



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held via Zoom on
Monday 15 March 2021 at 1830**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Steven Ridgeon (Vice Chair), David Cooke, Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake, Matt Atkinson, Charles Ritchie, Andrew Hales, Marc Atkinson (joined from 7.13pm-8.34pm), Sharon Sillence (joined at 7.26pm)

Suzie Brooker (PC), Cllr Rob Mocatta

1. Apologies for Absence

None received

2. To receive any Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

Cllr Matt Atkinson declared his family had submitted a Planning Application

3. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2021

The Chair asked Councillors to consider whether they felt the minutes were a true record of the meeting. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were and they were approved as read. Proposed by Cllr Steven Ridgeon, seconded by Cllr Tom Tyrwhitt Drake and duly signed as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the meeting on the 25 January 2021

a) Speed Watch & Traffic calming measures

The Chair reported that Helen Galliano, Head of the Speed Watch had been researching equipment and looking into the possibility of borrowing some items. Cllr Cooke informed the Council that as restrictions were lifted, dates for training volunteers would now be proposed. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake reported that Ian Janes from HCC hoped to meet in the village during April to discuss possible traffic calming measures and that he would report back at the next meeting.

Cllr Hales reported he had been encouraged by the 20 is Plenty organisation which recommend how to approach local councils for a reduction to 20mph. Cllr Mocatta reported that HCC had completed a 9yr study on 20mph speed limits across Hampshire and concluded not to carry out any further 20mph projects.

TTD

b) Double yellow lines, Speed Reduction Sign & Sign at The Cross

Cllr Atkinson reported he had spoken to Ian Janes and would meet with him when he visited the village in April to discuss the double yellow lines outside the school, increased traffic through Oxenbourne and also directional signage to East Meon. He also reported that the Speed Reduction Sign was with the manufacturer who would try and fix the ongoing issue so it should be back in place shortly. Cllr Atkinson informed the Council that a sign would be

installed at the entrance to Workhouse Lane advising drivers to turn right into Church Street to alleviate increased traffic along Workhouse Lane and The Cross. He hopes to install the small “Do Not Follow Sat Nav” sign at the entrance to the Cross from the East/West Meon Road.

MJA

c) Stiles

Cllr Matt Atkinson reported Simon Hills would install a gate on the footpath in Frogmore. A wicket gate would be installed at the top of the steps going onto Frogmore Lane. Cllr Atkinson raised concern about the erosion of the steps due to the amount of water running off the field and reported that they had become very dangerous. The Chair would look into funding for the replacement or repair of the steps. Cllr Atkinson reported a gate had been installed at Templars Brow and that one gate remained which would be installed at Duncombe, however he would wait to hear from the landowners about their plans for replacing the fence.

MJA

d) Noticeboard

Cllr Marc Atkinson reported that although the noticeboard had been installed it still needed to be sign written. Jane Martin has kindly offered to do this, however she would require stencils. All Councillors agreed an expenditure of £65.00 to pay for the stencils. Cllr Atkinson raised concern about the type of glazing that had been fitted in the noticeboard and was discussing the matter with Leydene Glass.

MA

e) Pavilion

Cllr Tyrwhitt Drake reported he had met with BCM, a land agent company and had discussed the current demand for rural office space. Due to the pandemic, businesses were cautious although BCM felt that by Autumn the demand for commercial property would increase. Cllr Tyrwhitt Drake also reported he had received quotations for repair work to the Pavilion and detailed the possible options. Cllr Ridgeon reported that the planning application for partial change of use was ongoing but is likely to be a lengthy process. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the various options for repair work, floorplans and possible use of the facility by a local football team. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake would arrange for Ronnie Hunt to assess the Pavilion’s roof and guttering and establish what work would be required. He would also see if he could prepare a floor plan. The Chair would submit an application for the EHDC grant of £625 towards the Pavilion repair work. Cllr Sillence would continue to look at possible use of the football pitch and Pavilion by a local team.

SR/TTD/SD/SS

f) Replacement Tree on Washer’s Triangle

The Parish Clerk reported that the cherry tree had been delivered and Chris Brooker would plant it in the coming week. The Councillors agreed for the tree to be staked rather than use protective fencing.

PC

g) Section 106 monies

The Chair reported that we would receive funds for the tennis net and posts, however there had been an increase in the price. She also reported that the East Meon School application for lighting the MUGA should be approved.

SD

h) Coronavirus update

The Chair reported that the All Sports Court would open on 29th March and a notice about Covid regulations would be put in place. The Chair had also placed new notices at the Green, the Recreation Ground and Allotments.

SD

i) Recycling information flyer

Cllr Hales reported that EHDC had produced a comprehensive double sided flyer and he would request copies from EHDC which would be sent out in Meon Matters.

AH

j) EHDC grant

Following the earlier discussion about the Pavilion, the Chair would submit the grant application for repairs to the Pavilion.

