

ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting of 10th December 2019

Held in the Village Hall.

To be verified at the meeting of, Tuesday, 14th January 2020

Present:	Cllr Richard Roberts	Chairman
	Cllr Mark Hiskett	Vice Chairman
	Cllrs Pat Holdway, Cllr Bruce Waight	Councillors
	Cllr Jane Young, Cllr D’Arcy-Irvine	Councillors
	Cllr Peter Cliffe-Roberts, Cllr Coulthard	Councillors
	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison	Clerk
	W.Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling	Wiltshire Council
	Mike Germany	Resident

The meeting was opened at 7.35pm by Cllr Roberts

19/147 Apologies

Apologies were received from WO2 Jeff Payne – MOD Liaison, Amy Jones - Police Liaison. Cllr Exley might arrive late or not at all.

19/148 Public Questions

Mike Germany attended to thank the Parish Council for the final installation of the new salt/grit bin at the top of Fifield Lane. Unfortunately there is a streetlight out at the bottom of Fifield Lane. It has been out for a couple of months and he has reported it to W.C. but nothing has been done. Cllr Coulthard is reporting through the My Wiltshire app and also to the Parish Steward. W.Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling said that the new system which is not yet in place will recognise the exact location of every light in future but this won't be available until next year.

19/149 Police Matters and Neighbourhood Watch

There were no representatives of the Police present and no report had been received. Cllr Waight said hare coursing was continuing and a Police Office had been to Compton Farm. Unfortunately his role was only daytime and most of the trouble occurs at night. Police cars have also been seen driving through the village.

19/150 MOD/Army Matters

The Clerk read out WO2 Jeff Payne's report for November:

87x Near Misses– vehicles - 71, on foot - 8, Cyclists- 3 and general - 5.

9x Fly-tipping

14x Environmental - 2x chemical spillages and 12x sound DB level above 125DB

5x Criminal Damage

0x complaints –

10x Livestock – cattle loose 10

6x Accidents – all military

Additionally:

- The centre range closes for Winter maintenance after 1700hrs on 13th December and reopens at 0830hrs on 6th January 2020
- The MOD Police telephone number to call is **01371 854444**. This number to be used to report crimes on the Plain rather than going through 101.
- He ended by thanking everyone for their patience with the amount of guns firing and the lateness on some occasions and wished everyone a happy Christmas and new year.

The noise from loud/late firing was raised in discussion and forewarning was thought to be more appreciated rather than thanking the villages after the event for their tolerance.

[Clerk's note - in the minutes of the November meeting (19/132) it does in fact state "Week commencing 25th November will be busy for Artillery – 3x regiments live firing (Tuesday and Thursday up to 23.30hrs)"]

19/151 Unitary Council Matters

WCllr Ian Blair-Pilling listed many and varied items coming out of Wiltshire Council at the moment. Traffic Wardens are now using biodegradable and recyclable bags for parking tickets, the Maltings development in Salisbury is to go ahead, progress on developments in Melksham and Chippenham, Youth Elections, fines for the 'man in the van' caught fly-tipping as well as the person who has paid him, the special needs school at Rowde, 1,000 new Council houses being built – he wants to ensure that some of these are in the villages, not just towns as this will have an effect on the demography in the county, the council tax reduction scheme is changing from a 'paid by the hour' calculation which was giving rise to 44,000 recalculations every month for W.C to a bracketed or graded overall figure, rough sleepers and homeless people have been given assistance reducing their numbers from 40+ to less than 10, W.C. has joined the 'Western Gateway' group (which is similar to the Northern Powerhouse) which will give them better access to Government funding.

Finally, he mentioned the Royal Artillery Museum plans at Avon Camp West. There is to be a meeting on 16th December in the Phoenix Hall, Netheravon for anyone to go and look at the plans and speak to those behind the project so as to understand better what is being planned. It is also apparently to be an events location. Cllr Roberts said there had been a meeting of people against the plans on the previous night (9th December). Cllr Blair-Pilling pointed out they were jumping the gun somewhat, using the example of the 500 extra builders on site in Larkhill/Durrington – there are no traffic jams, likewise the extra traffic involved with the filming of 1917 last year – again nobody noticed any extra traffic. All the Museum's plans will have to go through the Planning Dept who will make their own judgements on any effects on the local villages.

19/152 Verification of the Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 12th November were proposed as a true record by Cllr Hiskett and seconded by Cllr Cliffe-Roberts

19/153 Youth Liaison

Neither Evie Chamberlain nor Rhys Teasdale attended the meeting.

19/154 Declaration of Interests

There were no Declarations of Interest.

19/155 Matters Arising

- Finally, 8 months after being ordered, the new salt/grit bin has been installed at the top of Fifield Lane! Cllr Roberts showed the style of shovel that he had been buying to place in all the grit bins. These are all now full and ready for action. He also wanted to thank Cllr Waight for his time and efforts in collecting the salt from the WC depot in Marlborough (they no longer deliver to the village). On his travels he had noticed the dog mess bin in Water Lane was full and so this was obviously a good purchase located in the right place.
- Land Asset Transfer from Wiltshire Council. - Cllr Cliffe-Roberts reported that he was still waiting for a response from Jenny Row, Estates Manager at WC.

