

# ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

## Draft Minutes of the Meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012

<b>Present:</b> Mr. Ken Monk	Chairman
Mr. Adrian Orr	Vice-Chairman
Mr. Stan Bagwell. Mr Martin Webb.	
Mrs. Tessa Manser, Mr. Michael Fay,	Parish Councillors
PC Michael Bayliss	Wiltshire Police
Cllr. Charles Howard	Wiltshire Council
Mr. Bill Vergette	Clerk to the Council

**Chairman opened the meeting at 7.31p.m.**

**12/017 Apologies:** There were apologies from Mr. Norman Beardsley, Mrs. Jane Young and Col. Nigel Linge.

**12/018 Public Question Time.** Three parishioners were present; Lynne Beckett, Richard Isley and James Hayward. They wished to question Council on the application for a transport license by Mr. McKie which was the subject of Agenda item 12/006 at the previous meeting. Concerns raised were that the license left the door open for Mr. McKie to expand the business without notice, with the accompanying increase in traffic through Chisenbury. Chairman explained that at the previous meeting Mr. McKie had given assurances as to his intentions, explaining that the license was economically necessary and involved no change to the work pattern. Mr. McKie had also stated that in the unlikely event of an increase in trade he would be seeking another base to work from. Chairman said Council had no reason to doubt these statements. Chairman also pointed out that, unlike a planning application, license applications were not submitted to parish councils for comment. Enford PC had raised the matter as an agenda item after concerns were voiced by parishioners. Comments were passed to the licensing authority much as the report under item 12/006, but council would have to have severe cause for complaint to enter an objection. Chairman mentioned that there would certainly be disruption by traffic in East Chisenbury due to the planned closure of the Enford bridge. He confirmed that this was part of an EU initiative and not Parish Council led. The completed bridge would carry 44 tonnes. After further discussion it was decided that no further action be taken at this time. Chairman thanked the three parishioners for attending.

**12/019 Verify Minutes** of meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012: Proposed a true record Cllr. Bagwell, seconded Cllr. Fay, and passed.

**12/020 Declarations of Interest:** None.

**12/021 Matters Arising.** None other than item 12/018

**12/022 Army Matters.** Col. Linge expressed his regret but was needed at a meeting on project UBIQUE as was Cllr. Beardsley.

**12/023 Police Matters:** PC Michael Bayliss said that there had been a problem with a tree branch on the A345 at Enford but this was cleared without incident. An accident had occurred in East Chisenbury on 27<sup>th</sup> involving a collision between two cars. No-one seriously injured. Cllr. Bagwell reported another RTA on the A345, but this may have been within another force's jurisdiction. PC Bayliss reported that a police vehicle had been flagged down and the officer informed that men dressed as Afghans were in the area. Council were appreciative. Chairman thanked PC Bayliss for his time.

**12/024 Unitary Council Matters** – Cllr. Charles Howard had two reports:

Firstly the A345 - Cllr. Howard said we are all very well aware of the very unsatisfactory situation that has arisen over the signs that have been erected in Devizes, with no warning or prior consultation with the parishes concerned. These appear to divert HGV traffic away from the A360 road from Devizes to Salisbury, and onto the A345.

The Tidworth Area Board will be debating this at its next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March, and I am working on a draft letter for the Area Board to send to Wiltshire Council.

A consultation document on this subject has been issued by Wiltshire Council, and the Area Board's response will also be considered and approved at its next meeting.

Secondly Wiltshire Council's Budget 2012/13. - Cllr. Howard reported that the Council's Budget for 2012/13 was approved at a full meeting of the Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February, and the main points are:

1. Council Tax payable to the Council remains unchanged, as does the amount payable to the Police Authority and to Wiltshire Fire and Rescue. This gives a total Band D charge for the year of £1442.58. The only minor increase is in the precept of some Parish Councils.  
The amount of Council Tax payable is being held at last year's level despite a decrease of £3.2 million in the Formula Grant from central government
2. The Council's net expenditure budget for the year is just over £326 million, not including the educational budget which is funded by central government.
3. Despite the reduction in government grants, the Council is increasing expenditure on the following services in the coming year: Care of old and vulnerable people by £9.7 million and Children's services by £4.9 million. Highway maintenance from £18.3 million to £18.7million. It is fully appreciated that some roads are still in a poor state and that much remains to be done, but the backlog of work is expected to be reduced by a further 10% this year. This budget will deliver what is best for Wiltshire, and instead of cutting services as is the case with other neighbouring councils, we are actually increasing expenditure in many areas without an increase in Council Tax. This is being achieved by good management, but it has also been necessary to take some tough decisions and prioritise in order to achieve economies in some areas to deliver the most important services that we really need. Further details will be published in the annual Council Tax leaflet that is due to be published during March.  
Chairman noted that, in the past, the roads budget had been raided when other budgets ran dry. He hoped that this would not recur under the new system. Cllr. Howard said that he was confident that the measures now in place would prevent any such misuse.

