

## Minutes of the Meeting of East Hendred Parish Council, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February 21 at 7.30pm by Video Conference

Present: John Sharp (Chair), Charles Pappenheim, Roger Turnbull, Catherine Shortis, Selby Stocks, Stephen Webb, Julie Roberts

Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans

County Councillor: Cllr Mike Fox-Davies

District Councillor: Cllr Janet Shelley

PCSO:

Members of the Public: Mr Beddow, Mr Tunnell, Mr Govans

55/21	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:</b> Cllrs Hardisty	Action:
56/21	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</b> Cllrs Turnbull and Webb for agenda item 11d.	
57/21	<b>OPEN FORUM</b> Mr Govans raised the issue of parking in Chapel Square. Poor parking on the north section of the square has resulted in at least 5 incidents in the last year. He asked whether any action could be taken to resolve the issue. He also raised concerns about damage to the verges. Mr Beddow pointed out that potholes on the edges of the roads caused drivers to move away from the verges, which may have exacerbated the problem. Cllr Fox-Davies urged residents to report potholes on Fix My Street and to let him know when they had done so. Cllr Sharp asked whether signage would help resolve the issue. Cllr Fox-Davies agreed to get a Highways Officer to investigate. Cllr Webb pointed out that the parking situation had been much worse due to the lockdowns.	MF-D
58/21	<b>UPDATE FROM COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GROUP</b> There was nothing to report. No one had asked for any help.	
59/21	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES OF 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021</b> The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2020 were reviewed and approved subject to the following amendment to minute reference 19/21 – change ‘it was noted that bus stops were not shown’ to ‘it was noted that the bus stops were incorrectly stated to be no longer in use’. Proposed Cllr Pappenheim, Seconded Cllr Stocks. RESOLVED. The minutes of the confidential session were reviewed and approved. Proposed Cllr Turnbull, Seconded Cllr Shortis. RESOLVED.	
	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 NOT OTHERWISE COVERED ON THE AGENDA:</b>	
60/21	<b>Emergency Plan</b> The final version of the plan had been circulated. A few comments had been received but no objections. There was one outstanding matter; clarification of the Harwell Campus position. Cllr Fox-Davies agreed to chase this.	CP/MF-D
61/21	<b>Speed Monitoring/VAS At Rowstock</b> An extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council had been held on 29 <sup>th</sup> January which agreed to spend £1500 on the SID system. Cllr Pappenheim pointed out that it was essential that a system was in place for charging the batteries and moving the device before any money was spent. There were bound to be costs associated with the and it was suggested that the Parish Council would be prepared to share this cost with Harwell Parish Council. It was agreed to approve the £1500 expenditure. Proposed Cllr Turnbull, Seconded Cllr Stocks. RESOLVED.	CP
62/21	<b>Traffic Advisory Group Meeting</b> No progress.	MF-D
63/21	<b>Salt Bin For St Mary’s</b>	

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	No progress. Clerk to chase.	Clerk
64/21	<b>Dog Fouling On Track Beside Portway Cottages</b> The signs had been installed. Cllr Shortis to write an article on dog fouling for the next Bulletin.	CLOSED
65/21	<b>Signs In The Village</b> No report.	NC
66/21	<b>Application For Grant From Councillor Priority Fund</b> Cllr Pappenheim asked whether this funding could be used toward the SID project. Cllr Fox-Davies to check. Going forward this item will be included under the item for Speed Monitoring at Rowstock.	MF-D
67/21	<b>Biodiversity Within The Village</b> Cllr Shortis had walked around the village with Sian Mitchell. There will be a presentation to the Parish Council on this matter in due course.	CLOSED
68/21	<b>COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT:</b> PCSO Kirby sent a written report which had been circulated. In it he reported that there had been one report at the end of January of criminal damage to a field, probably caused by hare coursers. A vehicle had been seized in Grove that had been associated with rural crime, and two persons were arrested near Benson for offences related to rural crime. Their vehicle and dogs were seized. Although these incidents were not linked to East Hendred, the Police are aware that these persons commit crime across the whole area. The Police continue to patrol the area.	
69/21	<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</b> Cllr Fox-Davies had sent a written report which was circulated ahead of the meeting. At the meeting he reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) That COVID cases were dropping across the County.</li> <li>b) The winter support grant was available until the end of March.</li> <li>c) The OCC budget was to go to full Council. There was to be a 1.99% increase in basic Council Tax plus and additional 1% for adult social care.</li> <li>d) Some funding was going into Highways Maintenance and there was an initiative to implement a 20mph speed limited in villages.</li> </ul> Cllr Fox-Davies emphasised that services were not being cut; the money is just being better used. Cllr Sharp noted that he was surprised at how little progress had been made on the Highways improvements at Rowstock; these issues had been around for some years. Cllr Fox-Davies hoped that there would be some good options put forward by the end of the year. Cllr Pappenheim noted that speeding was a major issue for Rowstock residents and wanted to see enforcement of existing speed limits. Cllr Fox-Davies agreed to try and get some action on this. It would be necessary to involve Thames Valley Police. Cllr Fox-Davies was thanked for attending.	MF-D
70/21	<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:</b> Cllr Shelley reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Vale were continuing their COVID support.</li> <li>b) The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> March had been cancelled. It was likely to be rescheduled for May.</li> <li>c) Garden Waste collections had been suspended until further notice. The Vale were meeting with Biffa weekly to discuss the situation.</li> <li>d) Civil Parking Enforcement – OCC had requested delegated powers for this. It was expected that the scheme would be implemented at the end of the year.</li> <li>e) The CIL consultation deadline was 8<sup>th</sup> February.</li> <li>f) COVID compliance marshals were still operating in the Vale.</li> <li>g) The Full Council were to meet on 10<sup>th</sup> February. The budget was on the agenda for discussion.</li> <li>h) East Hendred had only had two reported incidents of dog fouling in the last year. Cllr Shelley agreed to send the report to Cllr Shortis.</li> </ul> Cllr Turnbull asked Cllr Shelley to take up the matter of the Harwell Campus	JSh

	Masterplan. Cllr Shelley reported that she had spoken to the planning officer and it had been decided that they would not proceed with this as a new Local Plan is under development. Cllr Turnbull requested a copy of the Travel plan for Harwell Campus. Cllr Shelley agreed to ask for this. Cllr Shelley was thanked for attending.	JSh
	<b>FINANCE</b>	
71/21	<b>Finance Committee Report</b> The Finance Committee had reviewed the accounts to Q3. There were no issues and most items were under budget. A new bank account for Parish Council reserves was to be carried forward to the next meeting.	C/F Finance Committee
72/21	<b>Interim Internal Audit Report</b> The interim internal audit report was presented and accepted. No issues had been raised by the Auditor. Comments were noted.	
73/21	<b>Repair of Fence along Snells walkway</b> A quote for £275 had been agreed by email and was ratified. Proposed Cllr Pappenheim, Seconded Cllr Shortls. RESOLVED.	
74/21	<b>Approval of February Payments:</b> The payments totalling £1189.77 were approved. Proposed Cllr Stocks, Seconded Cllr Webb. RESOLVED. Cllr Shortis to approve the payments on the bank.	CS
75/21	<b>2021/22 Budget allocations</b> The Finance Committee had approved the budget allocations. To be circulated to all Councillors for ratification at the March meeting.	All Councillors/Clerk
76/21	<b>Request for a grant from St Amand's School.</b> Further information had been requested but not yet received. Carried forward.	C/F
	<b>PLANNING ITEMS</b>	
77/21	<b>P20/V2984/FUL – 22 Ridgeway Close.</b> Change of use of land from public use to residential garden. A report on the application had been circulated. Part of the plot was designated as open public space. A fence had already been erected and was subject to enforcement action. Pre-application advice had been taken. This suggested moving the fence back might be acceptable. The fence was very close to the footpath. It had removed the open feeling on the estate and had prevented the planting of the approved landscaping. Cllr Stocks suggested that low boundary treatments would be more acceptable. Cllr Webb pointed out that the proposal prevents the public from using the space. It was agreed to object to the application. Clerk to submit the report.	Clerk
78/21	<b>P20/V0389/RM – Greensands, Reading Road.</b> Reserved Matters following outline planning permission P15/V2328/O - details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale. New plans had been received from the architects. It had not been possible to arrange a meeting with the developers. It was noted that OCC were still objecting. The submitted response dated 26 <sup>th</sup> January did not make it clear whether the Parish Council was objecting to the application. It was agreed that a holding objection was to be submitted which would be removed when all the conditions included in the response were met. Mr Beddow raised concerns about access to the site and asked to be notified if the application went to the Planning Committee. It was noted that the appeal inspector had suggested that access onto the A417 could be retained until 1 <sup>st</sup> occupation. Mr Beddow raised concerns about access to the site.	Clerk
79/21	<b>P20/V2382/FUL and P20/V2383/LB. The Plough Inn, Orchard Lane.</b> Proposed restoration of the Plough Inn to its former state as a residential dwelling with the erection of a new garage and additional enabling works. Conversion of the Oak Room into a residential property. Creation of a new club house for the bowls club with social space for the local community on the site of	

	<p>the existing changing rooms, and introduction of a new pedestrian gate. Creation of community co-working offices and associated art rooms with associated works.</p> <p>Cllr Sharp noted that the Conservation Officers comments are very negative. Cllr Pappenheim felt that the steps onto Chapel Square were unsafe. It was noted that OCC Highways were not objecting to the plans. Sport England had raised concerns that the clubhouse had not been properly thought out, especially with regard to accessibility. They were also concerned about the economic viability of the clubhouse; they felt that the club should accept a smaller building or a different facility. Cllr Sharp asked whether the Parish Council should submit a comment about the parking problems in Chapel Square in relation to the proposed steps. Clerk to put together a statement.</p>	Clerk
80/21	<b>P20/V3079/LB – Vine House, Chapel Square.</b> Amendment to propose the building of a new kitchen inside the existing building rather than in a rear extension. The Parish Council had no objections to the application.	
81/21	<b>P20/V1667/O - Fermi Gate, Harwell Campus.</b> Outline application with all matters reserved for the redevelopment of part of Harwell Science and Innovation Campus known as Fermi Gate to provide employment floorspace (Use classes B1 and B2) for offices, laboratories and light industrial uses, temporary accommodation (Use class C1), supporting parking and ancillary uses (Class A1/A3) and landscaping and open space. Amended Plans received. The response from the application did not deal with the Parish Council's objections. Cllr Turnbull to resubmit the original comments. Cllr Shelley reported that she had raised concern about the elevated position and the height of the building. She had pointed out that the AONB needed to be taken into account. Cllr Sharp to talk to the North Wessex AONB about this.	RT JVS
82/21	<b>VWHDC – Call for sites for Local Plan 2041.</b> Nothing to report.	
83/21	<b>Review of S106/CIL requirements.</b> Nothing to report.	CLOSED
84/21	<b>Village sewage problems.</b> Clerk to chase again for a meeting and to write to our MP if there is still no response.	Clerk
85/21	<b>Consultation on changes to CIL.</b> Cllr Turnbull to respond to the consultation.	RT
86/21	<b>OCC AND VALE POLICY ON CLIMATE EMERGENCY</b> Nothing to report.	
87/21	<b>ROWSTOCK</b> The Speed Indicator Device for Rowstock was covered in minute reference 61/21 above, No other matters to report.	
88/21	<b>COMMUNITY ART PROJECT</b> No progress.	CS
89/21	<b>HENDRED ESTATE ITEMS</b> The Estate was to submit planning applications for the development of office buildings and a glamping site. They had offered to share the plans ahead of the submission. Cllr Pappenheim was to circulate them when received.	CP
	<b>WORKING GROUPS/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS AND UPDATES</b>	
90/21	<b>Sports Club:</b> Cllr Stocks reported that the Sports Club was disappointed with the Parish Council response on moving the playground. They wanted to know whether there had been any progress on a MUGA. Cllr Shortis reported that size is an issue, as is cost. She was not sure whether it would be a suitable option for Mill Lane. It was difficult to progress this at the moment due to COVID restrictions.	CS
91/21	<b>Allotments.</b> Two plot holders had entered into a plot share agreement which had freed up a plot. The vacated plot required some work. BAAA were to arrange a working party for this. Cllr Shortis asked whether there were funds available for compost and manure. It was suggested that BAAA applied for a grant.	CS
92/21	<b>Bulletin/Website/Facebook:</b> A new Bulletin was due shortly. Cllr Sharp to write an item on planning. Cllr	JVS/CS

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	Shortis to write one on dog fouling.	
93/21	<b>Courtesy Lighting:</b> All lights were OK except for one at Coulings Close.	CP
94/21	<b>Playgrounds:</b> a) <b>Playground inspection for February.</b> Cllr Pappenheim to ask Cllr Coates for her inspection report. One of the swings in Penney playpark needed a new surface. Cllr Pappenheim to look into this. Cllr Stocks suggested building up the bark before putting rubber matting down. Cllrs Stocks and Pappenheim to discuss. b) <b>Proposals for Mill Lane</b> – No progress.	CP/SS CS
95/21	<b>Transport:</b> Nothing to report.	
96/21	<b>Rights of Way:</b> A report had been received that the surface of the new Icknield Greenway cycle route was not suitable for cycling. People in the cycling community were disappointed with the surface. They had written to OCC to complain and Cllr Pappenheim suggested that the Parish Council write as well. Cllr Pappenheim to draft a note. Cllr Fox-Davies to be copied into the letter.	CP
97/21	<b>Snells Path/Nature Reserve:</b> One repair to the walkway was outstanding.	CP
98/21	<b>Harwell Stakeholder Group:</b> Cllr Sharp reported that an on-line Stakeholder meeting was planned for March.	JVS
99/21	<b>Harwell Campus:</b> Cllr Sharp to establish was had taken over from Angus Horner who had been reported to have left. Nothing further to report.	JVS
100/21	<b>Snells Hall Update:</b> The hall was still closed. It will re-open as soon as it is permitted. Generous grants have offset the loss of earnings.	
101/21	<b>Lengthman/Litter Picker:</b> Masks were to be provided to the staff. New contracts of employment were being developed. To be circulated to the Finance Committee for review.	Clerk
102/21	<b>GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE:</b> None.	
103/21	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY):</b> a) <b>Play area inspections for March</b> – Cllrs Coates and Stocks b) <b>Christmas Tree.</b> Cllr Shortis asked whether the Parish Council would fund a Christmas tree this year. Cllr Sharp noted that it was in the budget.	
104/21	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING:</b> Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm by Video conference.	

The meeting closed at 21.30