

**East Boldre Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting held at the Village Hall
on Tuesday 11 April 2023**

Councillors present: Bev Hawker (Chair), Ian Moyse (Vice-chair), Mike Husband, Teresa Morrissey, Anna Rostand, Mike Urwin

Also present: County Cllr Keith Mans, Cllr Michael Harris, Cllr Dan Poole, Liz Welch (Parish Clerk)

In attendance: 4 members of the public

1.0 To accept apologies for absence

None.

2.0 Declaration of interest in agenda items

Cllr Urwin declared a pecuniary interest in item 9.1 (23/00134FULL)

3.0 To confirm minutes of the previous parish council meeting

Cllrs approved the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2023. Matters arising have been actioned or are in hand.

4.0 To confirm APM minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2023

Cllrs approved the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 14 March 2023.

5.0 To receive the Clerk's report

- Local elections: the Clerk confirmed that the East Boldre Parish Council elections are uncontested. Notices to advise the public were posted on 5 April.
- Allotments: Invoices have now been sent out. Holders have been advised that payment confirms consent to the agreement and rules. The mapping survey is still underway.
- PAYE: Conflicting advice on PAYE has been received. This is currently being addressed.

6.0 Report from New Forest District Councillor

Cllr Harris introduced his colleague, Cllr Dan Poole, who will attend future Parish Council meetings pending the 4 May elections. Cllr Poole was welcomed. Cllr Harris offered an update on the two Public Space Protection Orders, which have been approved following a public consultation where 95% respondents were in favour. This being his last attendance, the District Councillor said it was an absolute joy to attend the East Boldre Parish Council meetings over the years.

6.1 To receive questions on the report from the District Councillor

Cllr Urwin asked how the public would be informed about the PSPOs; Cllr Harris confirmed that there would be a concerted effort, and that as trustee and treasurer of the New Forest Show, he intends to encourage awareness through all channels available to him personally. Cllr Rostand praised Cllr Harris for his tireless work at District Council, support for East Boldre's community shop and for supporting local businesses. Speaking on behalf of all Councillors, Cllr Hawker thanked the District Councillor for his advice and support spanning many years. Appreciative applause followed.

7 Report from Hampshire County Councillor

County Cllr Mans gave an update on the pothole situation. The harsh winter conditions made temporary repairs a necessity, and longer term repair work is now underway. HCC staffing levels are low at present. Pre-Covid, there were around 2000 employees based at HCC's head office. Today there are fewer than 500, with many working on a part time basis. Cllr Mans advised that his devolved budget will be available from next month. The County Councillor went on to thank his District colleague.

Chairman's signature:

Date: 9/5/2023

7.1 To receive questions on the report from the County Councillor
Cllr Rostand asked if potholes can still be reported online. Cllr Mans said yes, adding that the Council becomes liable for damages caused after they have been made aware of it.

8.0 Public session

The Chair advised that planning application 23/00134FULL should be brought forward to the public session.

- A Village Hall trustee advised those present that, after many years' service, he is standing down. His replacement has not yet been found, and the Trustee went on say that more volunteers are needed to help keep the Village Hall running. A further member of the public advised that, after more than 18 years' service, she too intends to step back from bookings and other duties which have ensured the smooth and safe running of the hall to date. The Village Hall Trust needs more volunteers urgently. Cllr Hawker recognised their very hard work to date, not only with the Village Hall but in the wider community and thanked both individuals. Cllr Hawker noted the public meetings were to be held on Tuesday 2nd May 6.30 to 8pm and Saturday 13th May 2 till 4pm and agreed councillors would support these. Cllr Harris reported that the recent volunteer fair held in Brockenhurst was a great success and an event in East Boldre could be helpful.

ACTION:

- 1 Clerk to place an invitation on the Parish Council website for volunteers to come forward.
 - 2 Cllrs agreed to have a discussion in the future on what might be done to encourage residents to come forward.
- A member of public raised his concerns about the amended plans submitted for Tregonals Bungalow (23/00134FULL). Ongoing concern about the size of the proposed garden shed was reiterated. While the log store size has been reduced, the garden shed remains the same and the proposed location makes it more visible to neighbours and from the road. Neighbours consider that, with four buildings, the site risks overdevelopment. A question relating to the discharge of conditions was clarified by the Planning Officer. Cllr Husband suggested that the parish council's previous concerns have not been addressed. Councillors considered that, while the footprint may have been reduced, it has not improved the visible aspects and agreed that their initial objections should be resubmitted (item 9.1)
 - A representative from the Community Shop Committee shared news that the Chapel purchase is due to be completed by the end of the month. Share offer conditions have now been met. While noting that £127,000 still needs to be raised, the member of public thanked both the Parish Council and NFDC for their support to date. Cllr Rostand congratulated the Committee on their achievements and sought confirmation that the shop plans to open its doors at the end of August, with an official launch in October. Cllr Hawker asked for an update on plans for the King's Coronation weekend; the Committee are organising nine volunteer working parties on the 8 May. In response to Cllr Rostand's question about heritage, the member of public added that a 19th Century burial register had been located which revealed several interesting facts. These will be shared through a living history project. Space for touring exhibitions has been made available in the vestry area of the Chapel. The member of public was thanked for this update.

