



Enborne Parish Council

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MINUTES FOR THE POORS ALLOTMENT CHARITY

MONDAY 20th JANUARY 2020 – 7.30pm in the Barn, adjacent to the Church.

Trustees Present at the Meeting: Cllr. Leeson (Chair)

Cllr. Garrett

Cllr. Ramah

Cllr. Kendall

Clerk: Mrs K Lloyd

Note the Pools Allotment Charity Trustees are all members of the Parish Council.

Guest Speakers: Jane Grindey and Jo Slimin from Calleva Community Energy.

In attendance: 13 members of the public.

1. **APOLOGIES**

Cllr. Robinson sent apologies.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of Interest received.

3. **SOLAR PANELS ENERGY CONSULTATION –OPEN TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS- UN-MINUTED**

To note: The public question agenda item is usually unminuted but it was felt some points following the public consultation would be helpful to the public that could not attend the meeting.

The Trustees were joined by Jane Grindey and Jo Slimin from Calleva Community Energy. Calleva Community Energy are a community owned energy hub based at Calleva park in Aldermaston, Berkshire. Please look at the website www.callevacommunity.uk for more information.

Jane spoke about Calleva's vision and their achievements and what difference it had made to the community installing solar panels. They then answered questions from the public attending.

The main concern raised by the public consultation was the visibility impact. Options of screening were discussed but more information would be required.

It was established a feasibility study would be the best course of action which could answer the questions from this consultation. A feasibility study would not cost us anything as grants were available to conduct a feasibility study but would provide information regarding the field including on visibility impact; at least, it was agreed, it would be good to learn more about the field.

Jane from Calleva said if the feasibility study was successful and following further public consultations, the next step would be planning which is a very meticulous process including at least 12 different reports from biodiversity, archaeology, area view, flooding, etc.

Cllr. Garrett said following Cllrs. Leeson and Garrett leaflet drop, to date, 230 questionnaires were delivered, 37 replies were received, 25 supporting the proposal and 12 objecting. Cllr. Garrett said that planting trees in the field was an alternative which was proposed from some of the objectors. It was also mentioned that if the Parish Council dissolved in the future, West Berkshire Council would take control of the parish and something worse could potentially be placed in the field.

Cllr. Leeson reminded everyone that West Berkshire Council declared a state of climate emergency in July 2019 and this could be one way Enborne could help in offsetting its carbon emissions. Following the declaration of climate emergency, a draft 'Environment Strategy' went out for public consultation and everyone should consider submitting comments. For any of you who have not yet seen it, please follow the link <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=36647>. West Berkshire Council would encourage all to respond to the consultation which closes at 5pm on 21 February, thank you.

The Trustees thanked Jane and Jo for attending the meeting to help answer questions. The Parish Council appreciated the people who attended the consultation and thanked them all for coming. Cllr. Leeson reminded the public we 'The Parish Council' are here to serve your community and it is great to receive feedback and hear your views and thoughts.

Following the consultation, the consensus among the Trustees was it would do no harm at this stage to pursue a feasibility study providing we can obtain the grant needed to fund the study, and then to follow this up with further public consultations. However, no formal decision was made and the Trustees will consult together before deciding whether to go ahead or not and how to apply for the grant.

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS POORS ALLOTMENT CHARITY MEETING

Members **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to confirm and adopt the minutes of the Poor's Allotment Charity meeting held on Monday 16th September 2019.

5. FINANCE

- a) Bank Account Income

Payment to Mr J Leeson for the subscription to CLA	£236.00
Building Society Balance	
Newbury Building Society Account	£8,695.73

6. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 2018

The income and expenditure was approved and Cllr. Leeson signed the statement shown as Appendix 1.

7. GRAZING LICENCE TERMS

Cllr. Leeson gave a report on the management and maintenance of the charity field. It was agreed to renew the grazing licence for the coming year at the same cost.

8. **TRUSTEES QUESTIONS/REPORTS NOT NOTED AS AGENDA ITEM**

No further reports raised.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next Poor's Allotment Charity Meeting is on Monday 11th May 2020 at 7.30pm.

Meeting Closed