

Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Council
Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd March 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 Taylor
Cllr Wilson

In attendance:

County Councillor Michael Thierry
District Councillor Emma Lane
Parish Clerk, Joanna Ramsay

1. **21/03/109 To accept and receive apologies for absence**
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Stainton-Burrell.
Cllr Coutts was noted as absent.

2. **21/03/110 Declarations of pecuniary and other interests in relation to the agenda**
None declared.

3. **21/03/111 To agree the minutes of the Council meeting of the 23rd February 2021 are a true and accurate record**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Errington and **seconded** by Cllr Wilson that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23rd February 2021 be signed as a true and accurate record. **ALL IN FAVOUR.**

4. **21/03/112 Chairman's report on matters arising from the Council meeting of the 23rd February 2021 (for items not on the agenda)**

The Chairman's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Chairman stated that the CFI scheme invoice is to be sanctioned at tonight's meeting, and works are expected to start late summer.

Natural England consents – Clerk confirmed that these have been sent off to Natural England and we are awaiting their decision.

Rockford Common Waste Bin – DCllr Lane stated that she not followed this up yet but leave on the agenda as a reminder.

All other matters will be dealt with on the agenda.

5. **21/03/113 Public Forum**
None present.

Chairman

Date

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. 21/03/114 County/District Matters

DCllr Lane raised that there are a lot of roadworks going on at the moment and Operation Resilience is also in action. Footpath 701 around Snail's Lane has been repaired as part of the Avon Valley Path.

DCllr Lane stated that NFDC have responded strongly to the Dorset Council Local Plan consultation in relation to the proposed developments at Alderholt, looking at infrastructure, pollution and effects on the neighbouring area in Hampshire. Chairman stated that she had also sent a response on behalf of EHIPC supporting the response that Alderholt Parish Council had sent. The road network will suffer particularly in Harbridge. It is unknown if Dorset Council have publicised the responses yet.

DCllr Lane informed Councillors that the Leader of NFDC has resigned and that there will be a leadership contest shortly.

DCllr Lane left the meeting at this point, 7.43pm

6. 21/03/115 Finance

(i) Payment of Accounts February – March 2021

Payments to be sanctioned are:

CFI Payment to HCC	£1,000.00
TLC Online	£429.20
Robin Wells Computers	£80.00
Clerk Expenses (Feb-Mar)	£366.00
TOTALS FOR MARCH	£1,875.20

Clerk stated the top three payments were made out of council due to the deadlines being before this meeting. The other payment to be sanctioned is the 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 17 th March 2021	£14,534.03
Instant Access A/C as at 17 th March 2021	£57,431.89
Dodington A/C	£851.31

The Reserve Account balance remains the same as does the Dodington Trust account balance.

The Current Account has reduced since the last meeting mainly due to the payments finally being made for the website (agreed August 2020) and for the CFI scheme (agreed October 2020). The budget is however where we should expect it to be.

CCllr Thierry joined the meeting at this point, 7.48pm

(iii) To agree Internal Auditor service provision for 2020/21

Clerk explained that due to the annual meeting not occurring last May, it needs to be minuted that the Parish Council appointed Fair Account as Internal Auditors for the year 2020/21, and they will do the AGAR for 2020/21.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Burtenshaw and **seconded** by Cllr Loader that the internal auditor be approved. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

(iv) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Monitoring Report

Clerk explained that a CIL Monitoring Report is required to be completed by the Parish Council to be sent to NFDC to show how the CIL money we have received has been spent. NFDC have confirmed that the Parish Council have only received one CIL payment to the value of approximately £3,900. CIL money is collected centrally and is then shared across the parishes. The CIL is the amount of money developers have to pay for new development builds in the area. The CIL is not applied if a building is a new, self build.

Action: Clerk to return CIL monitoring report showing how that money has been spent, ie, on the CFI scheme.

(v) To consider Grant request from New Forest Disability Service

Chairman stated that this request came after our January meeting, but felt it should be discussed nonetheless. Concern was raised that a grant was awarded in the last financial year (£400), but the cheque was not cashed. The Parish Council need to be reassured that the organisation is being run in a robust financial way before sending across any more money. Cllr Wilson raised that it would also be useful to know what services they have provided specifically in our parish area. Agreed to defer the decision on the grant until the next meeting.

Action: Clerk to write to the New Forest Disability Service for more information on the above.

(vi) To provide an update on Moyles Court Ice Cream Pitch for 2021/22

The Ice Cream Pitch on Moyles Court went out to tender in 2019 for a period of 3 years. Scoopa Nan put in the only tender. In the minutes of March 2019 under item 19/03/62 the tender received was for £1,100 per annum, so it is assumed this is for 3 years up to 2022. It will therefore need to go out to tender next year. Payment was received for 2020/2021 for £1,000 (a

discount given for missing some months due to Covid-19). Councillors agreed payment for 2021/2022 will be £1,100.

Action: Clerk to inform Scoopa Nan.

7. 21/03/116 Parish Council Matters

(i) Policies

The following updated policies had been circulated prior to the meeting for reading – H&S Statement and Expenses Policy (staff).

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

(ii) To review Website Content/Pages – Environment/Links & Numbers

Councillors discussed the use of the new email and Chairman reminded Councillors that they need to set up their Parish Council email addresses as private emails should not be used for Parish Council business.

Also, Chairman reminded Councillors to review the web pages the Clerk has sent around and make any comments as necessary, especially with the links/numbers as they may be out of date.

Action: ALL COUNCILLORS

(iii) Annual Parish Meeting (20th April) – Zoom

Chairman stated that usually this occurs in April at Ibsley Village Hall with a guest speaker, however this is unfeasible this year and HALC advice is that it is held before the 7th May on Zoom. Chairman advised this shorter meeting would just comprise an Annual Report and suggested, as an alternative, an Autumn meeting could be organised with a guest speaker.

(iv) Annual Meeting – 25th May

Chairman advised that it is unlikely that this meeting will be able to be held face to face and will also need to be held on Zoom. This is still an unknown at this time and a suitable risk assessment/precautions will need to be put in place if it can be held face to face. Councillors need to be aware Chairman nominations are expected at this meeting.

8. 21/03/117 Environmental Matters

(i) Roads/Footpaths

Chairman raised that since reporting the flooding at Ibsley Service Station, CCllr Humby has replied that the adjoining landowners have been informed of their riparian responsibility. CCllr Humby also suggested clearing the entrance to the culvert and creating a sump. Chairman confirmed this was done before Christmas.

With regards to road closures, Chairman stated that HCC have informed us that Ellingham Village road will shut in April for surface dressing. If the reference is to the road down to Ellingham Church Hall/Somerley Estate, then prior repairs have already been carried out.

Chairman stated that she and Cllr Errington are attending a National Trust liaison meeting tomorrow and will try to determine when the National Trust are going to close Rockford Common car park, hopefully not at Easter, as the car park was full this week and the verges covered in cars.

Snail's Lane/Avon Valley footpath improvements have been completed, but they only go a few yards either side then it reverts to mud. Chairman reported that the brambles have been cut back to a metre, but this is not enough and access could be impossible soon. It should be cut back to the fence ideally and also the fence is broken in places.

Action: Clerk to write to HCC Countryside Services regarding the path

(ii) Ditches, Culverts, Verges and Overhanging Vegetation

Chairman stated that no action has been taken by Newlands yet on putting logs on the verges.

Action: Clerk/Cllr Burtenshaw to follow up

Chairman stated that Ibsley Village Hall are allowing people to park at their car park whilst the village hall is not in use. Chairman raised that the gate being shut may deter people from using the car park and also the sign is not really clear or big enough. The gate is not locked. Therefore it is worth sharing this information with others.

The Clerk circulated a verges guidance leaflet and parking notice after the last meeting for comment by Councillors, none were received therefore agreed we can use them to try and get the message out about not parking on verges.

(iii) To receive an update from the King's Oak sub-group

Cllr Loader reported that since the Lengthsman has cleared the ditch beside the tree it has become evident that the exit of the clay pipe draining from the National Trust side of Linwood Road is broken. There are two large roots of the tree in the ditch and Cllr Loader said it looked as if they had been cut to try and allow water throughflow. It is thought that these roots are now probably dead, but an expert would need to look at them now that they have been exposed. These cut roots could also explain some of the dieback on the tree. The ditch is very deep in places, up to 2ft, so clearing out the ditch totally would be dangerous. As the ditch is now clearer, water is now flowing. Cllr Loader proposed that Jeremy Barrell be asked to review the status of the tree roots in the ditch. This was agreed. Discussion was had about moving the ditch away from the tree (to the east) and whether a culvert at right angles to the highway could replace the current one at 45 degrees.

Action: Cllr Loader

(iv) To review Flood Emergency Plan

Chairman raised that she had been sent a copy of the flood emergency plan for Ringwood Town Council and wondered if there is requirement for EHIPC to have one. Cllr Thierry advised that this decision would be up to each individual parish or town council. The potential flood risk would need to be determined, followed by a decision on whether a plan is required. Flooding in the EHIPC area is localised, mainly along Gorley Road and is mostly surface water. It is not felt a plan would be needed at this time.

9. 21/03/118 Community Matters

Parish Newsletter – Chairman asked all Councillors to review the email circulated today and come back with any thoughts.

10. 21/03/119 Crime in the Parish

Chairman stated that there have been some recent attempted burglaries into garden sheds particularly around Harbridge, but nothing taken. All were reminded to remain vigilant.

11. 21/03/120 Planning

(i) NFDC 21/10293 - The Gables, Mockbeggar Lane, Ibsley Ringwood BH24 3PR – Log Cabin for Gym/Pool Room (RL)

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

Comments submitted:

It is a 6m x 4m building, 2.3m in height with glazing on the east elevation only. It is situated 25m down the garden, therefore not near any neighbours or visible from the road. Councillors recommend permission provided the building is only for incidental use and light emissions are kept to a minimum.

(ii) NPA 21/0137 – Boundary of Field alongside Highwood Lane at the Ford, Linbrook, Ringwood BH24 3LE

Fell 1 x English Oak tree; Fell 2 x Goat Will trees (one of which is multi stemmed where 1 stem is to be removed); Fell 1 x Elm tree (RE)

It was proposed to Raise No Objections to NF NPA. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Comments submitted:

Three trees are along the field boundary adjoining Highwood Lane; they have not been maintained and are now encroaching onto the road or leaning into the Linbrook stream. HCC Highways has asked for the Oak to be cut down. It is disappointing to cut them back. The Elm tree is on Cowpitts Lane and has root heave, so needs to be felled to ground level. Although Councillors raised no objection it was hoped that the original hedge-line might be reinstated in those areas.

NPA 21/0141 Broomy, Gorley Road, Rockford, Ringwood, BH24 3NA

Fell 1 x Lawson Cypress tree - conservation area protection; Prune 1 x Norway Maple tree - conservation area protection; Deadwood 1 x Oak tree (Reference only as protected by TPO) (AW)

It was proposed to Raise No Objections to NF NPA. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

Comments submitted:

The Lawson Cypress is to be removed and the Norway Maple tree is to be pruned back. The Oak tree is also to be pruned, however the request appears overly severe for removing deadwood. The Parish Council requests that the Tree Officer review the work to be done on the Oak.

12. 21/03/21 County/District Matters

Cllr Thierry Lane stated he is unable to make a report at this time as the purdah period has started in the run up to the elections on the 6th May, but can answer any questions.

Cllr Errington questioned why only some of the potholes have been repaired in the Rockford Loop, it seems as if only the ones with spray paint around have been done, leaving others. Cllr Thierry stated that potholes need to be marked and photographed before being repaired. If they have not been recorded, they will not be repaired. Cllr Thierry stated that 2,686 potholes were filled in the New Forest area in the last two months.

Chairman raised why notifications of road closures under Operation Resilience are given for re-surfacing and then the work is done before that date. It would be good to have future notification. Cllr Thierry suggested that the Clerk write to the Highways Team to find out more about this.

Cllr Thierry noted that this might be his last meeting with EHIPC, depending on the result of the elections on May 6th. Chairman thanked Cllr Thierry for his attendance at meetings and that EHIPC appreciate his presence and having the means to communicate with someone at County level.

The meeting closed at 8.59pm

Dates of 2021/22 EH&I PC meetings starting at 7.30 pm:

Planning Committee

13th April
11th May
8th June
13th July
10th August
14th September

Council

27th April
25th May
22nd June
27th July
28th September

Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Council meeting 23.03.2021

12th October
9th November
14th December
11th January
8th February
8th March

26th October
23rd November
25th January
22nd February
22nd March