



Enborne Parish Council

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MINUTES of the Meeting of Enborne Parish Council 4th November 2024 At The Falklands Cricket Club, Enborne Street, Enborne RG14 6TW

Present: Cllr. Val Bolan (Chair)
Cllr. Peter Tompkins (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Chris Garrett
Cllr. Giles Whitefield
Cllr. Natasha Kendall

Parish Clerk: Mrs Kim Lloyd
District Councillor: Cllr. Tony Vickers
Public: 17

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Sam Dibas, District Councillor, Dennis Bennyworth and Denise Gaines

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS

Cllr. Tompkins asked for the declaration that he read out under declaration of interests in [23rd September 2024](#) PC meeting to be repeated, in which his family owns farmland in Enborne. In addition to this under Planning Applications item 5, Cllr Tompkins family own land adjacent to: 24/01999/FUL / 24/0153/FUL and Item 6: 23/02596/FULMAJ Long Copse farm

Cllr. Tompkins also reported that the legal action declared at the September's meeting has now commenced. Cllr. Tompkins said this was in his best interests as he wanted to clear his name in failure of the defendant not correcting their statement. The statement continues to have an affect on Cllr. Tompkins personal and commercial business interests. Cllr. Tompkins said that this legal matter could have an impact on Enborne Parish Council business if the defendant claims that they had an attack from Enborne Parish Council as a body rather than Cllr. Tompkins only.

Cllr. Garrett and Whitefield declared an interest as Trustees of the Enborne Charity Field when discussing the Solar Farm Reserves under the Budget item 9.4.

3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

One member of the public raised the concerns of the ongoing activities in the open field opposite the Grange which was causing noise pollution. It appeared to be used as a construction site. Parish Council was asked to investigate this.

4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 September 2024 were approved with one amendment noted from District Councillor Tony Vickers to amend the word 'Officer' to 'Councillor' under Cllr. Tompkins statement declaration of interest.

Cllr. Garrett proposed, Cllr. Giles Whitefield seconded, with all in favour apart from one abstention from Cllr. Tompkins.

5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

5.1 New planning applications to consider.

- [24/01999/FUL](#) Mount Pleasant Farm, Enborne, Newbury, RG14 6RN. The change of use of land to a gypsy and traveller caravan site.

Enborne Parish Council resolved to strongly object. Please see this link for the [representation](#) submitted to WBC. This planning application will be called-in to a further Planning committee if it was to be approved because it has over 10 objections.

Cllr. Tompkins abstained.

- [24/02083/HOUSE](#) Siesta, Enborne Row, Wash Water, Newbury RG20 0LX. Orangery to replace existing conservatory, Porch to replace front loggia.

Enborne Parish Council resolved to no objections. Cllr. Tompkins abstained.

5.2 To receive reports of recent planning decisions taken by WBC

- [24/01053/FUL](#) Land Off, Andover Drove, Wash Water, Newbury RG20 0LZ. Erection of two dwellings with associated parking and landscaping. **WBC Refuses permission.**

6 WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN 2022-39, POLICY RSA25 / PLANNING APPLICATION [23/02596/FULMAJ](#) LONGCOPSE FARM USE OF LAND FOR THE SITING OF 24 TRAVELLING SHOWPERSONS PLOTS

Cllr. Tompkins provided an update of the Inspectors Draft Local Plan Hearing on 3/10/2024. Cllr. Tompkins raised points to the inspector that no evidence was presented for a need for 24 show persons plots at this site. It was highlighted that in 2019/2021 the evidence for this need was referred to the 2015 evidence, that didn't include that there was a need. The site owner at the time said he had no intention of building 24 plots. It was thought the District Council assumed this was a need without checking the evidence. This evidence is not robust as the site owner is now saying that they do have a need for 24 plots.

The Inspector spoke of the arrangement of what actions would be required if RSA 25 were to be removed, but no actions were delivered to West Berkshire District Council at that time. EPC are still waiting to hear the Inspectors decision.

District Cllr Tony Vickers present in the parish council meeting said it could be a matter of weeks before the inspector finalises the local plan. If RSA25 is removed, this may need to go out to consultation again which could be delayed until 2025.

Cllr. Tompkins said regarding the planning application 23/02596/FULMAJ. There is still no detailed supporting data regarding foul discharge etc. It was thought that this application could not progress due to not adhering to policy. Enborne Parish Council are waiting to hear on the decision.

As in September's meeting EPC are prepared to carry out a judicial review if the decision were to be approved.

7 CHARITY FIELD SOLAR FARM

Cllr. Garrett updated Council on the solar farm consultation on 21/10/2024. Calleva are in the process of making a grid application to SSEN. A preliminary application has already been carried out which was satisfactory and now the detailed application is being worked on. Until they get the approval on the application they cannot access the economics of the farm. Once this was in place they would then be looking at funds to build the farm. 2025-2026 is the estimate when fundraising would start and 2026 would be when it would be built.

8 NEWBURY STORAGE UNIT

The Clerk reported that she moved all archive files, Printer and 2 drawer filing cabinet to a smaller storage unit at Newbury Storage. The Clerk had added EPC to a waiting list for a smaller unit as EPC were paying for 50% of space they did not need. The Clerk has 2 keys and will pass one key to the chairman of EPC.

9 FINANCE

Income and Expenditure

9.1 The Payments were resolved to approve as per Appendix 1

9.2 The Bank Reconciliation to 1st October 2024 was noted

9.3 A CIL payment received for 1 April to 30 September 2024 was noted:

- 23/00252/FUL Vanners Farm, Vanners Lane, Enborne, Newbury, RG20 0LB: £6.75

9.4 The Draft Budget for 2025-2026 was circulated via email to Council before the meeting and considered in the meeting as shown in Appendix 2. The Precept Request deadline is not until 31.01.2025. It was agreed to confirm the precept in January when the tax base figure is known from WBDC. This figure will provide how much a band D household would pay towards their parish council through their council tax.

Reviewing the Clerks forecast balance on 1st April 2025, it was noted that all available funds were now reserved. The Clerk said that funds could either be taken from the reserve allocations to go towards the running budget which was just short of £16k for 2025-2026 or the full budgets precept could be requested

Cllr. Vickers in attendance reported that a consultation is about to be circulated regarding Parish Councils taking on further responsibilities if needed. This was presented at the recent District Parish Meeting. The proposal is to cut back on District Council spending. Some of the cutbacks are dog waste collection, additional gully and ditch clearing, sign cleaning, bus shelter maintenance. It was agreed that much of the proposed cutbacks out for consultation would not affect Enborne. The consultation will however be reviewed fully before the Enborne budget is finalised in January.

It was discussed that to maintain Enborne budget without touching the reserves it would need to increase the precept by 50% from previous year. The Solar Farm reserve allocation also needs more consideration ready for discussion in January

10 CLERK'S REPORT

10.1 The Clerk had received a Subject Access Request' (SAR) from a parishioner on 25/10/2024. The Flyer 'Save Enborne' regarding the siting of 24 caravans becoming a traveller site had an image which belonged to this parishioner.

The flyer was nothing to do with EPC. From what EPC knew was that a separate group of parishioners not affiliated with Parish Council had been formulated and had produced the

flyer. On this said flyer was an image that belonged to the parishioner who was also a past Enborne parish councillor. The Clerk had circulated the SAR to Councillors and asked for them to check all their data for any images belonging to this parishioner. The Council resolved to having nothing. The Clerk had checked the files in the Newbury Storage lock up and parish council electronic directories and hard copies, nothing was found.

11 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

11.1 Reports from Ward Members

- Cllr. Vickers said Members bids are open for any capital projects funding from WBDC. Some bids have been submitted from other adjoining parishes already.
- The WBDC Chief Executive is leaving. A new interim director will be appointed this week.

{Cllr. Vickers left the meeting}

11.2 October Parish Report from Cllr. Bennyworth was received

11.3 Reports from Parish Councillors

Cllr. Garrett reported that 3 parish noticeboards needed consideration:

- The noticeboard outside Enborne Church is in terrible condition, it cannot be locked, and one person cannot add a single notice because of the difficult mechanism of opening it and posting
- The one outside the school has had the key lock damaged and the door is now unable to open
- Enborne Row is still in standard condition.

The Clerk will investigate costs of new noticeboards before the next meeting. It was considered to perhaps not replace the damaged noticeboards. There were also thoughts to share a noticeboard with the church.

- The Chair, Cllr. Bolan is attending the Enborne Church Remembrance Service and will lay a poppy wreath on behalf of the Enborne Parishioners at the war memorial in Hampsted Marshall.

12 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Website accessibility
- New Noticeboards for the Parish
- Budget and Precept setting

13 DATES OF FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS (all at 7.30pm)

Next Meeting will be held in January 2025, unless an Extra Ordinary Meeting is needed earlier.

The Clerk mentioned changing the day of meeting from a Monday to a Wednesday or possibility a Tuesday. The Clerk will speak to the ward members of their availability before arranging. The meeting dates will be advertised on the website for 2025 once confirmed.

