



Enborne Parish Council

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MINUTES

ENBORNE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2020– 8pm - REMOTE MEETING.

Present: Cllr. Garrett (Chair)

Cllr. Leeson (Vice-Chair)

Cllr. Kendall

District Cllrs. Cole and Bennyworth.

Clerk: Mrs K Lloyd

In attendance: 1 member of the public.

The Clerk announced that the meeting is being recorded for minute purposes. The recording will be deleted once the minutes are approved.

1. **APOLOGIES.**

Cllr. Ramah and Cllr. Rowels, (the District Councillor) sent apologies.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No Declaration of Interest received.

3. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS.**

Members **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to confirm and adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council remote meeting held on Monday 6 July 2020 and the 24 August 2020 Intermediate Planning meeting.

4. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS - UN-MINUTED.**

Cllr. Garrett said the members will bring item 9 on the agenda forward to allow for a discussion following one member of the public attending the meeting that had asked to speak on the item. The member of the public had emailed the Parish Council before the meeting proposing this item.

There were no public questions.

9. Allotments

The resident of wash common who has lived there for 25 years would like to run an allotment service for the Enborne Parishioners. The resident explained the wash common allotment site had an awfully long waiting list, which he is also on. If there was some parish land that could be given for allotments, he would be happy to oversee it. Cllr. Garrett said the only parish land is the Poor's Allotment Charity Field, which is now currently under review for a feasibility study, to find out if a solar farm can be done. The Parish Council does not own any other land and as we do not know how much area the solar farm will take up and even if it can be done, we cannot give any land here until this has been resolved. Unfortunately, this may take up to six months to resolve, but on a positive note, there could be an opportunity for an allotment site on this land in the future. All the field will not be used for a solar farm, and a proportion will be used for screening. However, Cllr. Garrett

said the soil substrate would present challenges and there would be an issue with access. Cllr. Garrett invited the member of the public to meet with him at the Poor's Field to look at the soil substrate suitability. Cllr. Leeson said if the solar farm went ahead, then the access will be considered and this in turn may be an advantage for an allotment site. Cllr. Leeson also said he discussed it with a local farmer, next to Enborne street, top of Bell Hill, which is used as a paddock, they had said they considered offering their land for allotments, but, building material has been deposited on the land so the useability may be poor for allotments.

However, it may be worth asking the site that has been used in previous years for the gardening show as this maybe a more useable allotment site. Cllr. Leeson said he would speak to the people that manage the field and let the member of public know. *Post meeting note: the owner of the field in question is not interested in making any of it available for allotments.*

The member of the public thanked the Parish Council for their time and consideration and left the meeting.

ACTION: Cllr. Garrett/Leeson.

5. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

No planning applications received on publishing agenda.

West Berkshire Council Decision Notices.

20/01525/FUL Longcopse Farm, Vanners Lane for a Section 73: Variation of condition 1 'TP five years' of approved application 15/03471/FUL: Section 73A: Variation of Condition 3 - Use restrictions of approved application 06/01465/FUL (Field shelter for retired circus ponies)

West Berkshire Council GRANTED the planning application.

6. **FINANCE.**

Members **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to confirm the September payments as shown in Appendix 1.

The CASHFLOW for September was noted, and no questions were raised.

7. **ASSET REGISTER.**

Cllr. Leeson thanked Cllr. Garrett for retrieving the laptop from storage, which turned out to be a different laptop (Apple) to what was shown on the Asset Register. Cllr. Leeson said he would visit the storage lock up to look for the listed laptop. Cllr. Garrett said he would pass the key to Cllr. Leeson.

The question of the (VAS) Vehicle Activated Sign listed on the Asset Register was still to be confirmed. The Clerk confirmed West Berkshire Council (WBC) maintain and said they take responsibility for the VAS. Cllr. Leeson confirmed the Parish Council paid 50% for the VAS but was not sure if it should be on the Parish Council Asset Register. The Clerk said she had again already emailed WBC to ask who takes ownership for the VAS following recent communication with Cllr. Leeson and is waiting to hear.