**12/025 Neighbourhood Watch** - Mr. Steve Becker was not present.

**12/026 Tidworth CAP** – Mr. Tony Pickernell was not present. Information received from TCAP had been passed to all councillors.

**12/027 Planning**

- Application Ref: E/2012/0173ITCA, Application for Work to Trees in a Conservation Area. Proposal:- Fell 4 No Conifer trees At: Kimble Long Street Enford SN9 6AR. *Council had no comment.*

**12/028 Finance** – *Separate sheet*

- Current account stands at £3,173.76 - *Separate sheet.*

**12/029 General Parish Matters**

- **Playpark:** Cllr. Webb had nothing to report.
- **Parish Hall:** Cllr. Young was not present.
- **Village Hall:** Councillor Orr noted that a cleaner was being sought. A visit/review by the Football Foundation was expected in March but with the Red Lion team now onside prospects were good. Bookings for the hall were good and a profit was expected at year end.
- **Jubilee Celebrations:** Cllr. Orr had received Jubilee Mugs which will be presented to children. Payment of £210 had been made. Income of around £2000 was expected, and needed, since a full hog roast was planned at 6.30 together with a children's party in the afternoon with magic show and bouncy castle. Three bands – some of the foregoing were donating time to the event. Villagers would be asked to vote on a choice of plaque design to be affixed to the new bridge. The event would start with a Wheelbarrow Race from the Village Hall to the Bridge. Adrian asked Stan if Speedwatch helpers could aid in marshalling this event. Cllr. Bagwell agreed. Cllr. Orr asked for a donation of £10 for a container to act as a time capsule. Adrian also said he would order more Mugs to be sold at the event, and asked if council would fund this. Council agreed. Cllr. Orr was arranging a Jubilee meeting but the date clashed with other councillors requirements – TBD.
- **Highways:** Cllr. Bagwell reported that the dates for closure of Long Street were 10<sup>th</sup> April for 5 days. It was expected that Long Street would be usable in the evenings. Closure of the bridge at Enford would be from 8<sup>th</sup> May until December. What fun.  
Enford Parish Council would like a response from Wiltshire Council regarding the signs at Devizes directing HGV traffic onto the A345. The diversion of HGVs south out of Devizes disregarded Wiltshire Councils own Highways report and the Highways Consultant's recommendations. It also did not take into account the Collective response document of two Town Councils and nine Parish Councils - this response was to the Wiltshire Councils Core Strategy 2011-2026 regarding the problems of the A345 from Marlborough through to Durrington.

Both A345 and A342 are suffering damage from HGV use especially where the roads are too narrow to allow these vehicle to pass safely, resulting in damage to banking and verges. The safety aspect of HGV increased use of these roads must be obvious, however it would seem that the opinions of the Area Boards of Pewsey, Tidworth and Amesbury, and of the councils along the A345 were not sought, neither were the two primary schools on the route contacted.

Wiltshire Council's own advisory route of the A4 and A34 was not mentioned and appears not to have been considered.

Enford Parish Council will send full documentation to those involved in the hope that this will engender a response and prevent this misjudgement from recurring.

Cllr. Howard remarked that there might be a possibility of having the 345 declassified from A to B, and this might aid the problems we were suffering.

- **Rights of Way:** Cllr. Beardsley was not present but sent the following:  
*Please offer my apologies for absence this evening. I am attending a briefing on Project UBIQUE, PROW's on Salisbury Plain.*  
*Public Rights of Way.*
  - a. It has been noted that after several years of submitting defect reports, Wilts Council have just started to replace some of the missing PROW signs within Enford Parish*
  - b. In the March edition of the Enford Newsletter, you will see a short article by Ian Ritchie, Chairman of the Friends of the Ridgeway Group (Great Stones Way). During the morning of Sat 31 Mar 12 they are organising a short walk from Casterley Camp to Enford. After lunch, he is holding a meeting in the Village Hall which is timed to commence at 1430hrs. Entrance is free and refreshments will be provided. I hope the residents of Enford Parish will attend and support this event. I would also like to point out that the Friends of the Ridgeway Group are undertaking necessary repair work to PROW's along the route used*

**12/030 Correspondence** None not already passed to councillors.

**12/031 Any Other Business.**

- Cllr. Manser remarked that a parishioner had complained about the condition of Bonnets Cottage. Chairman said that this was private property and if it was not causing a nuisance there was little council could do.
- Cllr. Fay and Cllr. Webb said they had heard from a Mr. Tom Heath from Grants Road, who was interested in becoming a member of Enford Council. Cllr. Orr said he would welcome such a volunteer. Council agreed, and Mr. Heath would be invited to attend the next meeting, which was the AGM at 6.30 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr. Manser said she thought this time too early as in the past the AGM was over in fifteen minutes. After consideration council decided to put back the Enford Parish Council time to 7.00 p.m.

**12/032 Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2012. Parish Council Annual General Meeting at 7.00 pm, followed by the Annual Village Meeting at 7.30.

*Bill Vergette,* Clerk to Enford Parish Council.

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012