SD

k) Protection of the bridge and pavement opposite Ye Olde George Inn

Cllr Ritchie reported that this would be discussed when Ian Janes from HCC visited the village in April.

l) Update on Fiveways & Limekiln Lane

The Chair reported that Fiveways had now reopened following a campaign by horse riders. Limekiln Lane would remain closed.

SD

5. Parish Matters

a) Parish Clerk Contract of Employment

The Chair asked Councillors to approve the Parish Clerk Contract of Employment and Job Description which had been circulated. All Councillors approved, proposed by Cllr David Cooke and seconded by Cllr Tom Tywhitt-Drake.

SD

b) East Meon Nature Group update

The Chair reported that Cllr Marc Atkinson would step down as Bio-Diversity Councillor and would be replaced by Cllr Steven Ridgeon who would now be the liaison between the Parish Council and EMNG. The Chair confirmed that the Toads Crossing signs were in place and that EMNG had patrolled each evening resulting in a large number of toads

and newts had been safely escorted across the road. Cllr Ridgeon reported that the Wildflower planting would commence in mid April.

SD/SR

c) Lengthsmen

Cllr Cooke reported that the current Lengthsmen had resigned and that the position had been advertised. He advised that a local resident had expressed interest in the role of Lengthsman for East Meon, but not the entire cluster. The Parish Clerk had contacted HCC to enquire if funding would be available if the Parish left the cluster. **DMC**

d) Annual Parish Assembly

The Chair reported that the APA would be held via Zoom and would be advertised to encourage residents to attend. The Councillors agreed that EMNG would present at the APA and that the Parish Awards for 2020 and 2021 would be presented in person at a village event in the summer.

SD

e) Parish Award

The Chair had emailed nominations for the award to the Councillors and the recipient was agreed by the majority of Councillors.

SD

f) Disabled Access to the Recreation Ground

The Chair reported she had spoken with Sue Williams who advises organisations about disabled access. She had kindly agreed to look at access to the Recreation Ground and other Parish Council owned spaces and provide a report at no cost to the Council.

SD

g) Presentation to SDNP on BOATS

The Chair reported that the presentation to SDNP scheduled for March had been postponed until their meeting in May. The Chair's presentation had been circulated to the Councillors and was unanimously supported. **SD**

h) Sign for Car Park users

The Chair had suggested placing an information sign in the Workhouse Lane car park for visitors to the village providing details of the pubs, loos and other useful information. The Councillors supported the idea and Cllr Ritchie would look at possible options. **CR**

i) Parking issues in the Village

The Chair had been contacted by a resident about concerns over the increased parking in the village and the possibility of more double yellow lines. A discussion ensued and it was agreed to review the issue in the Autumn when traffic and parking would hopefully be less influenced by lockdowns. The Chair would update the resident concerned. **SD**

j) Platinum Jubilee June 2022

The Chair thought it would be appropriate to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Philippa Tyrwhitt-Drake had kindly agreed to organise a group of volunteers. Cllr Sillence would be the liaison between the organising committee and the Parish Council.

SS

7. County/District Councillor report – Rob Mocatta

Cllr Mocatta had circulated an informative detailed breakdown of EHDC Council Tax expenditure. He highlighted that East Meon Parish Council offered good value for money and he would like residents to be aware of the services their Council Tax funded. The Chair suggested that Cllr Hales included the information in Meon Matters and the Parish Clerk would update the website. Cllr Mocatta was thanked for his report.

8. Planning

Cllr Ridgeon reported there had been 9 planning applications including 5 dwellings, 2 farms, 1 tree works and one other and confirmed there had been no objections.

Cllr Ridgeon updated the Council on the Westbury House pre application. SDNP planning department had commented that in principle parts of the plan presented in the pre-application had some merits, but there was still a lot of work to be done.

The Chair thanked the Planning Committee for their continued work.

9. Open Forum

There were no residents present

10. Finance

Report on the Financial Position to date for the year to 31st March 2021

The PC had circulated a report to the Councillors which provided a summary for the year to date showing the actual position against the year's budget. There had been little expenditure since the meeting in January. Items of expenditure to highlight were the annual fee of £360 for the Parish Council's PO Box address, the purchase of a new printer for £130.33 and the agreed donation of £500 towards Churchyard maintenance.

An outstanding amount of £50 from Frogmore Car Park income would hopefully be received by the end of the March.

The PC reported that between 23 January – 9 March 2021, 10 payments totalling £1,760.29 had been made. All Councillors present approved the payments.

The bank balance on 9th March 2021 was £20,578.58.

A full financial pre-audit report would be produced for Councillors at the end of the financial year and a report would be produced for the Annual Parish Assembly.

The internal audit date had been moved and would now take place on Wednesday 5 May 2021.

11. Any other business including correspondence of note

- The Chair and those present congratulated Cllr Cooke on his forthcoming Golden Wedding Anniversary
- Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake requested that Grass Cutting be added to the agenda for the next meeting. PTC would inspect the sites shortly prior to the cutting season.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.29pm

Signed:

Date: