



**Parish Council Meeting
Held at East Meon Village Hall on
Monday 18 September 2023**

Present: Councillors Susan Davenport (Chair), Charles Ritchie (Vice Chair), Steven Ridgeon, Matt Atkinson, David Cooke, Andrew Hales, Sharon Sillence, Sarah Round, Tom Tyrwhitt-Drake
Rob Mocatta, Sam Marchant (PC), and 1 member of the public attended.

1. Apologies for Absence

No absence to report

2. To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interest

Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake declared an ongoing planning application.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Chair asked the Councillors to consider whether they felt the Minutes were a true record of the meeting held on 24 July 2023. Councillors who had attended the meeting confirmed that they were, and they were approved as read.

Proposed by Cllr Cooke and seconded by Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake and duly signed as a complete and correct record.

4. Open Forum

No matters raised.

5. Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting on 24 July 2023

a. Progress report on sewage leaks in Workhouse Lane (SD)

The Chair was pleased to report that following the meeting with Southern Water representatives when various commitments had been made there had been progress. The Victorian pipe running along Workhouse Lane is to be CCTV checked later this month and then jetted and cleared of any FOG before the winter months. A second CCTV check and jetting had also been booked for January to assess and prevent build-up of FOG. The issue of sewage bubbling up in the two residents' gardens was being addressed. She also stated she had a zoom meeting arranged for later this month with the PR officer for Southern Water with a view to SW producing a leaflet to advise residents of how they can help to keep the pipes clear of FOG. The next issue of Meon Matters would be focusing on sewage. The Chair assured Cllrs that she would continue to keep the pressure on Southern Water. (SD)



b.King Charles III Coronation Plaque (SD)

The Chair reported that the King Charles III Coronation Plaque had been ordered and that the cost had been covered by EHDC grant monies from Cllr Mocatta. Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake and Cllr Atkinson agreed to install the plaque once it had been collected. (SD)

c.Painting of Frogmore bridge and railing (TTD)

Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake reported that the Hampshire Monday Group of volunteers had made a great job of brushing down, cleaning and giving the railings in Frogmore a first coat of paint with the second coat of paint to be applied in the next few days by him and a Bereleigh decorator. He asked Cllrs for their opinion on leaving the concrete as it is in line with advice, he had received that any paint would probably deteriorate quickly, he proposed a thorough clean of the concrete instead. Cllrs agreed to this with Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake to inform residents concerned. (TTD)

d.Path across The Green (TTD)

Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake reported that two similar quotations in the region of £5,000 had been received for removing the current path across The Green and relaying a wider and flatter path with a timber edge. It was agreed that Cllr Tyrwhitt-Drake should go ahead and instruct one of the two companies to carry out the works and that CIL monies would be used for the project. (TTD)

e.Tree survey report (SRound)

Cllr Round reported that she had contacted Hampshire County Council to inform them of the trees adjacent to the highway that had been identified as a danger in the recent tree survey. There were additional trees needing attention on three private properties and two Abri properties, Cllr Round confirmed that she would be contacting the relevant owners. (SRound)

f.Lengthsman (DC)

Cllr Cooke reported that the Lengthsman had carried out work in the village twice in the last month, his completed jobs included clearing around the Yew tree in Frogmore and cutting back the brambles and nettles along the Frogmore allotments path. The footpath leading from the Recreation Ground toward the pond in Frogmore was then discussed as it had become overgrown, Cllr Atkinson agreed to contact the owners. (MA)

g.All Sports Pavilion report (CR)

Cllr Ritchie reported that repairs following the water leak at the Sports Pavilion were now complete with Hiscox insurance covering all costs with the exception of the SSE bill which was still being considered. (CR)



h. Harvest FC report (CR)

Cllr Ritchie reported that the Harvest Reserve team had been considering a return to East Meon to join the under 16 team already using the pitch. (CR)

i. EMNG/Environmental report (SR)

Cllr Ridgeon informed Cllrs that there was no new information to report and that the next EMNG meeting had been arranged for October. A complaint about the untidiness of the wildflower area by the Sports Pavilion was discussed. Cllr Ridgeon agreed to report this to the group. (SR)

j. Footpaths and BOATs report (SD)

The Chair reported that the East Meon Footpath and BOATs Warden, Brian Biggs, had produced his first report on all BOATs in the East Meon parish. These reports would be produced every two months and footpath reports twice a year. She had attempted but had been unsuccessful in contacting Megan Cledwyn from Hampshire County Council Countryside Access Team, to discuss a plan of action going forward. Cllr Mocatta said he would chase her. She also informed Cllrs that there was a meeting of the Hampshire Countryside Access Forum on 3 October to consider works and renovations on the BOATs in the area, questions to be put forward can be passed to Debbie Luff as a farmer representative. Cllr Mocatta also informed Cllrs that Hampshire County Council would be looking to amend their policy on BOATs in the near future.

k. CIL money projects working party report (AH)

Cllr Hales informed Cllrs that once the Parish Priorities Statement had been submitted and follow up action agreed the working party would bring forward projects for discussion.

