as the application drawings show a change of windows and doors. Those present questioned that, should part of the premises be sub-let, it would count as residential or commercial. MH noted an underpinning issue where the shop was extended by 30% previously.

Cllrs voted unanimously in favour of the application for a change of use, noting that any changes to the property itself should form part of a future planning application. All Cllrs expressed their thanks to the Post Master, Ian, for his services to the community over many years.

BH brought forward item 10.2.

IM and MU noted that application 23/0163FULL is a retrospective planning application. Councillors question if rules had been broken, noting concerns from members of public on the NPA portal. Trellis might be a more acceptable alternative.

A further item was raised under item 10 and brought forward.

A tree works application has been received 24/00022CONS Tregonals Bungalow/Building Site, LYMINGTON ROAD, EAST END, LYMINGTON, SO41 5SS. Application for tree works Removal of mixed native hedge including 1 x Goat Willow tree (1 x Sycamore tree to be left standing). Noting the deadline for comments as 31 January, Cllrs expressed concern about the accuracy of the plans submitted. Part of the plot is designated for domestic use, and part for agricultural use only. It is not clear that the boundary between the two is still in existence and the application appears to be demarking the boundary. A previous block and site plan from the original planning application showed stock proof fencing to mark the boundary, but this is not shown on the current application. IM suggests that a site visit is needed, and that the NPA Tree Officer should be informed of the implications of this tree works application along with a request to consult with the relevant planning officer be consulted. Councillors expressed particular concern over the impact on the environment.

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

BH offered an update on correspondence with Royal Mail regarding the missing post box. A response to the Parish Council's third letter is still pending. The Parish Council has challenged Royal Mail's decision to disregard Ofcom recommendations, incorrect information that led to its removal, and non-compliance with Royal Mail's own public consultation process in its

removal. IM emphasised the risk and inconvenience of residents as East Boldre is a linear village.

**ACTION:**

Cllrs await Royal Mail's response to the latest letter and will escalate as required.

**9.0 Finance**

9.1 To review monthly accounts and to note bank reconciliation.

**RESOLVED:**

1. The monthly report and bank reconciliation for November and December were approved (appendices 1 and 2).

**10.0 To review planning applications**

See item 7 for discussion on items 10.1 and 10.2.

10.1

23/01507 FULL	EAST BOLDRE POST OFFICE AND STORES, East Boldre Post Office, MAIN ROAD, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7WD	Change of use of part of property from post office and shop to residential; alterations to door and windows	We recommend PERMISSION, noting that building alterations should be submitted at a future date.
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10.2

23/0163 FULL	Woburn Lodge, MASSEYS LANE, EAST BOLDRE, BROCKENHURST, SO42 7WE	Fence	We are happy to accept the decision reached by the National Park Authority's Officers under their delegated powers.
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MU advised that planning application 23/00424 Sheepwash Cottage will be considered by the New Forest NPA Planning Committee on 16 Jan.

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**ACTION:**

1. Clerk to relay decisions to the NPA.
2. MU to attend NPA Planning Committee on 16 January.
3. Clerk to relay Cllrs concerns to the NPA Tree Officer regarding 24/00022CONS Tregonals Bungalow/Building Site, discussed under item 7.

**11.0 Governance**

11.1 To review Code of Conduct

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Based on Local Government Association guidance, BH noted that the existing code should include an additional LGA annex but is otherwise still up to date. Cllrs agreed that the Code should be revised accordingly and remain in place on the website

**11.2 To review and adopt Complaints Policy**

Cllrs approved the draft circulated by the Clerk, based on SLCC guidance.

**11.3 To review Planning Policy**

The current policy is out of date. In its place Cllrs agreed that helpful information should be offered on the Parish Council website about their role in NPA planning processes.

MH said that a recent letter in the Lymington Times referred to a letter regarding Cllrs' roles and responsibilities in handling planning applications.

**RESOLVED:**

1. Cllrs approved the updated Code of Conduct
2. Cllrs approved the revised Complaints Policy
3. Cllrs agreed that the Planning Policy will be replaced with more general guidance to assist members of public.

**ACTION:**

1. LW to draft planning guidance for Cllrs to agree.
2. LW to upload the revised policies onto the website.
3. LW to remind Cllrs to revisit Code of Conduct.
4. LW to circulate the Lymington Times to all Cllrs.

**12.0 Broadband update**

MH reported that 90% of village now has access to ultrafast broadband. Noting that this is a remarkable achievement, BH thanked MH.

AR asked a question about phones now going through the internet. MH replied that consumers should discuss with the provider directly. A member of public advised that he was able to obtain a backup battery from his provider (BT) in the event of a power cut.

**13.0 To receive reports from external meetings**

MU circulated a report of the meeting hosted by Boldre Parish Council, which provided a networking opportunity. MH noted that the SE Quadrant and the NFALC covered matters relevant to the Parish Council.

BH circulated a report of the SE Quadrant meeting. MH asked a question regarding national government plans for permitted development change of use for farm and other buildings; a national consultation is pending.

A CPR and defibrillator training course, facilitated by EBPC, was well attended in November. BH thanked Jonathon Dowe first responder and Mike Upton, chair of the Emergency Planning Committee.

The Hampshire Constabulary speed watch coordinator advised that speeding drivers recorded by volunteers have now been contacted by post.

**14.0 Agenda items for next meeting**

Bus shelter seating. Missing post box update.

**15.0 Date of next meeting**

The next parish council meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 13 February 2024 at East Boldre Village Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.50 pm.

## Appendix 1 - Monthly payment schedule

East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule - Nov & Dec 2023					
Date	Payee	Detail	Folio	trans	Amount
<b>Payments</b>					
06-Nov-23	Royal Mail	PO Box	66	DD	£39.60
21-Nov-23	HSBC	bank charges	67	DR	£5.00
22-Nov-23	Go Cardless	Office 365	68	DD	£14.83
28-Nov-23	EB Village Hall	Hall hire 2023-24	69	BP	£300.00
28-Nov-23	South Central Ambulance	CPR training	70	BP	£60.00
28-Nov-23	Community Heartbeat	Defib maintenance x 3	71	BP	£475.20
28-Nov-23	Bournemouth Water	Allotment water	72	BP	£144.77
28-Nov-23	Rejuvenate	IT support	73	BP	£19.20
01-Dec-23	Plusnet	Parish CI phone	74	DD	£9.74
04-Dec-23	E Welch	Salary November	75	BP	£626.16
07-Dec-23	Royal Mail	PO Box	76	DD	£39.60
11-Dec-23	Peacock Computers	New Laptop and set up	77	BP	£630.00
21-Dec-23	EE Ltd	Parish CI phone	78	DD	£6.00
21-Dec-23	HSBC	bank charges	79	DR	£5.00
22-Dec-23	Go Cardless	Office 365	80	DD	£14.83
27-Dec-23	S Newey	Noticeboard refurb	81	BP	£40.65
27-Dec-23	E Welch	Salary Dec + backdated 1/3	82	BP	£761.36
27-Dec-23	E Welch	Expenses Nov & Dec	83	BP	£78.20
27-Dec-23	SLCC	Memb renewal	84	BP	£148.00
29-Dec-23	Plusnet	Parish CI phone	85	DD	£9.74
<b>Total payments</b>					<b>£3,427.88</b>
<b>Receipts</b>					
12-Nov-23	HSBC	interest	59	INT	38.04
08-Dec-23	[Name withheld]	Allot rent	61	bacs	£34.50
11-Dec-23	[Name withheld]	Allot rent	63	bacs	£23.00
12-Dec-23	HSBC	Interest	64	INT	34.42
<b>Total receipts</b>					<b>£129.96</b>
<b>Money transferred</b>					
28-Nov-23	HSBC	bank transfer	60	TFR	£1,500.00
11-Dec-23	HSBC	bank transfer	62	TFR	£500.00
27-Dec-23	HSBC	bank transfer	65	TFR	£1,000.00
<b>Bank reconciliation</b>					
<b>Balance as at date</b>					
HSBC Current					<b>£624.09</b>
HSBC Savings					<b>£19,560.82</b>
Less unrepresented cheques					
<b>Net bank balance as at date</b>					<b>£20,184.91</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>

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Add receipts					£18,302.96
less payments					-£13,403.28
<b><i>Closing balance as per the balance sheet</i></b>					<b><u>£20,184.91</u></b>

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## Appendix 2 Monthly report end Dec 2023

	2022-23	23/24			24/25
	Actual	Budget	YTD	Forecast	Budget
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Council business</b>					
Income	16,076.03	16012.00	16,249.07	16,245.00	16745.00
Expenditure	13,408.43	-16325.00	10,993.12	16,662.00	15875.00
Surplus (deficit)	2,667.60	-313.00	5,255.95	- 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	869.34	1760.50	2580.00
Surplus (deficit)	1,069.02	53.00	959.41	59.50	-659.00
<b>VAT recovered</b>	1,308.61		225.14		
<b>VAT paid</b>	1,073.63		403.95		
<b>net</b>	- 234.98		178.81		
<b>Total surplus (deficit)</b>	2,270.93	-1260.00	5,936.55	- 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	17,679.77	10,185.72	9396.72
<b>Cash at bank</b>	15,285.23		20,184.91		
<b>Adjustments</b>					
<b>Cash book balance</b>	15,285.23		20,184.91		
<b>Reserves</b>	11,743.22	8526.00	17,679.77	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	20,184.91	12,690.86	

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<b>Council business Income</b>					
precept	16,000.00	16000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16500.00
bank interest	76.03	12.00	249.07	245.00	245.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,076.03</b>	16012.00	<b>16,249.07</b>	<b>16,245.00</b>	16745.00
<b>Council business expenditure</b>					
salary	8,427.88	9000.00	6,403.95	9500.00	9300.00
stationery/post/phone	669.16	600.00	456.90	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	1,197.35	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>10,993.12</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	

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Rent,insurance	670.32	570.00	565.00	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>	<b>1695.00</b>	<b>869.34</b>	<b>1,760.50</b>	<b>2580.00</b>

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