Meeting Closed 20:36

Appendix 1 - Payment approved

Invoice No /Ref	Details	Name of Payee	Amount
2238	Clerk Payroll, September	SME Accounting Services	£ 12.00
Sept	Clerk Salary, September	Kim Lloyd	
Sept	Employee/er Income Tax/NI Contribution	HMRC	£ 51.40
Sept	Clerk Pension, September	Berkshire Pension	£ 208.00
251283-1	Subscription Membership, 2024	SLCC	£ 154.00
18918	V. Bolan Email Account	Vision ICT Ltd	£ 24.00
591285	Contributions from PC towards adminstration Council Election 4.5.23	WBDC	£ 80.00
603116	Contributions towards extra salt treating to parish roads	WBDC	£ 516.60
2262	Clerk Payroll, Ocotber	SME Accounting Services	£ 12.00
October	Clerk Salary, October	Kim Lloyd	
October	Clerk Pension, Ocotber	Berkshire Pension	£ 208.00
October	Employee/er Income Tax/NI Contribution	HMRC	£ 51.40
2024	Clerk Annual Expenses, HSBC £6 pw x 52 wks	Kim Lloyd	£ 312.00
2024	Microsoft 365 for new laptop annual subscption	Kim Lloyd	£ 59.99
Budgeted Donations			
	WBC Foodbank		£ 225.00
	Newbury Library		£ 250.00
	Fairclose Centre		£ 225.00
	Washcommon Library		£ 250.00
	Citizen Advice Bureau		£ 200.00
	Enborne Churchyard Maintenance		£ 750.00
	The Barn , Enborne Church _Hall Meetings Hire contibutions		£ 250.00
	TOTAL		£ 4,984.49

Receipts

07.10.2024	2nd installment of Precept	WBDC	£ 5,000.00
07.10.2024	CIL 23/00252/FUL Vanners Farm	WBDC	6.75
	TOTAL		£ 5,006.75

Appendix 2 - Draft Budget 2025/26

EPC Budget 2025/2026

Presented: 04.11.24 - Version 1

EXPENDITURE:	Budget 23/24	Actual Spend 23/24	Budget 24/25	Estimated Spend to 31.03.2025	Proposed Budget 25/26	Explanatory Notes
Salaries						Salaries
Pension		1,272	2,000	2,491	2,500	New for 2023
Payroll	120	110	120	120	120	
Clerk Expenses	312	312	312	312	312	
						Administration
Councillor Expenses	0	0	0	0	0	
Postage & Stationery	65	0	65	37	65	
Bank Charges	72	72	72	72	72	
Subscriptions & Training	700	310	500	371	500	
Insurance	650	613	650	620	700	
Hall Hire for Meetings	250	250	250	250	250	
Website Hosting	200	215	250	270	300	
Newbuy Storage	850	777	850	585	360	
Audit	300	210	350	0	100	
GDPR Reg & Consultant	35		35	35	35	
						Donations
Churchyard Maintenance	750	750	750	750	750	
Donations	1,150	1,233	1,150	1,150	1,150	
						Open Spaces
Salt Treatment			615	515	600	New for 2024/2025
Village Repair	0	0	0	0	0	
Total of budgeted items	12,746	13,163	15,894	15,757	15,993	
Unbudgeted Expenditure						
Legal Advice, Long Copse Farm application				4,028		
NDP				0		
New Laptop				916		
Polly (Bee Monitoring Device)				1,874		
Total Unbudgeted Expenditure				6,818		
Total Expenditure				22,575		
INCOME						
Precept	£ 8,750.00		£ 10,000.00			
Other Income	£ 3,664.06		£ 1,329.17			
Total Income	£ 12,414.06		£ 11,329.17			
Precept increase / (decrease) on previous year	0		£ 1,250.00			
Budget underspent or overspent		-£ 416.13		-£ 6,680.70		
Balance 31st March		£ 79,018.23		£ 68,577.00		23/24 £78,852
Projected unallocated funds at 1st April				-£ 6,595.48		This is the free funding not allocated to Reserves.
ALLOCATED RESERVES						
Neighbourhood Development Plan	£ 2,000.00	£ 781.65	£ 2,238.35		£ 2,238.35	
Bi-Election			£ 1,500.00		£ 1,500.00	
Footpaths in Washwater	£ 10,000.00		£ 10,000.00		£ 5,000.00	
Traffic Calming	£ 5,000.00		£ 5,000.00		£ 5,000.00	
Solar Farm Investment	£ 53,000.00		£ 53,000.00		£ 53,000.00	
Planning Legal Representation					£ 5,000.00	New for 2025/2026
CIL Fund	£ 2,104.96		£ 2,104.96		£ 3,434.13	
Total Allocated Reserves	£ 72,104.96		£ 73,843.31	£ -	£ 75,172.48	
PRECEPT PER HOUSEHOLD:	2023/2024		2024/2025		2025/2025	
TAX BASE			383.32		Awaiting	Divide the tax base figure with Precept
ANNUAL PRECEPT PER BAND D HOUSEHOLD	£ 23.10		£26.08			
<i>Inc/(decr) on previous year</i>	£ 0.30		£2.98			