



# EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN

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EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at 8.00 pm on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January at the EYSC.**

**Present:** Cllr V Henry (in the chair), Cllrs J Bloomfield, M Benoy, J Lilley, J Mitchell, M White  
Sgt Sutherland  
PCSO Phil Snow  
1 member of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

001 (2020) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** were received from Cllrs N Clowes, I Davis and X Riley

002 (2020) **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

The Parish Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes as an accurate account of the meetings.

003 (2020) **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.** none were made

004 (2020) **ADJOURNMENT:** - no matters were raised.

005 (2020) **SURREY POLICE:** Sgt Sutherland attended the meeting with PCSO Phil Snow. Sgt Sutherland is the Neighbourhood Sergeant for the Godalming and Cranleigh area and has been in that role for 18 months. Restructuring in 2016 had resulted in all Neighbourhood Police officers being taken out of the community and police visibility was severely reduced. Inspector Gary Smith is very keen that the police get back out into the community. Sgt Sutherland and her team have 9 parishes to cover.

There are two policing teams: the specialist neighbourhood team and the neighbourhood policing team. Sgt Sutherland explained the make up of each team and the areas covered.

A school engagement programme involves visiting all schools in the area of which there are 42.

The police are also dealing with scams and are anxious to talk to local groups, to advise them of the warning signs.

There have been a number of shed breaks in this area.

*Contact:*

Emergencies: 999

Non emergency: 101. Or use the Surrey Police website.

Email Waverley team: [waverley@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:waverley@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

Direct phone number: 01483 630086

006 (2020) **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:** Cllr Riley had sent the following report:

‘Since our November meeting, the consultants (Sarah Nelson - SDNPPA) were engaged and have carried out the work we requested. All responses from the Regulation 14 stage have been reviewed, categorised by whether they related to planning permission specifically (the “filtering” we discussed at the last meeting), with many receiving written recommendations for further action.

Some parts of the draft plan (from reg 14) have also received updates with suggested rewording - mainly this is to “tighten up” some of the policies with a view to national and local planning policy. There are other areas that have been highlighted as requiring change with suggestions on direction, however some requirements (e.g. for local knowledge) mean that the PC will need to decide the wording for these ourselves.

In addition a higher level “health check” has been provided with further recommendations about how to structure the plan more effectively.

The fact that these are not ready to present at this meeting is my fault for which I apologise. I didn’t respond promptly enough this week to allow Sarah the time to answer my few remaining queries. Once she has done so, I

will share the comments and the health check with the PC.

With the facts of the matter out of the way, my summary is that the report is positive. As expected, there are some changes to be made but it looks like we can make progress with this version. The main “headline” relates to highways - it seems likely that several of the issues included in the plan would be better served by pulling these out and making them the responsibility of a specific traffic/highways working group within the PC. This is because many highways issues fall under SCC’s remit rather than planning policy specifically.

The other news is that the site assessments and any references to future allocations (including the HLAA and SEA appendices) have been recommended to be removed from the plan and shelved. I’m seeking a clarification on this though.

Outside of the consultant’s work, I have also been contacted by members of the two working groups for environment and heritage. Following the publication of the draft plan at Regulation 14, there was concern that their work was under-represented or in some cases omitted from the final plan. Without wishing to cover old ground, I’m looking at ways that these can be re-assessed for inclusion in the updated plan. This is easier to justify where they address specific feedback from parishioners, but I’m also looking at other ways to make greater use of this work without delaying the plan. I have been provided copies of both their original submissions and they are “oven ready” so it would make sense to use them at this stage as, in my view, they aren’t in conflict with any other policies and would address some of the feedback from earlier consultations. If this isn’t possible (e.g. if it would delay the plan or require re-consultation) I suggest that we make a plan to include them in a future update to the plan as soon as it is possible to do so.

Before February I will convene with MB as the NP sub-committee and make recommendations at the next meeting for the steps to get to Regulation 15. If it’s possible, I will start drafting the required amendments before then too.’

Clr Benoy did not think this course of action covered the guidelines, which he had drawn up to deal with the entirety of the NP and which had been agreed by Council. There were 50 pages of comments from residents, making it appropriate to re-draft sections of the NP, and this did not allow for that to be done. He was concerned about explaining to the community what had been taken out of the NP and the reasons why. The Chairman explained that the consultant could not be expected to deal with all issues and that there would be separate working parties for specific areas. At the next stage, there would most likely be a separate document which covers all issues not covered by the NP. Cllr Mitchell summarised that the consultant is responsible for the NP, the Parish Council is responsible for dealing with the areas that should not be in the NP.

007 (2020) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE Appendix 2:** 18<sup>th</sup> November, 16<sup>th</sup> December. Noted and agreed

008 (2020) **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Appendix 3:** *Receipts and payments* to end of December 2019 and expenditure against budget statement. Noted.

**Appendix 4:** *budget for 2020/21:* Members reviewed and ratified the budget for 2020/21 and associated Precept request. Cllr Henry Proposed the budget as tabled and a Precept request of £98,960, representing £5.44 per month for a Band D equivalent property, Seconded by Cllr White and agreed unanimously.

**Appendix 5:** *St Peter and St Paul:* request for support of fund raising events: Members agreed to allow the Roof Repair Project team use of the hall on the 6<sup>th</sup> March and 28<sup>th</sup> November, and use of tables for the 31<sup>st</sup> March and 19<sup>th</sup> September without charge. They also agreed that not to make a grant for church repairs.

009 (2020) **REPORTS :**

*Planning – Val Henry:* Zac Ellwood has been appointed Head of the Planning Dept at WBC.

*Finance – James Mitchell and Mike White:* nothing further to report

*Neighbourhood Plan: Xavier Riley, Michael Benoy:* nothing further to report

*Glebe Committee – Val Henry and Mike White:* a very enjoyable fund raising carol concert had taken

place at Christmas and there will be a fund raising quiz evening shortly. The Bowls Club and Glebe had agreed to advertise each other's events.

*Communications and Technology – James Mitchell And Xavier Riley:* Cllr Riley will be asked to put a re-direct on the old website, which is still coming up in searches and causing confusion.

*Ellens Green – Nigel Clowes, Julia Lilley:*

- i. **Grasstex:** there is foul smelling water in the ditch next to this business. WBC and the Environment Agency advised that they are investigating, but the situation remains the same. The Clerk will follow this up.
- ii. **Flooding at Ellens Green:** Highways have advised that they will be digging out the existing ditch line at the end of January, beginning of February, potentially installing further ditches and creating a flood plain.

*Parish Buildings – Mike White:*

- i. Cllr White is discussing the possibility of making all Parish Council buildings carbon neutral with an expert in the field. They will also include the Infant School in their investigations.
- ii. **Front windows at hall:** members agreed to consider replacing these windows with double glazed units, as they are in a bad state of repair. Cllr White will obtain a quote for the February meeting.

*Environment – James Bloomfield:*

- i. **Burial ground pond** – LEAP have completed this winter's management. Following on from the November work party two further work parties were carried out – one in December 2019 and one in January 2020.
- ii. **Footpaths** – In late November an obstruction (large dead oak leaning over path) to footpath 432b (footpath that leads from William's Close to just after the bridge at the bottom of Plough Lane) was reported to me. I reported this to SCC Highways who promptly cleared the obstruction.
- iii. **Fly tipping** – Incident of fly tipping on Bridleway 374 (where it joins Somersbury Lane). I reported it to Waverley (Ref. No. FS-Case- 165487811) and this was quickly removed by Waverley B.C.

*Waverley Update – Val Henry:* The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk will meet with the Leader and Deputy Leader of WBC on the 25<sup>th</sup> February.

**Representative to Weinerberger Liaison Group:** Cllr Henry advised that this group covers issues concerning the parish, particularly transport, and meet 4 times a year. Cllr White and Cllr Clowes will liaise to represent both ends of the Parish.

## TREES

- a) *Quotation for tree work at recreation ground.* The Clerk has authorised work on the smaller trees, the cost of removing the large Ash is £1850. Cllr Bloomfield pointed out that the original assessment specified that the tree would be removed by climbing rather than using machinery, as has now been quoted. The Clerk will seek clarification.
- b) *Arboricultural report:* car park and burial ground. The Clerk has requested a report.

## 011 (2020) EWHURST GREEN POND

Plan for creating a regular maintenance programme is still ongoing.

### Waverley's position;

- They are not in a position to undertake regular tasks.
- They would be open to the opportunity for the local residents and Parish to set up a local volunteer group who could undertake such tasks and WBC would be willing to pay for the group's insurance costs.

### Action so far;

- Have talked to Ewhurst 'LEAP' – they may be able to help with volunteers (subject to other commitments)
- Have asked Ranger (David Oliver) for a site meeting as well as clarification on insurance

### Options (all subject to approval by WBC and E&EGPC);

- Volunteer work parties to clear pond vegetation (minimum of once a year)

Note – The size of Cricket Green Pond is a challenge for any volunteer group e.g. what can be realistically achieved

especially as the vegetation in the pond has proved in the past to be much more difficult to remove than is experienced in the Burial Ground Pond.

- Employ a contractor (subject to funds) to clear pond vegetation (e.g. every 3 years)

**Next steps;**

- Organize volunteer work party for next autumn/winter
- ask WBC to provide funding for EPC to maintain the pond

012 (2020) **BULLS HEAD GREEN**

Work has been carried out to identify to cause of the problem, further action will be taken by WBC. Nothing further can be done about clearing the scrub area until this has been completed.

013 (2020) **BT PHONE BOXES**

The Parish Council has applied to retain the phone boxes at Bulls Head Green and Ewhurst Green, and to adopt the phone box at the Old Post Office. The phone box at Baynards is in Cranleigh Parish.

014 (2020) **ELLENS GREEN MEMORIAL HALL PLAYGROUND CELEBRATION**

Cllr Lilley tabled an article which will go into News and Views. It was agreed to take no further action regarding the suggested celebration.

015(2020) **VILLAGE HALL POND**

- a) Members agreed a request from LEAP to plant wildflowers behind the pond. This would mostly consist of scattered wildflower seeds, but also some Yellow Rattle planting. The area will be protected with wooden posts and an explanation display board installed.
- b) members agreed that the contractor should be instructed to clear the brambles between the pond area and the burial ground.

016 (2020) **EWHURST CARNIVAL**

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020

The Chairman and Clerk will represent the Parish Council on the committee

017 (2020) **PLANTERS FOR HALL**

The Clerk tabled a catalogue from Amethyst Horticulture who provide planters with internal reservoirs for water, thus reducing the need for watering. She requested two planters, to be placed outside the village hall and proposed that the Horticultural Society be asked for their advice on appropriate planting. This was agreed by all present.

018 (2020) **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A) *Surrey Hills Management Plan 2020-2025*
- B) *Surrey Community Action: Report on the case for Affordable Rural Housing*
- C) *Surrey Waste Local Plan*
- D) *Childrens Services in Surrey: the letter from Cllr Mary Lewis had been circulated and was noted.*
- E) *Surrey New Tree Strategy: noted*

019 (2020) **PARISH BUSINESS**

- i. Accident at junction of Green and Street: this is a regular occurrence. It was agreed to bring this accident black spot to the Local Committee, and to investigate cutting back the trees, installing stop signs, and hatching on the road.
- ii. Annual Parish Meeting: The Clerk will take this forward and will advise a date and format in due course.
- iii. Neighbourhood Plan Working Group: Cllr Benoy announced his withdrawal from the working group, but would be happy to give assistance where appropriate.

020 (2020) **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT FULL MEETING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL: 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 8pm, EYSC**

- a) Annual Parish Meeting
- b) Village hall windows

021 (2020) **EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Motion: "In accordance with the provisions of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted: letter from parishioner

The meeting closed at 10.20pm