The entrance gates were also questioned on their ownership, the Clerk said this is normally Highways, WBC. It was raised by Cllr. Garrett that the entrance gates need to be repainted as the paint is peeling. The Clerk will log this with WBC.

ACTION: Clerk/Cllr. Leeson

8. **TREE FELLING ON TWO AREAS OF LAND NR ANDOVER DROVE.**

The Parish Council was copied into an email to WBC from a resident who has concerns over two large areas of natural woodland in Enborne which are being cleared of trees at an alarming level. It was also mentioned that two old and apparently unoccupied caravans are also present on one of the sites. One of the site's (behind Enborne Row) has been subject to planning application development in the past but had been refused.

Cllr. Garrett shared their concerns and noted since living in Enborne he too has seen several woodland trees disappear. Cllr. Garrett said he would write an email to the tree officer at WBC to express the Parish Councils concerns over this woodland.

ACTION: Cllr. Garrett.

9. **ALLOTMENTS**

This item was moved up to after item 4 public questions.

10. **ROADSIDE VEGETATION / FIRST PORT ESTATE MANAGEMENT.**

Cllr. Leeson reported that WBC said they will clear the verge within the adopted highway next to the road in late Autumn /early Winter. Cllr. Leeson was hopeful this will happen on both the west and east sides of the existing Spring Gardens hard footpath thus enabling safe pedestrian access from Enborne Row to Newbury. Also, Cllr. Leeson reported that the hedge belonging to Hillview House beside the Woodpecker pub has been trimmed back but unfortunately not enough to pass by easily. Cllr. Leeson has emailed WBC to ask if they could revisit to ensure the job is done properly.

11. **WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL BRIEFING OF PLANNING WHITE PAPER.**

The Clerk had previously emailed, The Planning White Paper ('Planning for the Future') which was published on 6th August. It proposes the most fundamental change to the planning system since the current system was introduced in 1947. The document has been published for consultation, with an end date of 29th October.

The Clerk asked if members had read the email which is a slide presentation from Bryan Little at WBC. The Clerk said she did not fully understand it all, but from what she had heard and read, there may be less involvement from Parish Councils and local authorities in this new planning process. And perhaps neighbourhood plans may become more apparent. Cllr. Cole agreed the planning process needs to be changed but did not agree with all the principles within the paper. Cllr. Cole suggested the members read the slide presentation by Bryan Little, and it is worth Parish Council's making a response. **ACTION: All Members**

12. **WILDFLOWER IN VERGES.**

Cllr. Ramah previously asked Cllr. Garrett for an estimate of the area that was proposed to seed so that Cllr. Ramah could work out how much seed is needed. Cllr. Garrett said it was estimated to be around 1sqm but had not replied to Cllr. Ramah as he was having second thoughts on it.

District Cllr. Rowels had sent an email regarding being involved with WBC, as follows.

.... The project is likely to be led and carried out by Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust. There are a few internal sign offs required (by West Berkshire Council) and, subject to any procurement issues, we will be asking the Trust communication team to speak to all the parishes who have been in touch with us. It may go quiet for a time, but you will hear from either Paul Hendry at West Berkshire Council or the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust in due course.

Cllr. Garrett said perhaps we wait to hear from WBC before proceeding any further at this time.

13. **COUNCILLORS / CLERK -ANY FURTHER REPORTS/QUESTIONS.**

Bank Accounts.

The Clerk said following on from a previous meeting it was agreed to move the parish council account from NatWest to another provider due to the bad customer service from NatWest. It was agreed to enquire into opening a community account at Nationwide. Once the Clerk had investigated this, she was informed that Nationwide do not provide community accounts anymore.

The Clerk did a bank comparison.

Metro has great customer service but charges £20 per month for online banking for a community account when other banks provide this service for free. This left HSBC and Barclays. The Clerk proposed Barclays as said she already uses Barclays online banking for another Parish and is familiar with them, and already has a card reader. After discussion, all members agreed to move the Parish Council account to Barclays from NatWest.

The Clerk asked for confirmation from the members for who would be the authorised signatories. Cllrs. Chris Garrett, John Leeson and Natasha Kendal all said they would be prepared to be an authorised signatory on the account, along with the Clerk as an authorised signatory to allow for the online rights.

The Clerk will start the process going and warned the members it can be a lengthy process; the authorised signatories will need to visit the bank with their ID and a credit check might be requested if they are not already a Barclays customer. **ACTION: Clerk.**

Enborne Facebook Page.

The Clerk asked Cllr. Kendall why the Facebook page was not a public page as all other parish community Facebook pages tend to be public. Facebook can bring communities together and is what Enborne needs. Cllr. Kendall said she wanted to police it first but was happy to make it public. After a discussion Cllr. Kendall said she would disable the Facebook page and make it public and see how it went. Cllr. Garret said he does not know enough about social media to make comment on this item

A discussion took place regarding using Facebook for Parish Council business. Cllr. Kendal said it would not hurt to post the odd post advertising meetings on the page etc.

The Clerk minded members that adverts are fine, but no Parish Council business can be commented on any forms of social media by any members. The Parish Council is a body and individual members cannot discuss any parish council business on Facebook. All members need to attend meetings with an open mind to discuss agenda items.

Local landowner has raised concerns over the cruel treatment to livestock.

Cllr. Garrett reported that a local landowner has raised concerns over the cruel treatment of his livestock in the field at the corner of Andover Drove and Enborne Street. The field is crossed by a public footpath and is popular with walkers. Four teenagers were seen in the field throwing stones at the cattle. When challenged they ran off and were unfortunately too fleet of foot to be caught. It was added to the website and the Facebook page.

More Councillors needed

It was noted by the Clerk and members that we need to advertise for more councillors, Cllr. Robinson had not attended a meeting since May and if only two councillors attended, we would not be quorate
The Clerk will draft an advert for the website and Facebook page. **ACTION: Clerk.**

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting is Monday 9th November 2020.
(These will be remote meetings unless government advises otherwise)

Statement of Accounts
Accounts for Payment SEPTEMBER 2020

Expenditure brought forward 20-21 £2,900.95

Payments

Cheque No	Payee	Description	Amount
<i>Already Paid in between Meetings</i>			
195	Autela Payroll Services Ltd	Clerk Payroll	£ 64.01
<i>To Approve in Meeting.</i>			
196	Kim Lloyd	Clerk Salary - Aug	
197	Kim Lloyd	Clerk Salary - Sept	
198	WBDC	Contrib to PC election 02.05.19	£ 75.00
SO	Newbury Self Store	Storage - Aug	£ 74.32
SO	Newbury Self Store	Storage - Sept	£ 74.32
199	HMRC	Clerk Income Tax	£ 200.80
200	Autela Payroll Services Ltd	Clerk Payroll. QTR. 2 July, Aug, Sept	£ 51.25
201	Chris Garrett	Expenses. Title Deed, flyer print expense	£ 28.16
			<u>£ 1,372.20</u>

Receipts

Total Receipts £ -

Financial Position as at September 2020

Balance carried forward 31/03/20	£ 81,333.10
Income for year 20-21 to date.	£ 8,997.50
Less payments for year 20-21 to date	£4,193.74
Total including Reserves	<u>£ 86,136.86</u>

Projected Year End 2020/2021

Opening balance from 2019/20	£ 81,333.10
Add forecasted Income for year 20-21	£ 17,995.00
Less forecasted payments	-£ 17,955.00
Forecasted year end balance	<u>£ 81,373.10</u>

Kim Lloyd
Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer
14.09.2020