

ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 17th September 2014

At the Parish Hall at 7.30pm

Present:	Cllr Norman Beardsley	Chairman
	Cllr Nigel Murray	Vice Chairman
	Cllr Jane Young, Cllr Patricia Holdway	Councillors
	Cllr Michael Fay, Cllr David Harbottle	Councillors
	Cllr Richard Roberts, Cllr Bruce Waight	Councillors
	Cllr A. D’Arcy-Irvine, Cllr Richard Petitt	Councillors
	Elizabeth Harrison	Parish Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.32pm

14/250 Apologies

Apologies were noted from Cllr Gareth Holden.

The Council would like to thank Steve Becker and the Parish Plan Steering Group for all their tremendous hard work in getting the Parish Plan to this stage. The Council supports many of these initiatives and having held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the Plan have the following comments. We understand that the next stage is for a meeting to be called between the village committees to discuss the plan further and the Council supports this.

14/251 The Parish Plan – Issues & Actions

All Councillors had previously been sent a copy of the ‘Issues’ and ‘Actions’ documents drawn up by the Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Committee. As these are very wide ranging documents concerning the welfare of the whole Parish and all the various committees, it had been decided to call an Extraordinary meeting to deal with just the items pertaining to the Parish Council.

New Footpaths

It was noted that there are no footpaths with the community – they all lead on to the Plain. Cllr Beardsley (as representative of the PROWs) had previously been asked to look into this and had approached Wiltshire Council (WC). WC can authorise new footpaths via a ‘Creation Order’ or by agreement with the land owner who could receive compensation. Five potential routes were discussed. Sadly neither the MOD nor any landowner was willing to take this further. It was pointed out that most people travel by car. Cllr Petitt asked for the percentage of people requesting this in the Plan. Cllr Harbottle said moving a footpath is a very expensive business. Cllr D’Arcy-Irvine said the creation of a new footpath on the Plain had recently cost £750,000. It was agreed to look at the percentage request figure v. the cost and also noted that it would be better to direct such sums elsewhere within the Plan

Notice Boards

New locations were discussed, upgrades and possibly moving some of the existing ones.

The Village Hall Notice Board is a strong sealed unit. Cllr Murray suggested a new location in Water Lane which was generally agreed to by all and possibly another new one at the bus stop at the top of Enford Hill for the residents of New Buildings. The Swan was also suggested as a 'communal' spot where people might expect/want to find information. A five year rolling renewal plan was agreed.

Parish Database

Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine suggested there should be a dedicated computer for this. Both Cllrs Murray and Petitt suggested telephone numbers and addresses should be held as well as emails. The Council agreed to proceed with the idea.

Entertainments Committee

It had been suggested that the Parish Council should set up an Entertainments sub-committee. The first point raised was that there is already a lack of Co-ordination in the village and it was deemed unnecessary

Community owned shopping scooters

This was agreed by all the council as a bad idea. It would need someone to oversee the entire project, the scooters cost a lot of money to purchase, they would need to be regularly maintained, there would be storage and insurance issues to contend with as well. It was also pointed out that the nearest shops are 2.5 miles away as well as 'could the user be trusted?'

Community Transport Officer

Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine pointed out that the current bus companies agree that there is no profit to be had in running the buses through Enford – it is not financially viable. Cllr Harbottle is still in the process of trying to get the direct route to Devizes re-instated instead of having to go to Marlborough and change but this may be an uphill struggle, he was asked to persevere. Cllr Petitt suggested a car sharing rota. It would appear this is already in place as Cllr Murray's wife already does this.

Crime Prevention

Cllr Roberts is taking on the mantle of the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordination. He has a meeting set up with Maria Downham in October to take this further. John Boardham deals with Horse Watch.

Village Co-ordination Meetings - Funding

This topic was touched upon earlier under the Entertainments Committee. It was suggested that all fund raising should be co-ordinated however, any committee wishing to apply for funding needs to do so itself and not through the Parish Council. Mention was made of the £24,000 still available under the Tidworth Area Community budget but this would be for a maximum of £1,000 at a time so again, co-ordination on this would not work. Cllr Harbottle is applying for funding to have new signage in West Chisenbury and traffic calming measures in Enford.

Cllr Petitt and D'Arcy-Irvine discussed the concept that all those currently receiving annual 'Donations' and 'Section 137 Donations' from the Precept should have to apply for it in writing and account for what it has been spent on. This was agreed to in principle but also listed for further discussion.

Engaging Volunteers and Rotation of Committee Members.

Whilst in principle this should happen, unfortunately it does not as no one steps forward to offer their time for helping to organise a successful, thriving village community. It was pointed out that

there probably isn't a call for laying on more entertainment in the village due to the lack of response and attendance by the majority of the inhabitants.

Affordable Housing in Paddock Close

As this is an ongoing topic and there has as yet been no feedback from WC, this topic was not discussed and cannot be until we hear from WC.

Community Litter Sweep – Public Awareness Campaign

Many members of the Council already pick up litter and rubbish anyway. It was agreed that the Parish Council should instigate this as a start to a village effort.

This could be a topic for the Newsletter Committee to address. Cllr. Beardsley asked how many bins there are in the village. The main problem is the ones we already have do not get emptied – particularly at the Playpark area. Cllr Holdway who is looking into the situation with dog litter bins will also check out the normal litter bin/emptying situation. Cllr D'Arcy-Irvine requested there should be notices around the village asking people to collect/remove their own litter.

Identifying Public and MOD land

This also relates to the earlier mentioned new footpaths –having the space and using it beneficially for the village. Cllr Murray suggested a Youth Cycle Club – there wouldn't be a shortage of places to go!

Allotments or a Playpark were also put forward. Some 18 months ago there was a move to extend the Playpark to encompass most of Paddock Close. Cllr Fay continues to maintain the facilities currently available. Whilst a nice idea the enthusiasm waned when fund raising, to the tune of £18-20,000, was mentioned. The area is now 'suspended' by the response from WC as to the desire for Affordable Housing. Cllr Roberts was surprised that there were no football posts however, any ball being kicked too far could only be recovered by climbing over a barbed wire fence – this is considered dangerous. Cllr Roberts also suggested a solid new bench. Cllr Beardsley asked if there was support for a "Playpark Extension Project Team", albeit in the future. Cllr Young will speak to Michelle who was behind the request some 18 months ago.

Community Area Re-allocation

When this first took place, Enford was forced to join the Tidworth Area (having previously been with Pewsey). It was decided that as Tidworth was better funded, there would be better opportunities to stay under Tidworth.

9.05pm All Action points covered.

Cllr Murray suggested having a Boundary Walk. This would be approximately 20 miles. Cllrs generally felt this would be a good idea.

9.07pm Meeting Closed

The next meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Wednesday 22nd October at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

Elizabeth Harrison – Clerk, Enford Parish Council.

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