

# ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
Held in the Village Hall.

To be verified at the next meeting to be held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Present:	Cllr Richard Roberts	Chairman
	Cllr Patricia Holdway, Cllr Bruce Waight	Councillors
	Cllr Jane Young, Cllr Cliffe-Roberts	Councillors
	Cllr David Harbottle, Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine	Councillors
	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison	Clerk
	Tony Broadbent	MOD/SPTA Liaison

The meeting was opened at 7.40pm by Cllr Richard Roberts, Chairman.

## 17/035 Apologies

W.Cllr Charles Howard, Cllr Richard Petitt, Maria Downham (Police Liaison). Cllrs Gareth Holden and Keron Taylor did not attend.

## 17/036 Public Questions

No members of the public attended

## 17/037 Police Matters

Maria Downham was unable to attend the meeting but sent in the Community Policing Team report which stated that there had been one crime reported where an unknown suspect had gained entry to 5 outbuildings by opening unlocked doors. Nothing was apparently moved or stolen.

There has been no Police attendance at a Parish Council meeting since March 2016 and Cllr Roberts asked Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine to raise this at the next Area Board meeting.

## 17/038 MOD/ Army Matters

Tony Broadbent read out a report of the recent problems on the Plain.

- There have been two complaints of noise. The AS90 guns are now using a different type of ammunition and so they should be quieter.
- There have been four cases of criminal damage, including the theft of a red warning flag.
- Thirty three incursions have been recorded – 27 of these by vehicles (bikes, quad bikes etc) and 6 by pedestrians. Obviously over the Easter period these have been worse than usual with very little or no Army presence on the Plain
- Thirteen reports of 'litter' or fly-tipping including fridges, sofas and garden waste.
- Eight reports of livestock, where the fencing has been cut and the cattle have escaped.
- There have been two raves – one towards Warminster and the other 'attempted' Rave near Enford/Baden Farm. Police and Army were in attendance and controlled both sites which, once cleared of people then have to be cleared of the rubbish they leave behind.
- Exercise Wessex Storm will take place at the end of April/beginning May and this will be more 'wheels' than guns though expect a heavier military presence.
- The bridge by Bravo & Bravo 1 crossing has been damaged by a military unit and the weight limit has been reduced from 80T to 50T. It will be repaired in due course and will be out of bounds for approximately one week. Tony will let us know when this is due to happen.

As always, please help to identify any unusual activities on the Plain (hare coursing/off road bikes/4x4) and report them first to Wiltshire Police on 101 and then inform Landmarc 24hr Ops room on 01980 674951/674706.

Cllr Waight reported that a lot of batteries were being stolen from electric fences.

At 8 o'clock Tony Broadbent left the meeting.

### **17/039 Unitary Council Matters**

W Cllr Charles Howard was unable to attend and did not send in a report

### **17/040 Verification of the Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were proposed as a true record by Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine and seconded by Cllr Holdway.

### **17/041 Declarations of Interest**

There were none

### **17/042 Matters Arising**

#### **i. Update the Allotment and Mario Young**

As requested at the last meeting a letter was delivered to Mario Young formalising the arrangement of his use of the area at the bottom of Water Lane. This contained an Agreement for using the Allotment and rules as well as an Agreement and rules for keeping ducks and poultry along with the request for the agreed peppercorn rent for the year 2017. No response has been had as yet and Cllr Roberts said he would speak to Mario on behalf of the Council.

#### **ii. Update on Nomination Papers**

The deadline for nomination papers for all Cllrs was 4<sup>th</sup> April. Since that date it has been confirmed that Cllrs Petitt, Holden and Taylor will not be standing for another 4 year term. Cllr Roberts as Chairman expressed his thanks to all of them, even though they weren't present.

Mr Mark Hiskett will be a new face on the Council from May 8th and this leaves 3 vacancies for co-option. The Council discussed the north and south wards of Enford, skills, experience and the potential people who may wish to stand.

#### **iii. Update on the Parish Hall**

Unfortunately no member of the Parish Hall Management Committee (PHMC) attended the meeting. Cllr Young who is the Parish Council representative on the PHMC reported that she had written her letter of resignation to them but had not had any response. After almost 20 years of involvement, this was a very sad occasion.

A discussion ensued on the situation from which the following, confirmed by the Charities Commission, was stated. The Parish Council as a whole is the 'Custodian Trustee' of the Enford Parish Hall and Reading Room which has the charity number 3940186. A 'Custodian Trustee' has a precise legal meaning and was introduced in the Public Trustee Act of 1906. It is defined as "holding the Title to all the property of the Trust but is not involved in the day to day management of the Trust". The day to day management of the Trust is the responsibility of the PHMC. The Charity Commission has confirmed that the Parish Council owns both the land and the building under this Title. Due to the lack of any response from the PHMC, the Parish Council is now consulting with the Charity Commission as to the best way forward for both the Hall itself and the village as a whole. It is felt the Parish Hall is not fit for purpose which questions the validity of the insurance let alone the safety of those using it. The subject will continue as both the Parish Council and the PHMC are legal bodies and there are detailed legal matters, procedures and correspondence which have to be handled correctly - this will take time. The Parish Council will be writing to the PHMC in the near future raising their concerns and will be copying all correspondence to the Charities Commission.

### **17/043 Finance**

i. The Clerk reported that at the end of March, also the financial year, the account stood at £6,525.83. As previously planned (and stated in the Annual Return), £6,000 of this fund is ring fenced towards a working

contingency fund, repair and replacement of any Parish Council assets such as bus stops, village seating, noticeboards etc and also the repair/replacement of some of the Playpark equipment which is very expensive.

ii. At the end of each financial year the Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), is legally bound to produce the Parish Council's accounts to be internally, independently audited. Mr Alan Day had kindly agreed to do this and given a lot of his time particularly over the Easter weekend. The Council would like to thank him for this. Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine proposed a small token of thanks should be bought and the idea was seconded by Cllr Cliffe-Roberts.

iii. As part of the Annual Return the Clerk read out the Governance statements which the Councillors agreed.

iv. As part of the Annual Return the Clerk read out the Finance statements which the Councillors agreed. Copies of these documents were circulated for inspection.

v. Finally the Clerk read out the internal Audit Report which confirmed that the Parish Council's accounts, governance, assets etc were correctly recorded and all related documents were approved to be sent to the external Auditors.

vi. The Clerk reported that the bank account for the 'Enford Skatepark Fund' is now open and the funds from a Jumble sale and a Quiz Night are the opening balance of £387.91.

[ Following the meeting, further information came to light: The 'Guess the amount of eggs in a jar' competition had raised a further £70 (£20 of cost to be re-imbursed). The winners, Colin and Vanessa, kindly decided to raffle the jar during a quiz night and raised a further £74.00.]

#### **17/044 Neighbourhood Watch**

Cllr Roberts reported that twice, someone had been caught on CCTV checking the windows at the back of the Swan. He also had nothing to add to the Police report above (17/037) apart from a general warning for everyone to stay alert to the constant potential problems of crime in the village.

#### **17/045 Planning Applications**

No Planning Applications had been received.

#### **17/046 Parish Plan**

The priority here is to upgrade the Playpark and then hopefully look to Allotments for the village. The Skatepark is a part of the general upgrading of the Playpark facilities. Cllr Roberts reported that a young mother had contacted him to say the multiplay equipment is not good and she now goes to the camp facilities at Netheravon. The Parish Council are ring-fencing funds for exactly this purpose though nothing can be done immediately as the cost of equipment is substantial.

#### **17/047 Roads and Highways**

Cllr Harbottle gave the following report:

i. – The Coombe Lane sign. We are all still waiting but he has learnt that it is being handled by 'Transportation' rather than 'Highways'. He will raise the matter again at the next Tidworth meeting.

ii. – The Parish Steward has been told not to waste anymore materials on the Z bend and potholes on Enford Farm Road. This is an unclassified road and the damage is apparently being caused by farm vehicles which are able to negotiate its condition.

iii. – Cllr Harbottle would like to hear from anyone regarding work for the Parish Steward to attend to on his monthly visits.

iv. – The gully cover on the C32 outside Littlecott House is in fact a fire hydrant cover which needs attention – the Fire brigade have been notified.

v. –The new salt bin is now in position on Water Lane and we are awaiting the bill.

vi. – The A345 saga continues with some potholes having been filled but others are deemed not deep enough for attention. Cllr Harbottle has been in correspondence with Peter Binley (Head of Highway Asset Management) regarding the work to the Netheravon/Figheldene stretch being unnecessary whereas the Enford section needs urgent attention. This correspondence is available to anyone wishing to read it.

Since all this occurred and quite independently, Col Alexander Heroys has walked the stretch of road from Enford Bus stop to the Netheravon 50mph sign on both sides of the road, accurately mapping the all the damage. He sent his map and covering letter to Cllr Harbottle who has forwarded it to Peter Binley. Cllr Harbottle is still awaiting a response.

The Parish Council would like to thank Col Heroys for undertaking this work (taking his life in his hands, despite yellow jacket and hard hat!) mapping out this very poor section of road and hope that Wiltshire Council will take appropriate action.

#### **17/048 Public Rights of Way (PRoWs)**

Cllr Taylor was unable to attend the meeting and will be standing down from the Council. Cllr Roberts offered to retrieve any relevant paperwork.

#### **17/049 Correspondence**

There was nothing to circulate

#### **17/050 Any Other Business**

- Cllr Roberts reported that there had been two responses to the request for siting a Defibrillator in Coombe. Both Simon Bragg of The Mill and Janet Shapland of Garden House have offered their property when the time is right. It would appear that Fittleton are also considering a Defibrillator in the area and the suggestion was raised of sharing one though no decision was taken. It was agreed that the Council should continue to advertise in the Newsletter to try and find a location in East Chisenbury and any progress would be discussed at the June meeting.
- Again the matter of pedestrian safety was raised on the stretch of the C32 between Baden Farm and the Village Hall. Cllr Roberts has received a complaint that there is no path. Upon a previous request, the owner had cut back the vegetation but this may not be sufficient once it grows, forcing pedestrians to walk in the road.
- Cllr Young asked the Clerk to write to Tony Broadbent, who will pass it to Landmarc, about the fly-tipping opposite the houses in Water Lane. This continues to be a problem. Cllr Roberts suggested a note in the newsletter about fly-tipping generally – it being an offence legally and visually let alone an expense to clear up.

#### **17/052 Date of Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm** – Parish Council – Annual General Meeting.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm** – Annual Parish Meeting

both meetings will be held in the Village Hall, refreshments available.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.32pm

Elizabeth Harrison - Clerk, Enford Parish Council