- iii. The village Christmas Tree. – Cllr Roberts thanked Cllr Waight for the use of his trailer to purchase, transport and install the 14ft tall tree with the help of Cllr Hiskett. There are more decorations on it this year and more batteries have been purchased to cover the season. It has already been admired and appreciated.
- iv. Tidworth Area Board (TAB) extended update slot. – Cllr Roberts said there was no further news on this.
- v. Code of Conduct Complaint update. – The Clerk read out a statement from W.C.'s senior solicitor which said: *"Complaints have been made to the Monitoring Officer at Wiltshire Council that Cllrs Roberts, Hiskett and Cliffe Roberts had breached the Parish Council's code of conduct. The complaints alleged that the three councillors had failed to meet the principles of integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership. These complaints were assessed by the Monitoring Officer's representative, who resolved to take no further action on them. That decision was subsequently upheld on review by Wiltshire Council's Standards Review Sub-Committee. In accordance with the Standards Committee procedure, the Monitoring Officer is now considering the Complainant's request for anonymity in the publication of the final decision notice. Until that has been determined, no further comment should be made on this matter."*
 Cllr Coulthard queried how a complainant could make such serious allegations against fellow Cllrs whilst expecting to have his/her anonymity preserved. He felt this was unsatisfactory and wrong particularly as failing to meet the principles of openness and honesty was part of the complaint. W Cllr I B-P stated that WC were obliged to follow their procedures together with the relevant law and they had not yet reached a ruling on the disclosure of the complainant's details when publishing the determination of the Code of Conduct review.
 The Chairman wished it to be recorded that he felt the exonerated Cllrs were being silenced by these procedures, but he requested that, in line with the approved statement, the matter should not be discussed further.
- vi. Approval of the Precept budget figures for 2020-21 – Following an extra Precept-only meeting on 3rd December the Clerk presented the calculated budget for 2020-21 to the Council for approval. The previously circulated minutes were proposed by Cllr Waight and seconded by Cllr Holdway with all other Cllrs in agreement.
- vii. Emergency Flood Planning Review and Salt/grit supplies. – Cllr Roberts reported that a resident had been in touch to report they had called W.C. out, during the previous floods, to deal with sewerage that had appeared in their garden, W.C. admitted that they should have cleared the drains and they hope this will be done in the near future in anticipation of any new flooding. Cllr Waight reported that the winterbourne on his land was already flowing. A discussion was had about the known line of drains in the village which cause problems and Cllr Roberts reported that the Environment Agency's website was showing water levels in the area as 'normal'. With further rain to come and winterbournes appearing, it was time to check the Parish's readiness. All Cllrs had received a copy of the Emergency Plan. Cllr Waight said he had sand at both Compton and Enford Farms and Cllr Roberts and Hiskett will check the quantities. 40x 25kg bags of salt and 50 gel bags had been brought in this year and it was agreed that further sand, if needed, and grit could be purchased as and when required

19/156 Finance

The Clerk reported that at the beginning of November there was a balance of £20,644.73 with total outgoings for the month of £549.28. There was a further £1,608.88 of uncleared cheques, most of which should appear on the December statement, thus a balance of £20,095.45 at the end of November.

19/157 Planning Applications

There were none.

19/158 New Playpark

There was nothing new to discuss. The balance in the account for new equipment stands at £3,790.56

19/159 The Parish Hall

Cllr Cliffe-Roberts as Chairman of the PHMC reported that their AGM had taken place last month. The final documents required by W.C. (an Asbestos Report and a Method Statement from the Contractors) had been sent and permission has been granted to proceed with demolition. It is not thought to be until the new year, at a time dictated by when the contractors are free and as soon as a date is known, Notice will be given to the immediate neighbours to the Hall.

19/160 Roads and Highways

Cllr Coulthard had called W.C. out regarding flooding just south of the Village Hall on the C32. By the time they arrived the levels had drained to almost nothing. If anyone spots this flooding again, please photograph this and send it to him to show W.C. the extent of the problem. A discussion was had on road damage from flooding and potholes and Cllr Coulthard will add these matters to his list for the Parish Steward. The Parish Steward has been out clearing leaves, particularly from the Church to the junction at the bottom of Enford Hill. He also has the strimming around grit/salt/dog mess bins etc for ease of access.

Cllr Roberts showed the Council some 20 mph signs which he felt would help with speeding through the village. These would be bought and installed by the Parish Council (not Wiltshire) and with the agreement of the Council. Cllr Young proposed this and the motion was seconded by Cllr Hiskett to proceed. The Clerk has been asked to purchase 3 at a cost of £254.80 including VAT and delivery.

19/161 Public Rights of Way (PRoWs)

Cllr Hiskett reported that the Avon Valley Group/Paths for All would be installing another kissing gate on December 18th with W.C. on the other side of B crossing should anyone be free to assist

19/162 Correspondence

Cllr Roberts reminded the Council of the Royal Artillery Museum consultation event on 16th December at 3.30pm in the Phoenix Hall, Netheravon and also that there is a special meeting at 3.00pm for Parish Councils so everyone can be clear as to what it is that is being proposed. If you can attend, please contact the Clerk so she can pass on numbers.

19/163 Any Other Business

Cllr Holdway raised the problem when coming down Enford Hill and there is an event on at the Church and cars are parking down the road as well, it creates a dangerous, single lane, blind corner. This is a known problem and drivers should reduce their speed accordingly.

19/164 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business Cllr Roberts closed the meeting at 2045hrs

Elizabeth Harrison, Clerk Enford Parish Council

Dated: 10th December 2019