Members of public left the meeting.

9.0 Planning

9.1 23/00134FULL: Tregonals Bungalow, Lymington Rd, East End, SO41 5SS

23/00134 FULL	Garden Shed with log store	We recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed below.
------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------

Chairman's signature:

Date: 9/5/2023

		<p>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 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>
--	--	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

9.2 23/00340FULL: 8 Broomhill, East End, Brockenhurst, SO42 7WU

Councillors were not clear on plans in relation to the thirty percent rule and felt that the proposed extension appears disproportionately large. Councillors postponed reaching a decision until they had seen the NPA Planning Officer's briefing note.

9.3 23/00454CONS: St Johns Cottage, Main Road, East Boldre, Brockenhurst, SO42 7WD

Councillors noted the NPA Tree Officer's comments. No concerns were raised.

9.4 23/00247LDCE: Myrtle Farmhouse, Main Road, East Boldre, SO42 7WU

Councillors were not aware of any reason to oppose the LDCE.

10.0 Finance

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

Cllrs reviewed monthly accounts and noted bank reconciliation for March and year end. Cllr Hawker advised that £220 of the Parish's Lengthsman Fund went towards cutting allotment hedges in 2022-23, to help offset the allotment budget. This resource could not be guaranteed for future years if works are required elsewhere in the village. Noting that allotment expenditure had exceeded budget for 2022-23 and analysis of expected expenditure for 23-24, Councillors agreed rents for 2024-25 needed to be increased by 10%. Cllr Morrissey expressed concern that some plots contain trees or obstacles that restrict cultivation; Cllr Hawker agreed that a more proportionate charging rate should take account of such constraints.

10.2 To review the effectiveness of internal control systems and the annual governance statement (circulated).

No Concerns raised.

RESOLVED:

1. Cllrs approved monthly accounts and bank reconciliation to year end.
2. Cllrs resolved that allotment rents should be increased by 10% for 2024-25.
3. Cllrs approved the annual governance statement section 1.

ACTION:

Chairman's signature:

Date: 9/5/2023

- 1 Clerk to advise allotment holders of planned rent increase for 2023-24.
1. Cllr Hawker and the Clerk signed AGAR Section 1.

11.0 King's Coronation celebrations

Cllr Rostand advised that the School Fields Trust has no plans. Cllr Husband added that efforts are centring around supporting the community shop event.

12.0 Broadband update

Cllr Husband reported that the new completion date for the Community Fibre Scheme is now 29 November 2023. This was met with mixed feelings among Councillors. The issues faced by residents on Masseys Lane and nearby are ongoing. Cllr Rostand suggested an article in the Lymington Times might be helpful. Cllr Moyses asked whether Openreach would write to those households who are still waiting for the upgrade.

13.0 To receive reports from external meetings

Cllr Rostand attended the School Fields Trust AGM. Noting that the meeting was well attended, Cllr Rostand drew attention to challenges that include neighbour complaints about evening hall bookings, and the need to attract new recruits. Cllrs picked up on discussions earlier in the meeting (item 8).

14.0 Agenda items for next meeting

Broadband; annual meeting; election of Chair and Vice Chair.

