

Minutes of the Meeting of East Hendred Parish Council, Thursday 2nd February 2023 at 7.30pm in Snells Hall

Present: Cllr John Sharp, Chair (JVS), Cllr Charles Pappenheim (CP), Cllr Jonathan Shortis (JS), Cllr Catherine Shortis (CS), Cllr Roger Turnbull (RT), Cllr Penny Wall (PW), Cllr Sarah James (SJ)

Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans

County Councillor:

District Councillor:

Members of the Public: 3

32/23	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllr Stephen Webb, Cllr Selby Stocks	
33/23	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST Cllr Pappenheim for agenda item 10c (i).	
34/23	OPEN FORUM a) Presentation from Sports Club. Mr McKenna presented the revised plans for the upgrade of the Sports Club facilities. The objective of the upgrade was to increase the range of activities available and to extend the times that the facilities were used. Parking provision had been reviewed. The car park would not be relocated due to a lack of space. Parking provision was based on a Sport England assessment and there was to be a pre-application consultation with OCC Highways. Cycle parking was to be provided. The pavilion would not be relocated and a tennis court would not be made available for a MUGA. The Trustees had settled on redeveloping and refurbishing the pavilion in the current location due to objections received following the consultation. This would reduce the cost and they will be exploring the possibility of opening the summer gate. The existing building was to be used for changing rooms etc and a new area would be built for social activities and indoor sports. The cricket nets would need to be relocated to a North/South orientation. There would be a mixed-use sports area that could also be used for car parking. It was anticipated that there would be 24-27 car parking spaces. Other sports facilities were being considered e.g. croquet and paddle ball. They would like to consider the space in front of the play area for parking and requested consideration be given to swapping the site of the play area and the cricket nets. If this was not possible they would like the play area to be reorientated by 90 degrees. It was suggested that the Parish Council consider installing soft netting to the roof of the playpark. There was a strong sense among Sports Club Trustees that the main issues had not been understood by the Parish Council. The most important concern was Health and Safety, and the risk of being hit by a cricket ball. The other concern was the potential for a missed opportunity to optimise the space. The Trustees had debated the Parish Council's reason for not moving the playpark and had voted 4-3 in favour of continuing engagement with the Parish Council. It was anticipated that planning permission would be applied for in 2023. Project work would need to start in mid-July of any given year. A rough cost for the proposals was not yet available. The Parish Council raised concerns about the reshaping of the playpark and asked if the Sports Club would pay for this. Mr McKenna said that they would. He also confirmed that the playpark would be accessible during the development, except when the car park was being built. Mr McKenna was thanked for his presentation.	
35/23	ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th JANUARY 2023 The Monthly Meeting Minutes were reviewed. A minor amendment was made to minute reference 11/23 to add an action on Cllr Shelley. Proposed by Cllr James, Seconded Cllr Pappenheim. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
36/23	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 5th JANUARY MEETING NOT OTHERWISE COVERED ON THE AGENDA a) Report from the Oxford Road Alliance – Nothing had been received from OCC.	

	<p>Cllr James reported that there was a meeting on Saturday which she would attend.</p> <p>b) Tree Planting. The Ludbridge Close Management committee was to get a quote from the landscape contractor to plant the tree. Cllr C Shortis had suggested that the Parish Council would pay for this. She had also looked at prices for a plaque; they were between £50 and £100. Approval was given to spend £100. Proposed Cllr C Shortis, Seconded Cllr J Shortis. RESOLVED.</p> <p>c) Flag Pole. Cllr Turnbull had circulated a planning application and agreed to act as agent for this. He will need to provide a certificate informing the landowner of the application. Cllr Turnbull to send the information to the Clerk.</p> <p>d) Noticeboard by the Shop. The noticeboard had been ordered.</p>	<p>JS/SJ</p> <p>CS</p> <p>RT/Clerk</p>
37/23	POLICE REPORT. No report. <u>Afternote:</u> A written report was received after the meeting and circulated to all Councillors.	
38/23	COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT No report.	
39/23	DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT No report. Cllr Shelley had sent a message regarding correspondence with the owner of The Old Cottage which had been damaged by a construction vehicle which she had followed this up.	
	FINANCE	
40/23	<p>a) February payments. The payments totalling £3619.70, including the payment to Trotter Hedgeworks, were approved. Proposed Cllr Pappenheim, Seconded Cllr J Shortis. RESOLVED. Cllr Pappenheim to authorise on the bank.</p> <p>b) Interim Audit Report. The report was presented and accepted. Clerk to send asses register to Cllr Pappenheim for review.</p> <p>c) Request for a grant from EHHT. A grant of £200 was requested against a project cost of £1800. It was a family history project. The Trust wanted to purchase a laptop, subscriptions, paper, ink etc. They plan to start with families and then move onto houses. The data would be stored electronically but also in ring binders. The Trust was also applying to Magnox. Cllr Sharp suggested they apply early. A grant of £200 was awarded. Proposed Cllr Turnbull. Seconded Cllr James. RESOLVED. Cllr Sharp suggested the Trust apply again next year if they needed further funding.</p> <p>d) Request for a grant from Oxfordshire South and Vale Citizens advice. They had supported 13 people from the Parish in 2021/22. A grant of £200 was awarded. Proposed Cllr Wall, Seconded Cllr J Shorts. RESOLVED.</p> <p>e) Request for a grant from St Mary's toward the cost of grass cutting in the churchyard. The Clerk had requested a formal application.</p> <p>f) Request for a grant from St Augustine's toward the cost of grass cutting in the churchyard. A grant of £315 was requested as per previous years. Cllr J Shortis questioned why the Parish Council was asked to provide a grant when the Church of England had grants available for this. Cllr Pappenheim explained that Church of England grants were usually for major capital costs. Cllr J Shortis suggested asking the PCC if they had explored other grants. Clerk to ask whether the Church had other grants available.</p>	<p>CP</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
41/23	<p>PLANNING ITEMS</p> <p>a) New Applications.</p> <p>i. P22/V2984/FUL – Johnsons Farm. Change of use of land from agriculture to tourist uses, stationing of camping pods and siting of communal activity space; use of barn for ancillary purposes; and associated landscaping. West Hendred Parish Council had no objection. OCC Highways had objected until a transport statement had been received. The waste team would not be responsible for waste; it would need to be managed by a commercial company. Cllr J Shortis felt that the pods would be seen from The Ridgeway as there was not complete tree cover. He suggests that requesting complete landscape cover to the northern boundary so that it did</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	<p>not affect the ancient landscape. It was agreed to respond with no objection subject to a landscape condition requiring landscaping of the northern boundary to reduce visual impact from the ridgeway.</p> <p>ii. P23/V0157/DIS – Land south of Curie Avenue and west of Eighth Street. Discharge of conditions 3(Construction Traffic Management Plan), 6(Biodiversity offsetting) and 8(Rare plant species mitigation strategy) on application P22/V0416/FUL. (Erection of two employment buildings, with associated landscaping and car parking). Debate followed on the offsetting of biodiversity. Cllr Turnbull wanted the Vale to justify why the offsetting was not being undertaken within the campus which was a requirement of the biodiversity net gain good practise principles guide. The proposal did not comply with this hierarchy. Offsetting should be within the campus. Cllr James felt that the TOE option was the best one as it would be better managed. Cllr Sharp suggested getting TOE to come and talk to the Parish Council along with Julian Gold. Cllr J Shortis to arrange this.</p> <p>b) Applications received since the publication of the agenda.</p> <p>i. P22/V2793/HH – Towersey, Skeats Bush. Installation of 2 air source heat pumps adjacent to the south elevation of the dwelling. Amendment to include noise statement. There were no comments.</p> <p>ii. P22/V2742/HH & P22/V2743/LB – The Old Cottage, Church Street. Modification to existing orangery, removal of garden wall and new office room in garden. Amended plans. There were no objections.</p> <p>c) Sale of affordable housing in Ford Lane. It was reported that the housing association was selling off properties when they become vacant. Cllr James was concerned that it would affect the number of affordable houses in the area. Cllr Sharp asked whether there were any restrictions on the sale, as there were with other affordable housing sites in the village. . Discussion followed. Action on Cllr Shelley to ask if there was a need to advertise.</p> <p>d) To review planning applications awaiting determination by the Vale and those recently approved.</p> <p>i. P22/V2607/FUL – Colt Corner, Horn Lane. Demolition of existing bungalow, to allow the construction of a new build 4 bedroom dwelling. Conversion of the existing garage into an annex. (Re submission of application ref. P22/V1127/FUL). Cllr Sharp had received an email from a resident who had been discussing the application with the case officer. The applicant had been asked to submit updated plans and a new application was expected.</p> <p>ii. Dexter at Harwell Campus – Cllrs Turnbull, Sharp and J Shortis had attended a meeting about Harwell Campus planning applications. The Dexter application had not yet been resolved. The agents were keen for the Parish Council to comment on the documents that had recently been sent to the vale. Cllr Turnbull noted that applicants felt they were meeting the biodiversity net gain on site but Cllr James' view was that they should not be building there. Cllr Turnbull questioned the applicant's statement about previously developed land. They had agreed a hedgerow on the northern boundary. Cllr Sharp asked whether the Parish Council should remove the objection. Debate followed on the calcareous grassland. There were two proposals. 1) Continue to object. Proposed Cllr James, Seconded Cllr Pappenheim. 2)</p>	<p>JS</p>
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	Remove the objection subject to specified conditions. Proposed Cllr J Shortis, Seconded Cllr Turnbull. There were 4 votes in favour of proposal 2), 2 in favour of proposal 1) and 1 abstention. Proposal 2) was carried. RESOLVED. Clerk to circulated draft wording for the letter to the agents.	Clerk
42/23	Esso Enquiry. Cllr J Shortis to contact the RRA to establish what the status was.	JS
43/23	Greensands Update. It was noted that there would be 26 affordable houses on the site.	
44/23	The Plough. The note from the applicant was contrary to previous statements made to the case officer. It was agreed that this should be pointed out to the case officer.	Clerk
45/23	Proposals for the Steventon Reservoir. Mr Beddow questioned the run off calculations that had been put forward. GARD were addressing this issue. Cllr Turnbull had reviewed the options report. Thames Water had only looked at options to 2050 and they did not include the water transfer option. GARD were holding meetings in February and Thames Water were holding one 18 th February. Cllr James pointed out that the Gate 2 consultation was the best one to respond to. Cllr Sharp suggested that as many people as possible should attend the various meetings. Consultations: i. WRSE Consultation – closes 23 rd February 2023. Cllr Turnbull to develop a response on this. ii. Thames Water consultation – closes 21 st March 2023 iii. OFWAT Gate 2 consultation – closes end February 2023. Cllr Turnbull to review.	RT RT
46/23	Consultation of West Berkshire Local Plan Cllr James agreed to review this.	SJ
47/23	LUDBRIDGE CLOSE MATTERS a) Litter Bins. This was with Cllr Shelley. b) Defibrillator. The defibrillator had been received. A mounting plate was required in order to install it on the fence. The sum of £100 was approved for this. Proposed Cllr Wall, Seconded Cllr C Shortis. RESOLVED.	JSh CP
48/23	JUBILEE PLAY PARK It was felt that the idea of modifying the play area was a good compromise but the legal situation would need to be considered. Consideration would also be given to the installation of a soft net. It was noted that OPFA would oppose the relocation of the playpark and they had also advised against putting a net over it. The revised designs had been circulated and had also gone out to a consultation at the sports club. The two responses received were both in favour of Roundwood. A resolution on the selection of the supplier was to be made at the next meeting. Cllr J Shortis was waiting for a quote for an 8m high retractable net, but it was expected to cost around £1800. Funds were about £4k short. Cllr Shortis to apply to Magnox and Wren for grants. Cllrs Stocks and J Shortis were thanked for their work on this project.	JS
49/23	ROWSTOCK – Rowstock Residents Association were raising concerns about the overnight closures of the A34 and the bridge at Steventon. Cllr Pappenheim noted that work on the bridge would be finished this week. No action.	
50/23	COMMUNITY ART PROJECT Cllr C Shortis suggested distributing some leaflets with the next Bulletin. This was agreed.	CS
51/23	HENDRED ESTATE ITEMS A note about car parking had been circulated. This matter was closed.	
	WORKING GROUPS / REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS AND UPDATES	
52/23	a) Allotments – It was reported that a long standing allotmentee had passed away. The allotment community had been saddened by this and he would be sorely missed. b) Communications - The specification for the new website had been circulated. The specification was approved and it was agreed to place the order with Netwise. Proposed Cllr James, Seconded Cllr Wall. RESOLVED.	CS JS

	c) Infrastructure a. Courtesy Lights. Nothing to report. b. Playground Maintenance. Surfacing under the swings and work to the goal mouths was to be progressed. c. Snells Walkway. Cllr Pappenheim to investigate a spray to kill the moss. d. Grounds Maintenance. No issues. e. Tree Maintenance. Nothing to report.	CP CP
53/23	ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY Nothing to report.	
54/23	HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT Nothing to report.	
55/23	HARWELL LIAISON Cllr Sharpe reported that there was no Harwell Liaison meeting due in the short term. A Harwell Campus meeting had been held today. Refer to minute reference 41/23 d) ii) above. Another meeting was scheduled for week commencing 6 th February to discuss biodiversity and sustainability. This will focus on work being carried out on site outside of planning application. Details of the meeting to be circulated.	JVS
56/23	AONB Nothing to report.	
57/23	SPORTS CLUB See minute reference 34/23 above.	
58/23	RIDGEWAY NATIONAL TRAIL It was noted that it was the 50 th anniversary of the trail this year. Cllr C Shortis to find out more about this.	CS
59/23	AGE UK Nothing to report. Cllr Wall requested that this item be moved further up the agenda in future.	PW
60/23	GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE a) 2023 Elections. An item to go into The Bulletin outlining the process and the timetable. Cllrs Pappenheim and Sharp to write this. It was agreed that the May meeting would be held on Thursday 11 th May. b) The Great British Spring Clean. Cllr James to discuss this with HEG.	
61/23	ANY OTHER BUSINESS a) Annual Parish Meeting. This was to be held on 20 th April at 7pm. Cllrs Sharp, J Shortis and James to meet to decide on a theme. b) Airspace Change Proposal. To go on the March agenda. Clerk to circulate details. c) Plans for the Coronation. Cllr Wall reported that a meeting had been held about this. The proposal was that Monday would be a good day for a community event and a litter pick had been proposed. d) Vale Community Impact. Cllr Pappenheim reported that they had been carrying out a lot of work locally and they had asked if they could advertise in the Bulletin for free. This was agreed.	JVS/JS/SJ Clerk
62/23	PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS Cllrs C Shortis and Cllr Wall for March.	CS/PW
63/23	DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 2 nd March 2023 at 7.30pm in Snells Hall.	

The meeting closed at 22.03