

# ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Draft Minutes of the meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016**  
**Held in the Parish Hall.**

**To be verified at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

Present:	Cllr Richard Roberts	Chairman
	Cllr Patricia Holdway, Cllr Bruce Waight	Councillors
	Cllr Michael Fay, Cllr David Harbottle	Councillors
	Cllr Keron Taylor, Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine	Councillors
	Cllr Richard Pettitt, Cllr Gareth Holden	Councillors
	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison	Clerk
	Cllr Charles Howard	Wiltshire Council
	Mr Max Peberdy	Member of the Public

The meeting was opened at 7.30pm by Cllr Roberts, Chairman

## **16/001 Apologies**

Received from Cllr Nigel Murray, Cllr Jane Young, Tony Broadbent – MOD Liaison and Wiltshire Police – Maria Downham

## **16/002 Public Questions**

Max Peberdy attended to enquire about the latest information on The Solar Farm planning application.

## **16/003 Verification of the Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015 were proposed as a true record by Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine and seconded by Cllr Holdway.

## **16/004 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **16/005 Matters Arising**

### i. Update on the Solar Park Application

Cllr Roberts reported that someone has been in the area doing a Wildlife Survey. He was spotted before Christmas, more recently and will be coming back again next month. It was also reported that a company with circa £80 million was in the background ready to support British Solar Renewables. Cllr Roberts has also received a letter from both Claire Perry MP and Liz Truss. The application is still not formally registered. Cllr Roberts reminded the Council that there is a 'fighting fund' of just under £2,000 if needs be. Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine asked where BSR stood with the subsidy as he had heard that the application had been rejected and returned. Cllr Charles Howard will check this point and let us know.

*[Cllr Charles Howard emailed the Clerk and Chairman on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> confirming that the application documentation had been returned to BSR in November and it was going no further.]*

### ii. Update on Everleigh Recycling Centre

Cllr Roberts explained that he, Cllr Murray and Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine had attended a meeting at Tidworth Theatre regarding this on 21<sup>st</sup> December '15. The purpose was to explain to some 200 people who attended that the Council needed to try and save £160,000 p.a., a lot of statistics were given. The attendees put their point of view across quite strongly. Cllr Roberts has minutes of that meeting if anyone should wish to see them. Wiltshire Council member Jerry Wickham reported the meeting as 'bruising'. Cllr Howard offered to find out any further information.

*[Cllr Charles Howard emailed the Clerk and Chairman on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> to say that as far as he could see the threat of closure was no more but we should stay alert.]*

### iii. Update on the Emergency Plan

Cllr Roberts has done a simple, one page draft to cover flooding and snow only. It lists the actions to be taken and by who depending on the event. It also offers telephone numbers for contact points. The river is apparently at normal levels for this time of year despite being seemingly high. Steve Crompton is still involved as the Flood Warden. Cllr Roberts asked the Council to consider the document and offer improvements if they felt they could. Cllr Pettitt mentioned that as water flows through sand bags, some residents might prefer to get their own 'flood barriers'. These fit into the doorway and stop the water getting through. The website is called floodshield.com and their telephone number is 01352 733338

### iv. Update on Grants Road Garages

The Clerk had initially written to Aster Housing but had to chase them due to no response. They did send a 'working at height' team out to inspect the reported damage. After several attempts the Clerk managed to speak to the team leader who has temporarily covered the damage with sheeting but the rooves on blocks 7,8,9 and 10,11,12 are scheduled to be replaced in February 2016.

### v. Update on Gardeners for Community Garden and Playpark

The Clerk met LJS Gardening Services on 8<sup>th</sup> January and discussed both sites. For 'weeding and shaping' the beds in the Community Garden a price of £40.00 per session has been quoted. For the grass cutting at both sites a cost of £75 has been quoted. In both instances LJS bring and use their own equipment and remove any debris. As an initial costing, 3 weeding and shaping sessions plus circa 14 grass cuts a year would come to £1,170 out of the Precept. Cllr Roberts proposed we proceed with this plan and Cllr Holden seconded the proposal – it was unanimously agreed by all other Councillors but to reduce the weeding and shaping to twice a year. The Clerk will speak again with LJS and also concerning a mole catcher.

### vi. Update on the Gypsy & Traveller Site

Cllr Charles Howard said that the notice of the application being turned down was on the website. The applicants have 6 months in which to appeal and though nothing has been heard yet, we must wait and see. Cllr Pettitt proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Howard for all his hard work throughout the application process – this was agreed by all.

### vii. Bus Service Consultation

Notice of this meeting has been sent out to as many people as possible. Cllr Howard says it only applies to the subsidised bus services and therefore shouldn't affect the normal daytime schedule. Cllr Harbottle attended the meeting in Devizes where he learned that there are 36 people running the buses for Wiltshire Council – he suggested a reduction in personnel would help to make a saving.

### **16/006 Finance**

The Clerk read out the bank balance from the December 15 bank reconciliation. January starts with a balance of £3,952.82 with hopefully no unforeseen expenses until the new financial year.

Cllr Roberts suggested that from the new financial year figures given should show their allocations as per the precept calculations which should help to explain the overall situation more clearly.

### **16/007 Police Matters**

Maria Downham was unable to attend and sent her apologies but no report.

### **16/008 Neighbourhood Watch**

Cllr Roberts reported that from his recent meeting crimes for Enford seemed to be 'quiet'. The greater problems experienced are in Tidworth and Ludgershall where there is going concern regarding teenagers and drugs. Cllr Waight said that the incidents of hare coursing appeared to be on the increase.

### **16/009 MOD/ Army Matters**

Tony Broadbent was unable to attend the meeting however he sent an email listing various items to report. Whilst this appears to be a large increase it is due to a different recording method which covers the whole of the SPTA area as opposed to the areas in the centre and to the east of the Avon.

- 1 22 incursions. Of these there were 19 vehicle (4x4s and off road bikes). Wiltshire Police were informed via 101. Two incidents on foot (dog walkers) and one by an aircraft!
- 2 10 incidents of fly tipping rubbish
- 3 8 incidents of cattle in the wrong place
- 4 8 incidents of theft and/or damage.

He reported that there would be major exercises using heavy armour from 25<sup>th</sup> January to 9<sup>th</sup> February. From 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February there would be exercises from the RSA (Larkhill) and light gun (105mm) Artillery exercises from 15<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February.

### **16/010 Unitary Council Matters**

Cllr Charles Howard reported on four main topics

#### **1 Wiltshire Council Budget 2016/17**

The Council has to make savings of around £28 million in the coming year due to reduced funding and grants from central government. It is likely that Council Tax will rise (for the first time in 5 years) by approximately 2% but details of this are expected in February.

#### **2 Highways Contract**

Ringway Infrastructure Services will have the contract from April of this year, taking over from Balfour Beatty. They had held the contract previously up to 2013. A comprehensive selection process was carried out and Parish Stewards may make a re-appearance.

#### **3 Waste Contract**

The current contract runs out in August of this year and has been awarded to the current holders – Hills Waste Solutions. From August they will be responsible for the whole county.

#### **4 Broadband in Coombe**

Cllr Howard was asked by a parishioner to look into this specifically. The main problem is that the new broadband cabinet is so far away and at present there are no plans to extend landline coverage in the village. The Government has made a Universal Service Commitment to provide minimum speeds of at least 2mbps in all areas. Coombe is less than that which means that businesses and residents are eligible for the new satellite scheme if they so wish. Information can be viewed at :<http://www.wiltshireonline.org/index.php/broadband-rollout/basic-broadband-commitment>

Click on Basic Broadband Commitment, then on application form 'Click here to apply'. Complete and submit the application form to ensure you are eligible for the set up subsidy. On receipt of confirmation of eligibility, contact one or more of the suppliers on the Broadband Commitment page to find out the costs and facilities available. There is no financial commitment until the applicant signs up with the provider.

Another possible option is wireless broadband but this would require 3G or 4G coverage. It is recommended to check the 3g and Vodafone websites before committing to the satellite option.

### **16/011 Planning Applications**

15/10823/FUL – Amended plans for the Garage/Storage shed at East Chisenbury Manor.

Cllr Petitt explained that whilst the new drawings have dropped the overall height from 5.7 metres to 4.8 metres, the actual size of the building has not been changed. This gives the roof pitch an odd angle. Cllr Holden

read out the comments from the Conservation Officer. After discussion of the amended plans and their visual effect a vote was taken as to whether it should be supported. There were no votes in favour and the Clerk was asked to reflect the Council's views as follows: *"It was decided unanimously not to support this application. The Council would have been more supportive of the building if it had a more traditional and steep profile possibly achieved by a combination of reducing the slab level and the depth of the building."*

15/12261/FUL – Silver Sedge on the A345. Plans to remove a single storey extension and replace with a two storey extension. This application was discussed and all Cllrs agreed to support it.

### **16/012 Parish Plan**

Cllr Murray was unable to attend the meeting but is known to have had discussions with Steve Becker. We look forward to his update at the next meeting.

### **16/013 Roads and Highways**

Cllr Harbottle reported that:

Water Lane hedge– Landmarc have still to look at the height of this hedge but they are unlikely to reduce it unless Health & Safety is involved. The residents might be able to do the work themselves but they would first need permission from Landmarc.

Re-surfacing of the A345 – This is still scheduled to happen around 14<sup>th</sup> March and will cover the stretch from Enford Hill to West Chisenbury.

Potholes –Repairing these potholes on the A345 and at the start of Water Lane are on the agenda to be done but no timing has been given as yet.

Coombe Lane Sign – This still hasn't been found and Cllr Harbottle will continue to chase the Council.

### **16/014 Public Rights of Way (PROWs)**

Cllr Taylor reported that she had spoken with Marc Read (Community Engagement Officer) regarding the voluntary group attending to the Public Rights of Way in Enford and possible funding for equipment. Apparently Council Tax does not cover maintenance of PROWs and there are only two people designated to this role in the county! There was a suggestion of asking the Ramblers Association to see if they would get involved and help keep the paths clear. Cllr Taylor felt an email to the whole village to try and raise a volunteer group should be the first step and call a meeting – possibly in February – to which Marc Read would be invited to offer whatever assistance he could. The first task though is to work out the most important routes through the village (access to bus stops etc) and make these paths a priority. Cllr Roberts asked whether the Parish Steward (should the scheme return in April) be of use. Cllr Harbottle said in the past they were really only for Highways related matters.

### **16/015 Correspondence**

There was no correspondence that had not already been circulated.

### **16/016 Any Other Business**

Two items that came from the evening's discussions where:

- 1 A small notice on/in the noticeboard to say who the keyholders are
- 2 For ease of contact and messaging throughout the village, should Enford have a Facebook page

Cllr Harbottle also mentioned the state of the roadside verges on the A345 – they are being badly eroded by the weight and volume of traffic

**16/017 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.20hrs.

Elizabeth Harrison, Clerk - Enford Parish Council

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