17.0 Date of next meeting

The next parish council meeting will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 9 May at East Boldre Village Hall.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Appendix 1

East Boldre Parish Council payment schedule - March 2023					
Date	Payee	Detail	Folio	trans	Amount
Payments					
03/03/2023	Plusnet	Parish CI phone	107	dd	£8.52
14/03/2023	ICO	Data protection certificate	108	dd	£35.00
21/03/2023	HSBC	Bank charges to 27 Feb	109	dd	£5.00
21/03/2023	Mint Gardens	Allotment hedges	110	bacs	£576.00
21/03/2023	HALC	Clerk update	111	bacs	£12.00
21/03/2023	HALC	Clerk finance trng	112	bacs	£36.00
21/03/2023	Steven Rickman	Allotment track repair	113	bacs	£66.10
21/03/2023	SLCC	ILCA training	114	bacs	£144.00
22/03/2023	Gocardless	Rejuvenate IT services	115	dd	£11.28
27/03/2023	Royal Mail	PO Box	116	dd	£38.10
30/03/2023	E Welch	Salary	117	bacs	£1,105.97
30/03/2023	E Welch	Mileage + expenses Feb Mar	118	bacs	£133.45
30/03/2023	Rejuvenate.it	Technical support	119	bacs	£20.80
31/03/2023	Plusnet	Parish CI phone	120	dd	£8.52
Total payments					£2,200.74
Receipts					
12/03/2023	HSBC	bank interest	73	bacs	£14.27
Total receipts					£14.27
Money transferred			74& 75		£2,000.00
Bank reconciliation					
Balance as at date					
HSBC Current					£473.48
HSBC Savings					£14,811.75
Less unpresented cheques					
Net bank balance as at date					£15,285.23
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows					
Opening balances					£18,455.79
Add receipts					£19,164.64
less payments					-£22,335.20
Closing balance as per the balance sheet					£15,285.23

Chairman's signature:

Date: 9/5/2023

Appendix 2

Monthly report - March 2023				
	2021/22	22/23		23/24
	Actual	Budget	YTD	Budget
	£	£	£	£
Council business				
Income	16,001.66	16,002.00	16,076.03	16012.00
Expenditure	13,581.84	15,955.00	13,408.43	-16325.00
Expenditure as % of precept		99.72	83.80	
Surplus (deficit)	2,419.82	47.00	2,667.60	-313.00
Projects				
Income	4,797.58	-	-	
Expenditure	3,262.00	2,300.00	4,104.49	-1000.00
Surplus (deficit)	1,535.58	- 2,300.00	- 4,104.49	-1000.00
Allotments				
Income	1,423.00	1,585.00	1,530.00	1748.00
Expenditure	1,563.11	1,560.00	2,599.02	-1695.00
Surplus (deficit)	- 140.11	25.00	- 1,069.02	53.00
VAT recovered	228.70		1,308.61	
VAT paid	725.36		1,073.63	
net	- 496.66	-	234.98	0.00
Total surplus (deficit)	3,318.63	- 2,228.00	- 2,270.93	-1260.00
Reserve brought forward	10,695.52	14,014.15	14,014.15	9786.00
Reserve carried forward	14,014.15	11,786.15	11,743.22	8526.00
Cash at bank	18,455.55		15,285.23	
Adjustments				
Cash book balance	18,455.55		15,285.23	
Reserves	14,014.15		11,743.22	8526.00
Commitment	4,442.00		3,542.37	2509.00
Total	18,456.15		15,285.59	11035.00
Council business income				
precept	16000.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	16000.00
bank interest	1.66	2.00	76.03	12.00
Total	16,001.66	16,002.00	16,076.03	16012.00
Council business expenditure				
salary	8,397.87	9,000.00	8,427.88	9000.00
stationery/post/phone	742.26	550.00	669.16	600.00
travel	157.15	400.00	216.50	400.00
office	433.29	400.00	400.00	400.00
equipment	73.61	600.00	-	600.00
training	491.00	500.00	306.42	300.00
newsletter	149.95	450.00	556.00	450.00
hall hire	250.00	250.00	300.00	250.00
audit	440.00	440.00	190.00	200.00
insurance	450.27	440.00	481.65	500.00
defibrillators	396.00	400.00	396.00	400.00
Speedwatch		-	28.00	
football pitch	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00
subscriptions	1,136.24	1,300.00	1,211.82	1500.00
election expenses				500.00
maintenance	239.20	1,000.00	-	1000.00
Total	13,581.84	15,955.00	13,408.43	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	-	4,014.49	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	4,104.49	1000.00
Allotments income	1,423.00	1,580.00	1,530.00	1748.00
Allotments expenditure				
rent refund	12.50	-		
Rent,insurance	428.64	550.00	670.32	570.00
water	221.97	250.00	282.60	125.00
hedging	500.00	360.00	480.00	600.00
fencing	400.00	200.00	-	200.00
maintenance		200.00	1,166.10	200.00
Total	1,563.11	1,560.00	2,599.02	1695.00

Chairman's signature:

Date: 9/5/2023