



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
Held at East Meon Village Hall on Thursday 19 September 2013**

Present: Alan Redpath, (Chairman), George Atkinson, Brian Biggs, Chris Pamplin, Philippa Tyrwhitt-Drake (vice chair), Chris Warren, Sarah Cowlrick (Clerk)

The council conveyed their condolences to;

- The Atkinson family upon the passing of Wilson Atkinson, chair of EMPC 1991-99.
- Councillor Anella Parker-Martin upon the tragic loss of her son Dominic.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These were received from Annie Bone, Anella Parker-Martin, Councillor David Parkinson and Councillor John West (who was present for the first 15 minutes).

2 DECLARATIONS of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

There were none.

3 WELCOME OF NEW CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR Joe Selby was duly ratified and signed his acceptance of office.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING 9 MAY 2013 were approved and signed as a correct record.

5 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT : Cllr John West gave a verbal report at the start of the meeting and was thanked for his support regarding the refurbishment of the roads.

6 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT: Received as follows:

Joint Core Strategy : Everything is moving ahead for the Inspector's Examination in late October. If that is approved then it will be adopted by the end of the 1st quarter 2014. The Allocations Plan will then move ahead which should identify the level of housing according to the Settlement Policy Hierarchy, and this should be adopted by 2016. The SDNP plan to have their own Local Plan in place by 2017 that might contain slightly different allocations and policies than the current Joint Core Strategy, and any other plans would have to be modified to accommodate that new Local Plan.

Whitehill & Bordon : Councillor Parkinson had taken over the regeneration portfolio within EHDC's Cabinet - this is in addition to the Planning Portfolio - that includes all the economic development for the District as well as the plans for the Eco-Town. Progress is being made re the delivery stage for Whitehill & Bordon and detailed discussions are taking place with Defence Estates (DIO), County Council and the Home & Communities Agency about the actual delivery of jobs, commercial investment, infrastructure priorities and housing types and allocations. They expect the first planning application for the site around the old Quebec Barracks to be submitted in the first quarter 2014.

Start-Up Grants for Local Businesses : EHDC provides start-up grants to aid new businesses during their early phases of getting established. This is usually in the region of £500. Grants have been awarded so far for retail projects, but other sectors such as web design, car maintenance and visitor accommodation have also been applied for and are being considered. If any resident knows of any budding entrepreneur thinking of starting a business, Councillor Parkinson encouraged them to apply.

EHDC Supports Apprenticeships: The Council will provide match funding of between £3,000 and £7,000 per year for a two year apprenticeship. A base of £150k, sufficient for up to 24 apprenticeships, is being provided to fund the scheme. The fund is mainly financed by S106 receipts.

Discussion took place on the news that S106 monies had been not fully utilised by some local councils (coastal) to such an extent that it was reported on the news that funds had to be sent back to the developers. It' unclear as to the position with similar EHDC funds and PTD will pursue. SC raised the issue of the monies attributed to the Leydene development and a record that she had kept regarding monies being available for the upgrade of play areas. It was agreed that SC should also pursue this.

PTD

SC

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MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(a) **Allotments.** Renewal of licences for both sites were agreed. It was also agreed to write to tenants regarding the use of bonfires on the Frogmore site. The fee will remain the same. SC to circulate current plot plan to BB/JS/CW and they will confirm that they are correct or make adjustments as necessary.

BB/JS/CW

(b) **Replacement Tree on Village Green.** AR reported that the tree in question on the green has been identified as a Cedar and on advice it was recommended that it be removed because of the root spread being too close to the drain and path crossing the village green.

AR

Chris Booker offered to remove the tree at his own cost and the cricket

club have offered to pay for a new tree and tree guard - which was much appreciated by EMPC. It was unanimously agreed to plant a White Beam.

(c) Parish Plan – update on agreed actions. AR reviewed the current status of the Plan and the following issues were discussed:

- **Roads:** AR reported on an on-site meeting with HCC and reported on issues raised ie SLOW marked on the road, the re positioning of the sign in Clanfield end approach to East Meon. HCC advise that additional traffic calming measures would be incremental, building upon those that already exist.

The dangers of the road at the School were highlighted again and the need to educate parents. PTD advised that meetings were planned at the school to discuss ways of alleviating the problems. BB suggested a possible pedestrian solution which he and PTD would investigate.

PTD

- **Housing :** BB reported on a meeting with Drum/Radian/EHDC regarding social housing where it was reported that the new policy for social housing agreements included a local lettings policy which was welcomed. BB reported on measures to encourage tenants to take smaller properties and to deal with those tenants who did not confirm to regulations. PTD enquired as to whether any of the tenants had been affected by the bedroom tax.

- **Sport: A** new tennis net is required for the tennis court. SC had obtained 1 quote and it was agreed to seek another with GA would arrange. (to also include replacement turning handle (missing).

GA

- **Stiles:** BB reported that HCC now encouraged PC's to write directly to land owners who were not conforming to footpath and stile requirements instead of reporting through HCC.

BB

- **Lighting:** PTD raised issue of lighting. It was unanimously agreed that Heritage Lanterns and not the ugly LED lanterns were appropriate for the village. Cllr Bone is tracking this.

AB

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OTHER PARISH MATTERS

(a) Sub Committee Reports : Nothing further to report

(b) Issues re organised cycling groups: Quite a number of complaints from villagers about the growth of commercial cycling events dominating the village centre some weekends (organised by Cycling UK) – and also disrupting agricultural activities at crucial harvest times. While the parish welcomes cycling activities, there was an issue with the highly competitive commercial clubs. It was understood that the village hall facilities/car park have been rented 4 times in 2013 by the Cycling Club which meant East Meon was increasingly becoming a halfway rallying point with groups of competitive riders entering and leaving through the narrow village thoroughfares. JS agreed to discuss this with the Village Hall Committee and look to reviewing the hiring or imposing

JS

some restrictions to alleviate the problem.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Nothing further to report apart from BB recommended that the PC apply for the mapping access tool which was agreed. Discussion ensued on the funding and interim costs for the Plan and it was agreed that the PC would underwrite the development of the Plan up to £5,000 from reserves but the committee were quiet confident that there would be no costs due to grants available but they may be a delay in being repaid.

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PLANNING

- (a) **The Forge:** The following is a record of the planning process relating to the application of the Forge:

Revised Forge Planning Application – Planning process and Parish Council Response

The original planning application was presented to the Parish Council at their Feb 2013 meeting. The PC subsequently objected on two grounds;

- *Scale of proposed building and concerns and the addition of windows/solar panels at the rear giving rise to potential conflict with the Cricket club.*
- *The application was subsequently withdrawn.*

04/07/13 – *A revised Planning Application was received, and a design/info pack produced by the Crouchers was sent out to all Parish Councillors.*

14/07/13 – *Meeting to discuss the new application (B Biggs, A Redpath, P Tyrwhitt-Drake). Agreed to further actions.*

- *Although the Planning Committee had some 3 site visits in 2013 with the applicants, they asked B.Biggs to respond to Mr Croucher's request for a further site visit (PTD & AR were N/A) to clarify issues of continued concern;*
 - *A section 106 agreement*
 - *Measures to allay the concerns of the EM Cricket Club*
 - *Crown reduction and measures to ensure the health of the adjacent sycamore tree*
- *Arrange another meeting and if possible a full PC meeting to discuss the matter.*
- *Agreed that it was highly desirable for the application to be viewed by EHDC's full planning committee. - A Redpath to inform the EM Cricket Club that they would need at least 5 separate objections for this to happen.*

17/07/13 - The Crouchers letter to the EM Cricket Club detailing the measures they would put in place to alleviate the concerns of the CC, circulated to all members of the Parish Council

18/07/13 - B Biggs met with the Crouchers. They agreed to:

- Apply for a section 106 agreement - this was subsequently done

They also confirmed that the crown lifting work on the adjacent sycamore tree had been completed

23/07/13 - B Biggs sent a memo to all the Parish Councillors detailing the issues for and against supporting the application and inviting comments.

25/07/13 - Comments from the Parish Councillors were evenly divided in supporting/opposing the application. The following response was agreed by the planning committee and had prior circulation to all members of the Parish Council.

"There is divided opinion regarding this application, both within the parish council and in the wider community, therefore the parish council would request, that given you have received the minimum required five letters of objection, that this application is decided on planning policy by EHDC's planning committee. We would also request that this is referred to our District Councillor, David Parkinson, so that he is aware of the position of both the parish council, and interested residents".

The application was recommended for approval by the planning officer and subsequently passed by the EHDC full planning Committee on 19th August 2013. Ends.

- (b) Planning Applications:** BB reported on 21 planning applications being considered since the last PC meeting, only 3 contentious. The Forge , Riplington Farm and Ripling House.

FINANCE

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(a) Current Report

The Clerk gave an overview of the current financial situation and the likely outcome of expenditure versus income at the end of the financial year which she reported was presently well within budget.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- AR congratulated George Atkinson on his RSPB regional award
- Dates for the next meeting as previously agreed Thursday 21 November 2013. The following dates were agreed for 2014 : Thursday 30 January 2014, Annual Parish Assembly evening of 23 April 2014, Thursday 8 May 2014, Thursday 11 September 2014, Thursday 20 November 2014.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 11.20am

Signed:

Date: