

**Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Council**  
**Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021**  
*Held remotely via Zoom in line with SLCC guidelines due to Covid-19 restrictions*

Present:

Cllr Burtenshaw (Chairman)  
Cllr Errington (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr Loader  
Cllr Stainton-Burrell  
Cllr Taylor  
Cllr Wilson

In attendance:

County Councillor Michael Thierry  
District Councillor Emma Lane  
Parish Clerk, Joanna Ramsay  
1 member of the public

1. **21/02/96 To accept and receive apologies for absence**  
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Coutts.
2. **21/02/97 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests in relation to the agenda**  
Cllr Errington declared an interest in item 11 (i).
3. **21/02/98 To agree the minutes of the Council meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 are a true and accurate record**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Taylor and **seconded** by Cllr Wilson that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 be signed as a true and accurate record. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

4. **21/02/99 Chairman's report on matters arising from the Council meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (for items not on the agenda)**

The Chairman's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Chairman stated that with regard to roads and footpaths, there has been no response from CCllr Humby and she has not been able to contact Highways to see what has been done regarding the flooding. On visiting the area around Ibsley Service Station after recent rain downpours, it appears that the flooding has been reduced although it is hard to tell if the culvert has been cleared by Highways.

Chairman has followed up the parking issues with Newlands Farm on Mockbeggar Lane East. The Farm have agreed to put logs on the Parish Council verges to deter parking on the south side of the road. It is felt that parking is a wider issue however, due to another landowner letting out a field for livery and not providing parking; the increased number of dog walkers; and the increased number of recreational visitors. Chairman proposed putting up No Parking signs on the verges as a temporary measure until we are able to get Natural England consent for Dragon's Teeth to be put in place. Concern was raised that people

Chairman

Date

would park elsewhere and just move the problem along. DCllr Lane stated that these measures do not get to the root of the problem, there is just not enough parking available in the area. It is a collective issue and all partners need to discuss the issues (National Trust, Highways, NFDC, landowners, and so on).

**Action: Clerk to write to the landowner to ask them to provide suitable parking provision for the activity on their land**

Chairman confirmed that she and the Vice Chairman had today signed a letter to extend the Clerk's temporary contract and make it permanent as the six month probationary period is up at the end of February.

Forest Housing/MADE Trust – Chairman stated that this is a new initiative aiming to provide local people with affordable housing. The Trust would like a Parish Councillor on their Trustee Board if possible.

All other matters will be dealt with on the agenda.

**5. 21/02/100 Public Forum**

Chairman advised the member of public present should they wish to raise an issue this is the time. Interest was noted in item 11 on the agenda only.

*The Chairman decided to alter the agenda and asked DCllr Lane to report any matters now rather than wait until item 12 on the planned agenda.*

**12. 21/02/101 County/District Matters**

DCllr Lane stated that she would be following up the issue of having dog waste bins at Rockford Common Car Park with the National Trust, having been refused recently again.

DCllr Lane raised that it may be possible to have face to face meetings again from 8<sup>th</sup> May, and there has not yet been a decision on whether remote meetings can/cannot continue.

DCllr Lane requested the Parish Council put an article in the next newsletter with regard to toad crossing on Gorley Road, between the Alice Lisle and Toad Corner especially. Chairman stated that the newsletter has been on a back burner, but maybe an Easter one could be done.

**Action: DCllr Lane to email across relevant text to the Clerk for inclusion in the newsletter**

**6. 21/02/102 Finance**

**(i) Payment of Accounts January – February 2021**

Payments to be sanctioned are:

NFDC – GIS Contribution	£125.00
Earlcoate – Ibsley Ditch Clearing	£200.04
Fair Account – ¾ quarterly audit	£100.00
Clerk Expenses (Jan-Feb)	£49.83
<b>TOTALS FOR FEBRUARY</b>	<b>£474.87</b>

Clerk stated the top two payments were made out of council due to the deadlines being before this meeting. The other payments to be sanctioned are for the Q3 audit report and Clerk expenses (details circulated prior to the meeting).

It was **proposed** by Cllr Loader and **seconded** by Cllr Taylor that the above payments listed be sanctioned. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

**(ii) Financial Report**

Clerk advised that the bank balances are as below

Current A/C as at 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020	£17,087.42
Instant Access A/C as at 18 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020	£57,431.89
Dodington A/C	£851.31

The Reserve Account balance remains the same. The Dodington Trust account balance has reduced by the three payments awarded at the last meeting.

The Current Account has reduced significantly since the last meeting as all the grants have been paid out as agreed at the last meeting.

**(iii) To decide on Dodington Trust application**

Clerk stated that no further details had been received other than a general enquiry, so there was no information to make an informed decision.

**7. 21/02/103 Parish Council Matters**

**(i) Policies**

The following updated policies had been circulated prior to the meeting for reading – Equal Opportunities Policy, Grievance Policy, Disciplinary Policy and Sickness Absence Policy. Clerk explained that they are standard NALC policies and are to be taken into account by the Parish Council as an employer and the Clerk as an employee.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Burtenshaw and **seconded** by Cllr Stainton-Burrell that the policies be adopted. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

**(ii) To agree on format of Verges Policy/Leaflet/Parking Notice**

Chairman advised this will be circulated by email to all Councillors for consideration.

**Action: Cllr Burtenshaw/Clerk to take forward**

**(iii) To agree the Casual Vacancy**

Clerk explained that as a result of a resignation, a casual vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council and the Parish Council need to agree that vacancy by resolution and put a notice to that effect on the website/noticeboards which has been done. Chairman noted that there are actually three vacancies, so we need to find some more new Councillors. Clerk explained that if no one comes forward in the time period on the notice the Parish Council can co-opt in a Councillor. Question was raised as to whether we had to accept three applicants for three vacancies, this was unknown.

**Action: Clerk to confirm Casual Vacancy/Co-option of Councillors rules**

Chairman also raised at this time, that she would be standing down as Chairman from May 2021, she intends to remain on the Council but there needs to be some thought towards succession planning for the future of the Council.

**(iv) To review Website Content/Pages**

The new website is up and running, however the content is not good, therefore Chairman requested all Councillors discuss and review the different web pages at each meeting. Starting with the Members page, it was agreed to keep the photographs, keep the biographies in the third person and change the Chair/Vice Chair wording.

**Action: Clerk to update**

**8. 21/02/104 Environmental Matters**

**(i) Roads/Footpaths**

Chairman raised that she had reported some potholes recently and it appears HCC have visited the site and put white marks around them to fill, which is positive. Cllr Wilson requested that all Councillors are informed on how to report a pothole as some roads in the parish have some very bad ones.

**Action: Clerk to circulate how to report a pothole**

**(ii) Ditches, Culverts, Verges and Overhanging Vegetation**

Nothing reported.

**(iii) To receive a report from the King's Oak sub-group**

Cllr Loader stated that the subgroup discussed the priorities, and the first priority is to sort out the Dragon's Teeth as only 4 are left and people are parking and walking on the verge. To do the other work required, access needs to be reduced around the tree. We need to try and reduce the compaction on the land to enable the biochar and under soil work to be done. The brambles are helping to keep stock and people off the land by the ditch.

The section of ditch nearest to Linwood Road might be culvert-ed, so that the oak's near-surface root-hair system could grow across the ditchline. There is a diagonal pipe under the Linwood Road, a new pipe could join them, but the depth of this pipe would depend on the invert level of this existing culvert under the road. EHIPC own the ditch behind the tree but the rest of the land is unregistered, so we think this belongs to the Somerley Estate, therefore a joint consent is being put to Natural England to do the work.

**(iv) To agree Lengthsman Tasks (8<sup>th</sup> March) to put forward**

Clerk advised that the next Lengthsman day is the 8<sup>th</sup> March and work sheets need to be in by next week. Cllr Loader suggested that the lengthsman is asked to dig the ditch and expose the culvert behind the King's Oak by hand. The spoil is to remain on site to be re-used.

**Action: Clerk to take forward**

**9. 21/02/105 Community Matters**

Nothing reported.

**10. 21/02/106 Crime in the Parish**

Nothing reported.

**11. 21/02/107 Planning**

**(i) NPA 21/0045 Bracken Hill, Highwood, Ringwood BH24 3NW – Fell 1 x Oak tree, Prune 1 x Beech tree, Prune 1 x group of mixed tree species (RL)**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Loader and **seconded** by Cllr Errington to Raise No Objections to NF NPA. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

Comments submitted:

The Parish Council wish to commend the contractor for providing such a good application with clear and annotated photographs to see what work is going to be done.

**(ii) HCC/NFDC 21/10128 – LAND AT ELLINGHAM FARM, NORTH SOMERLEY**

Variation of Conditions 1 (Timescale), 13 (Restoration Scheme), and 25 (Plans) of planning permission 17/11707 with a time limited extension for the restoration to 31 December 2025 (LB)

It was **proposed** by Cllr Burtenshaw and **seconded** by Cllr Errington to recommend PAR3 (PERMISSION) to NFDC. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

Chairman explained that this application is to extend the timeframe to December 2025 from December 2020 for the restoration of the land after the washing of minerals. A new footpath is to be created from the crossroads at Ellingham Drove northwards to the Old Beams pub between the lakes and the A338. With the new proposed restoration, it is expected that this footpath can be put in place within a year from when permission is granted. It is hoped that the new footpath would fall

under the same S106 agreement already in place which establishes a permissive path and then, after formalities, would become a designated permanent footpath. A resident has raised that a similar S106 agreement was in place for the footpath to the south of the Ellingham cross roads and this has never been completed. HCC were also been given money by Tarmac to maintain the south footpath and this has not happened either. Again, maintenance of the new footpath must be included in the agreements. There is no objection to the application itself but the legal agreements in place must be adhered to. A resident has requested that the proposed footpath also be extended in an East-West direction at the southern end of the lake feature to provide views over the river system and water meadows. However, some Councillors thought this may cause a disturbance to the flora and fauna and lead to adverse environmental impacts.

**Action: Clerk to follow up why the legal agreements have not been adhered to for the South footpath and contact HCC with regards to the maintenance of the footpath.**

**12. 21/02/108 County/District Matters**

CCllr Thierry Lane stated that this Thursday, HCC will agree the budget for 2021/22 and then NFDC will set their budget. After this, we will know what increase there will be to Council Tax.

CCllr Thierry advised that the County elections will go ahead on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

CCllr Thierry was able to give a higher than expected amount to Hockeys Farm by the means of County Councillor Community Grant.

Regarding our vacancies, CCllr Thierry offered to put something in the Ringwood and Fordingbridge News to try and find new Councillors.

*The meeting closed at 9.32pm*

**Dates of 2020/21 EH&I PC meetings starting at 7.30 pm:**

**Planning Committee**  
9<sup>th</sup> March

**Parish Council**  
23<sup>rd</sup> March