6. Parish Matters

a. RFO FiLCA Training Course (SD/PC)

The Parish Clerk/RFO asked Cllrs whether they would be happy for her to attend a FiLCA training course specifically for RFOs for Parish Councils and covering all financial procedures and budget setting. The cost of £120 + to be split with Stroud Parish Council. Cllrs unanimously agreed to this. (PC)

b. D-Day 80 – 6 June 2024 (SD)

The Chair informed Cllrs that she had received an email regarding the D-Day 80 commemorative event for 6 June 2024 and asked Cllrs if they thought East Meon should be involved. Cllrs stated East Meon should take part in some way. Philippa Tyrwhitt-Drake had agreed to a beacon on Park Hill being lit with other ideas to be discussed further such as a possible church service, bell ringing, a service by the war memorial and a D-Day evening at the Village Hall. The Chair agreed to approach the Church Committee and Village Hall Committee.

(SD)



c.APA Speaker suggestion (SD)

The Chair asked Cllrs whether they thought a talk on sewage at the APA in April by the public relations officer of Southern Water would be appropriate. Cllrs agreed with this idea. The Chair to organise. (SD)

d.Remembrance Sunday (SD)

The Chair informed Cllrs that the Church would be holding a Remembrance Sunday service on 12 November to be followed by the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial. The Village Hall had been booked for drinks, teas and coffees after the service and wreaths had been ordered to be laid on behalf of the Parish Council, The School, and the Armed Services. Cllr Cooke agreed to organise traffic control. The Chair would look to inviting Langrish residents to attend if Langrish church was going to be closed by then. (SD)

7.County/District Councillor report

Cllr Mocatta referred to his report circulated prior to the meeting which can be found on the PC website.

8.Planning

a.Approval of 'consultation draft' of the East Meon PPS

Cllr Ridgeon reported that the 'pop in event' at the Village Hall on 2 September had been successful with 103 individuals attending and close to 200 comments being made. The information gathered would give weight to the Parish Priority Statement which was currently being prepared. The final draft to be approved by Cllrs via email would then be published and submitted to SDNPA by 20 October. It was suggested that once the final document had been agreed a link be shared on the FoEM Facebook page to reach more residents. The Chair thanked all involved for their hard work in delivering a successful presentation and statement.

b.Report by Chairman of the Planning Committee to include the Penny Mile development and defibrillator.

Cllr Ridgeon reported that six planning applications had been received, five for dwellings and one a tree, all were with no objection from the Parish Council.

With regard to the Penny Mile development, it was progressing well, with the first people scheduled to move in by the end of autumn. There had been concerns raised about parking in Coombe Road and the width of the road being diminished, Hampshire Highways had looked into these issues and reported that they had no problem with them. All contractors should now be parking on the site but if any vans were seen to be parked outside of the



development, please let Cllr Ridgeon know so he can speak directly with the developer.

He also was pleased to report that the owner of plot 1 had agreed to host the defibrillator and fund the electricity for the unit. The upkeep of the defibrillator would be carried out by Clive Tillbrook and his team with a new member to join them soon.

Westbury House had recently been sold and the new owner had plans to demolish the existing building and construct an entirely new property. The walled garden and glass house would be restored.

9.Finance

a.Completion of Audit 2022/23

The RFO reported that the external auditor, BDO, had completed their inspection of the accounts for 2022/23. Just one matter had been raised relating to the Recreation Ground Trust monies being included in the Parish Council accounts. This had now been rectified and BDO were satisfied with the action taken. The completion of audit 2022/23 had been displayed on the Parish Council website and noticeboard as required.

b.Presentation of actual v budget for the current year

The RFO presented her report of actual cost against the budget for the current year.

c.Approval of payments of invoices (18 July 2023– 11 September 2023)

The RFO reported on all payments between the dates of 18 July to 11 September 2023. Councillors unanimously approved all payments.

10.Any other business including correspondence of note.

Cllr Mocatta raised the national plan to turn landline connections off by 2025. He was concerned that some EM residents without mobiles or with poor connections would find themselves cut off and unable to contact emergency services. He proposed leading a survey and requested the help of the Parish Council, it was agreed to add this item to the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting on 20 November to be discussed further.

The traffic and parking issues along Church Street were discussed as farm vehicles had had issues passing through the village. The idea of removable bollards being positioned at harvest time was put forward and would be discussed further at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8:25

Signed:

Date: