



EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN

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EWHURST PARISH COUNCIL WITH ELLENS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.

Minutes of a **REMOTE MEETING** of the Parish Council held at 8.00 pm on **Tuesday 28th April 2020**.

Present: Cllr V Henry (in the chair), Cllrs J Bloomfield, N Clowes, J Mitchell, X Riley, M White.
Borough Cllr K Deanus
1 member of the public

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs J Cadman

057 (2020) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** were received from Cllrs I Davis and J Lilley.

058(2020) **VACANCY:** a Casual Vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council and is advertised on our and the Borough Council website. If 10 electors call for an election within 14 days, the election will be deferred to May 2021. The vacancy can otherwise be filled by co-option.

059 (2020) **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16th MARCH 2020:** Members **resolved** to approve the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.

060 (2020) **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.** Cllr White declared an interest in 069 (2020) Bowls Club.

061 (2020) **CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC:** Current actions to support the Parish: The Clerk reported that, following the last meeting, a leaflet had been distributed to all households in the parish advising residents how to access help. Banners had also been erected in four places, giving numbers to call for help and information. The Parish Council are working with Ewcare, who are co-ordinating volunteers and help. The Parish Council had received £700 in donations to be able to assist those in need, which is being administered by the Henry Smith charity. Hazelbank Stores are delivering groceries to people who are unable to shop for themselves. The cemetery is open for burials and is on the Waverley list of availability for excess burials, if required. All parish council premises are closed to the public and are being cleaned and checked on a regular basis. Rainbows End are using the hall occasionally for the children of key workers and it was agreed to waive their rent during this period, Proposed by Cllr Henry, Seconded by Cllr Riley, all in favour..

062 (2020) **STANDING ORDERS FOR THE CONDUCT OF COUNCIL BUSINESS DURING THE COVID 19 CRISIS**
Members approved the procedures set out in the additional standing orders. Proposed by Cllr Clowes, Secded by Cllr White, all in favour.

063 (2020) **SAFEGUARDING POLICY**
Members approved the Policy and noted that the Clerk, as safeguarding officer, will ensure that any organisation for which the Parish Council has responsibility has DBS checked members where appropriate.
Proposed by Cllr Riley, Seconded by Cllr Clowes, all in favour.

064 (2020) **ADJOURNMENT:** - During the adjournment members of the public may speak on matters of concern
No matters were raised.

065 (2020) **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**
Cllr Bloomfield joined the meeting at 8.13pm.
Cllr Riley reported as follows:
He is currently working through residents' responses from the Regulation 14 consultation. WBC had commented that the maps in the document needed to be re-done for accuracy and Cllr Riley recognised that they were an

important part of the document , but he was experiencing a problem in finding high quality maps to work with. He asked for agreement to request help from our consultant.

Cllr Henry advised that WBC had recently undertaken a conservation area survey and she would ask those responsible for this if they could help with mapping.

Cllr Bloomfield agreed to assist Cllr Riley with this work.

Cllr Riley Proposed, Seconded by Cllr Clowes, that up to £500 be spent on acquiring maps of sufficient quality, whether through the consultant or by other means.

066 (2020) **THE PLANNING COMMITTEE** : Cllr Henry advised that the decisions on the three applications determined by Council in the last month by email consultation had been sent to WBC.

067 (2020) **FINANCIAL REPORT: Receipts and payments** to end of March 2020 and expenditure against budget statement were noted.

Members noted that the internal audit will take place in May, and Council will be asked to approve the Annual Return and Governance statement once this has taken place. Arrangements will be made for public right of scrutiny of the accounts following that.

The Finance Committee arranged a meeting for later in the week to review the receipts, payments and reserves. The agreed accounting statements will be presented to Council at the May meeting.

068 (2020) **REPORTS :**

Planning – Val Henry:

- a) Land at 1 Gadbridge Lane: the Planning Inspectorate had announced that the appeals service will continue to operate during Covid 19. A written response had been sent by the Parish Council to the recent appeal against the refusal of the first application.
- b) Maple Stud: withdrawn
- c) 3 Greenside Cottages: granted
- d) Rosewood, Gransden Close: withdrawn
- e) Land at Gadbridge Lane: the second application has been refused.
- f) Land next to Pennings,, Plough Lane: there has been a large scale removal of trees and undergrowth from this site. Although there is no breach of planning regulations, the work has been a danger to wild-life.
- g) Land at Hunters Lodge: a large outbuilding has been erected on site. The WBC enforcement officer has visited the site and has some concerns.
- h) Cranfold Woods: Cllr White was concerned that large areas of wood had been cleared, away from the road, with the trees taken out and the coppice left to rot. Cllr Henry said that this has been reported to WBC. It was also noted that plots were offered for sale by auction.

Finance – James Mitchell and Mike White: a meeting will be held later in the week.

Neighbourhood Plan: Xavier Riley: nothing further to report

Glebe Committee – Val Henry and Mike White: a piano stool has been gifted to the Centre. The reception has been decorated and the large cupboard in the main room reconfigured.

Communications and Technology – James Mitchell And Xavier Riley. the old website continues to be monitored in order to acquire the domain name when it comes up for renewal next year.

Ellens Green – Nigel Clowes, Julia Lilley.

Ditch at Furze Lane: the culvert in the road had collapsed. The adjoining land is owned one side by a resident, the other by WBC. Cllr Deanus undertook to follow this up with Cllr Clowes.

Parish Buildings – Mike White. Nothing to report at present , as all projects are on hold due to the virus.

Environment – James Bloomfield.

a) Fly tipping

Incident of fly tipping on Bridleway 374 (where it joins Somersbury Lane). Amongst this fly tipping was the body of dead dog (with collar). I reported both incidents to Waverley B.C. and these were quickly removed by Waverley. It was later confirmed that the dog had been micro chipped.

b) Rights of way

No LEAP footpath work parties have taken place since the Covid 19 restrictions came into force.

Footbridge on footpath 432b (photos attached) -footpath that leads from William's Close to just after the bridge at the bottom of Plough Lane – a defect was reported to me by a resident. Surrey County Council rights of way web site showed this had already been reported. A repair (possibly only an emergency repair) has been carried out. Not able to follow this up with SCC as Countryside Access team are only dealing Priority Level 1 issues during Covid 19 restrictions.

Footpath 437 (photo attached) - footpath leading from Cranleigh Road to Recreation Ground – PC contacted by a resident regarding concerns about exposed tree roots. I inspected the path and concluded that, although some roots were exposed, these did not constitute a serious trip hazard. However, following this inspection and one I carried out in February, it is clear that the surface of this path is in need of maintenance/improvements. Recommend PC to explore potential for developers of Cherry Tree Lane to fund such work.

Footpath 439 (photo attached) - footpath near Slythhurst leading to Cranleigh Road – new kissing gate and a gate have been installed by 'The Ramblers, Godalming & Haslemere Group & SCC Countryside Access' with the cooperation and contributions from the local landowners. It appears the Godalming & Haslemere Group have been, over several years, helping to improve rights of way access at various locations in the Parish. Recommend that (1) PC should thank to all parties involved and (2) establish contact between the Parish Council, LEAP footpath group and Godalming & Haslemere Group.

Access to Recreation Ground – I have asked Chair and Clerk for advice regarding a gate that is providing pedestrian access to the Recreation Ground.

c) Trees

Land adjacent to Pennings, Plough Lane - Resident reported that two mature trees had been felled at this site. On visiting, the whole site had been completely cleared of all vegetation. It was disappointing to see such work carried out at this time of year (7th April) and that a mature and apparently healthy oak had been felled.

Land for sale at Lower Canfold Wood – although this is not in the Parish of Ewhurst I have informed council members of this due to its strategic location and importance in maintaining local biodiversity.

Waverley Update – Val Henry: Cllr Henry invited Cllr Dilley to update members:

- a) Planning: applications had not decreased, it appeared that some landowners were taking advantage during the lockdown period.
- b) Eastern area planning committee is to amalgamate with Central . Cllr Dilley is unsure how this will work, as Eastern were a strong planning committee and their influence will now be less.
- c) Most other functions at WBC are now on hold as resources are concentrated on the essentials. The big issue will be the financial impact on WBC, as government help will be minimal compared with costs.
- d) WBC have had little success at planning appeals. Alfold had a quota of 125 houses and permission has been given for 274. Another application for 80 dwellings is to be submitted shortly.

Weinerberger Liaison Group: Mike White and Nigel Clowes. there have been no meetings

Carnival – the Clerk the Carnival has been cancelled for this year, but the committee are investigating whether to hold an evening concert.

069 (2020) **BOWLS CLUB CAR PARK:** Quote for £400 to repair 10 potholes.
Cllr White Proposed that this quotation be accepted, Seconded by Cllr Clowes, all in favour.

070 (2020) **PARISH BUSINESS:**
a) Jon Kaufman had carried out his final cut of the common and the contract had now been awarded to Paul Stevens.

- b) The Clerk and Deputy Clerk are taking this opportunity of premises closure to review the parish council website.
- c) Sayers Croft have opened up a walk around the nature reserve for all parishioners and have issued a map.
- d) Cllr Henry reminded members that the Parish Council has a fund for special circumstances during this pandemic, administered by the Henry Smith Charity. She asked members to contact the Clerk if they knew of anyone who needs help.
- e) VE day anniversary is on the 8th May and it is hoped that the village will celebrate, even while socially distancing.
- f) Footpath to Lilyfields: the finger post is missing. Cllr Bloomfield will check the location and report to the Clerk.
- g) Cemetery: in lieu of a footpath working party in May, Leap will tidy some of the graves in the cemetery which are badly overgrown with weeds and saplings and clearly don't have family members to care for them. Members are invited to go to the cemetery at their own time, to work for no more than an hour and to bring their own tools and refreshments, in line with current government guidance.

071 (2020) **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT FULL MEETING ON THE PARISH COUNCIL: Monday 18th May 2020, BY CONFERENCE CALL. Please note: this will not be an Annual Meeting, due to the Parish Council being unable to meet in person. The Annual meeting will be deferred to May 2021.**

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.