

ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of 1st March 2016

Held in the Parish Hall.

To be verified at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 26th April 2016

Present:	Cllr Richard Roberts	Chairman
	Cllr Nigel Murray	Vice Chairman
	Cllr Patricia Holdway, Cllr Bruce Waight	Councillors
	Cllr Michael Fay, Cllr David Harbottle	Councillors
	Cllr Keron Taylor, Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine	Councillors
	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison	Clerk
	Cllr Charles Howard	Wiltshire Council
	Tony Broadbent	MOD / SPTA Liaison
	Maria Downham	PCSO / Police
	Mr Alan Day	Chairman of Speedwatch

The meeting was opened at 7.36pm by Cllr Richard Roberts, Chairman

16/018 Apologies

Received from Cllr Richard Petitt and Cllr Gareth Holden

16/019 Public Questions

Mr Alan Day was introduced to the Council and explained why he was attending the meeting. There are already 3 Community Speed Watch (CSW) sites in the village - 2 on the A345 – one by the bus stop and one by the Old Vicarage, and one on the grass area in Longstreet. All three sites have been risk assessed and permission granted. Mr Day would like to introduce a new site which is near the bottom of Water Lane so as to track vehicles approaching from East Chisenbury as well as coming the other way. Cllr Harbottle said he had tried to get that area to a 20mph zone. The sites on the A345 were risk assessed in 2008, then updated in 2010 and 2011. In 2011 the site opposite Water Lane was allowed to be used. Leanne Homeward (Wilts Council contact) has said a metro count has to be done first before the new site can be agreed as she wants to check on the vehicle speed in the 40mph zone. The first step to introducing a new CSW site is a Metro Count, then the risk assessment, then permission granted. Unfortunately Wiltshire Council are quoting £260 -£300 per day for the count which would have to come out of the Parish Council budget, hence Mr Day wished to present the situation to the Council. Cllr Taylor suggested a letter to the Camp Commandant at Trenchard Lines asking him to ensure everyone is aware of the speed limits. It also transpires that Mr Day has taken a Police driving test and Maria Downham has said he can 'borrow' the Police Community Service car to park 'openly' by the site when in use. Before leaving, Mr Day said he would check the necessity of a metro count.

16/020 Verification of the Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26th January 2016 were proposed as a true record by Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine and seconded by Cllr Harbottle.

16/021 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

16/022 Matters Arising

i. CSW / Metro Count

This was covered in Public Questions above (16/019)

ii. Fallen Tree

Hamish Scott-Dalgleish had reported a fallen tree just off of his land which could, should there be a lot of rain, become a flooding hazard. He was unsure who owned the land it was on. The Clerk had contacted DIO who said it had to go to Landmarc. They have now registered the problem and placed it on their list for their River Warden. This could take up to 20 working days but should be dealt with in that time scale.

iii. Update on the Allotment site

CLLrs Roberts, Taylor and Young had a meeting with the current occupier/user of the land at the bottom of Water Lane. He has been given some rules, restrictions and a small contract to sign so as to place some control on this piece of Parish land and it was agreed that he could continue to use the site at a peppercorn rent of £5 per year. This could change if further sites present themselves and stronger guidelines/ rules need to be brought in. As yet no signed documents have been returned. Any future repairs required for fences etc around the site should be considered as these are the Parish Council's responsibility.

iv. MOD Traffic in Coombe Lane

Graham Chandler had contacted the Clerk regarding the increase in military traffic using Coombe Lane and had supporting photographic evidence. Tony Broadbent has spoken with two senior Marshalls on this matter and despite the signage, the personnel (training units) have broken standing orders. Due to the severe cut backs in military staff, this type of event cannot be policed. Any future photographic evidence should also record the registration number of the vehicle in order to identify it. Tony explained that it is the units that are training who are at fault and he apologises for the inconvenience to residents but, with the best will in the world, he and his colleagues cannot police every different unit when they go out on exercise.

v. Tidworth Community Area Partnership (TCAP) Area Awards

These are due to be held on Thursday 21st April at the Wellington Academy at 7.00pm.

Cllr Murray proposed that we nominate Steve and Tanya Becker for their immense and ongoing contribution to the village in terms of the Newsletter, the website, the Parish Plan, the Film Club etc. All Councillors agreed and the Clerk will organise the correct form and category before the nomination deadline of 30th March 16.

vi. Update on the Gardening Contractors

The official quote was discussed i.e. £40.00 per 'blitz' session (2 per year) and £75.00 roughly every two weeks for grass cutting at both the Community Garden and the Playpark sites. The Clerk informed everyone that they had already started their initial 'blitz' on the Community Garden to get it into shape for the summer ahead. There will be another blitz towards the end of the year to tidy it for winter. Grass cutting at this site and at the Playpark will roll through the summer and the contractors will remove all waste (this cost is included in the quotation).

vii. Refurbishment of the Playpark equipment

Cllr Fay said that he had almost all the required/ necessary jobs in hand and would be attending to them in the next couple of weeks. The new backboard for the basketball hoop is ready and he is still looking for some plastic paint. Cllr Roberts said a new hoop should be bought as the current one is bent/broken. The Clerk will check prices and recommend a new hoop. Cllr Roberts suggested this would be around £200. It was proposed by Cllr Waight and seconded by Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine.

16/023 Unitary Council Matters

This item was brought forward as Wiltshire Councillor Charles Howard needed to leave early.

He reported on two main matters:

Firstly the **Council Tax for 2016-17**. This was confirmed on 23rd February and will increase by 1.99%. It is the first increase in 6 years. The Police and Fire & Rescue precepts also rose by 1.99%. In addition there was a levy of 2% for the provision of social care. This cost rises year on year and Wiltshire Council has no real control over the fact.

The second item Cllr Howard reported on was that the new contractors, Ringway, will be taking over the Highways Maintenance contract from Balfour Beatty next month. The previously used system of Parish Stewards will be brought back into operation and should be fully up and running by October. Cllr Howard then left the meeting.

16/024 Finance

The Clerk reported that there was £3702.82 at the beginning of the month (February) with one item going out at £205, leaving £3,497.82 in the account. This figure was not a bank reconciliation as such because the bank statement for February has not yet been received. The figure was taken from the January statement which was then reconciled.

16/025 Police Matters

Maria Downham was able to attend and reported on the following issues:

4th February – There was a traffic incident where one party failed to stop. This is being dealt with by the Traffic Justice department.

6th February – A smallish tree was taking up half the carriageway on the A345, this had been cleared by the time officers arrived.

14th February – Two suspects were seen removing a porcelain sink from a skip on the driveway of an Enford resident. The enquiries are ongoing.

14th February – A large tree had fallen down in the road near Enford. The attending officer cleared this to the side of the road for the council to remove.

1st March – A van was sighted in Coombe Lane driving up and down looking at a house with a trailer on the driveway. Having called this in to the Police, there were no further reports or sightings and the log was closed.

16/026 Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Roberts said that apart from the above Police report(16/024), he had nothing to add.

16/027 MOD/ Army Matters

Tony Broadbent reported that due to a different method of recording incidents (which covers the whole of the SPTA area, not just in the centre and to the east of the Avon) he was unable to give us an exact breakdown. He did say however that 'incursions' were on the increase as was 'fly-tipping'. There is a 20 day wait for rubbish collection from Landmarc and there is an increasing problem with bikes on the Plain.

Col Andrews has requested extra Wardens and personnel to re-man the vedettes and another four staff to backfill the Marshalls. This would help reduce the amount of incursions and fly-tipping as the more staff seen on and around the Plain would create a visible deterrent for the opportunists causing the problems.

Regarding military exercises, the Artillery mortars have now moved so it will be quieter between now and April when they will start again.

Tony then apologised to the Council that he would not be able to attend the next meeting on 26th April as he would be on holiday.

16/028 Planning Applications

There were none to discuss.

16/029 Parish Plan

Cllr Murray reported that all the documents were now on the website. There are 45 'issues arising' in total which he and Steve Becker will go through to create a list for discussion at the next meeting. Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine volunteered his assistance with this task.

16/030 Roads and Highways

Cllr Harbottle reported that:

1 The re-surfacing of the A345 between Enford Hill and West Chisenbury is due to start on 14th March. It will be closed overnight and diversions will be in place. Those residents affected have been informed.

2 The re-surfacing of Longstreet between The Swan and Glebe Farm will take place during the daytime (09.00 -15.00hrs) of 29th and 30th March – again, the residents have been informed.

3 The potholes on Enford Farm Road have been repaired.

4 There is still no news of the replacement sign for Coombe Lane. It is thought that this will not happen until Ringway take over the Council contract in April. The same applies to the crash barriers below ‘Long Acre’ on the A345.

5 Cllr Harbottle attended the recent Community Area Transport Group Meeting (February 29th) in Tidworth and items relating to Enford were discussed. These included:

i. Freight Strategy- There are currently two freight problems, the A342 in Tidworth and the A345 from Durrington to Upavon. A survey will be carried out during May and June this year and the results will be looked at in the Autumn. As a last resort a weight limit might be installed but the question of where the heavy freight traffic would go is unanswered. Cllr Harbottle pointed out that due to the ban on the A360 between Devizes and Salisbury all these vehicles are using the A345. This is breaking the roadside banks and road edges creating gullies which are very dangerous for cars who may drop a tyre into them whilst trying to avoid HGVs.

ii. Stones on verges- Cllr Harbottle raised the problem of large rocks on verges along the C32. Whilst this is illegal, Wiltshire Council have no policy on their removal. Andy Cole, the area engineer, will raise this with the “Portfolio Holding” division of Wilts Council and has received a copy of “Management of roadside verges – frequently asked questions” produced by the Cotswold Conservation Board. A side note on this is that Mr Mackie has now painted white all (bar one) of the rocks along the verge of his farm on the C32.

6 The first street light at the start of the footpath between Water Lane and Grants Road has gone again and its failure has been reported.

7 Parish Stewards are to be re-introduced from April

8 Cllr Harbottle plans to attend the ‘Involvement Evening’ in Devizes on 6th April. If anyone knows of road issues they would like him to raise, please let him know.

16/031 Public Rights of Way (PROW)

Cllr Taylor reported that she has had no internet connection for the last 3½ weeks and so has not been able to get up to date information on PROW.

16/032 Correspondence

There was no correspondence that had not already been circulated.

16/033 Any Other Business

Two items arose

1 Cllr Roberts mentioned the Queen’s birthday celebrations however it was agreed not to ‘celebrate’.

2 The Solar Park fighting fund – what was to be done with the cheques totalling nearly £2,000 as they were running out of their 6 month validity period. Cllr Murray will email British Solar Renewables to get an update on their application and plans.

16/034 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This meeting was previously planned for the Parish Hall and Cllr D’Arcy-Irvine will check the availability for the Village Hall instead.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.10hrs.

Elizabeth Harrison, Clerk - Enford Parish Council