

Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parish Council
Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 27th July 2021
At 7.30pm at Ellingham Church Hall, Ibsley BH24 3PJ

Present:

Cllr Wilson (Chair)
Cllr Errington (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Burtenshaw
Cllr Loader
Cllr Taylor

In attendance:

Parish Clerk, Joanna Ramsay

1. **21/07/164 To accept and receive apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from CCllr Thierry and DCllr Lane.

2. **21/07/165 Declarations of pecuniary and other Interests in relation to the agenda**
None declared.

3. **21/07/166 To agree the minutes of the Council meeting of the 22nd June 2021 a true and accurate record**

It was **proposed** by Cllr Taylor and **seconded** by Cllr Errington that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22nd June 2021 be signed as a true and accurate record. **4 IN FAVOUR, 1 ABSTAIN.**

4. **21/07/167 Chair's report on matters arising from the Council meeting of the 22nd June 2021 (for items not on the agenda)**

Chair stated that there is nothing additional to report which is not already covered on the agenda.

5. **21/07/168 Public Forum**
None present.

6. **21/07/169 Finance**

(i) Payment of Accounts June - July 2021

Payments to be sanctioned are:

Friends of Ellingham Church Hall Hire April to June	£50.00
Unity Trust Bank Service Charge	£18.00

Chairman

Date

HMRC PAYE April to June	£256.38
Cllr Expenses	£113.60
Clerk Expenses (June/July)	£36.18
TOTALS FOR JUNE/JULY	£474.16

Clerk explained that all the payments had been made outside of council, except Cllr Errington's expenses claim and the Clerk's expenses which needs approval.

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 21 st July 2021	£19,243.07
Instant Access A/C as at 21 st July 2021	£57,431.89
Dodington A/C	£851.31

The Reserve Account and Dodington Trust account balances are as last month. The Current Account has decreased minimally, and the Clerk reminded Council that even though we are half way through the financial year we essentially have all our Precept still and therefore need to spend.

(iii) To agree to continue to pay Ellingham Church Hall if Planning Committee meetings are cancelled

Chair stated that this request has come from the Planning Committee for agreement. The request is to agree to continue to pay for the use of the Church Hall in Ellingham should any Planning Committees have to be reconvened as discussion groups remotely, under the Scheme of Delegation.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Loader and **seconded** by Cllr Burtenshaw that Ellingham Church Hall would be still paid if discussions were held remotely. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

(iv) To consider the grant application from the Citizens Advice Bureau

A grant application was made and supporting documents provided, which were circulated prior to the meeting. The application is for £500 towards the general running costs of the Citizens Advice service. Looking at the evidence provided, Councillors felt that the request was reasonable to the number of people in the parish, and how many parishioners that have been helped.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Burtenshaw and **seconded** by Cllr Loader therefore that a grant of £500 be given to the Citizens Advice New Forest. **ALL IN FAVOUR**

- (v) **To review quotes for noticeboard replacements and agree expenditure**
Clerk shared the quote from Greenbarnes and has attempted to secure two further quotes to no avail. On discussion, it was noted that the noticeboard at Hockeys Farm needs new posts and potentially should be re-located but still within the farmyard. Cllr Burtenshaw raised that the noticeboard at Harbridge Church is shared with the Church and would require Diocese permission to change it. It was suggested, therefore, that this noticeboard not be replaced at this time.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Taylor and **seconded** by Cllr Loader that four noticeboards be purchased, along with 1 set of posts and 2 sets of keys.
ALL IN FAVOUR

Action: Clerk to take forward

7. 21/07/170 Parish Council Matters

(i) **To agree a Scheme of Delegation**

The proposed Scheme of Delegation had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Errington raised that 1.4 should be re-worded as two bank signatories are required, and that 2.2 should have an additional statement saying that decisions will be emailed to all Councillors at the time of the decision (as well as being reported at the next meeting).

It was **proposed** by Cllr Burtenshaw and **seconded** by Cllr Taylor that the Scheme of Delegation be agreed subject to the two amendments raised.
ALL IN FAVOUR

(ii) **To agree a date for a Residents Open Forum at Ibsley Village Hall (Sept/Oct) and content/format**

Councillors felt that a date in October would be more suitable to allow time to organise the event. The date agreed was Tuesday, 26th October 2021. The theme is to be around climate change.

Action: Clerk to book the Hall, Clerk to organise refreshments and Cllr Errington to contact key speakers.

8. 21/07/171 Environmental Matters

(i) **Roads/Footpaths**

It was raised that the Avon Valley footpath is overgrown and needs attention in some areas.

Action: Clerk to raise with HCC

Chair reminded Councillors that footpath 712 is shut due to the bridge and it is unknown when it will be re-opened despite it being a very well-used path.

Footpath 5 is also closed due to there being no bridge over the stream. This path has been shut for an inordinately long time.

Action: Clerk to raise with Countryside Services, HCC

(ii) Ditches, Culverts, Verges and Overhanging Vegetation

Cllr Errington raised that there has been a trial south of the A31 where signs have been placed on the verges to stop people parking on them. It has reduced the parking on verges by about 60%-70% which is a good thing. It is hoped that this trial will be extended north of the A31.

Cllr Burtenshaw raised that it would be appropriate to approach contractors to do the annual dig of the Gorley ditch in late September. Going from Hockeys Farm to Ibsley Service Station to Cross Lanes and up to the war memorial.

Action: Clerk to approach contractors Steve Anton and Earlcote.

- To receive a report on the Councillors' visit to Newlands Livery
Cllrs Burtenshaw and Wilson visited Newlands Livery as agreed at the last Council meeting. The Livery has two corrals either side of Mockbeggar Lane and Cllr Burtenshaw explained how the Livery are addressing the issues of noise and creating parking elsewhere. The Livery has raised that the parking along Mockbeggar Lane is not all caused by Livery customers, there are other users such as dog walkers. It was agreed that some notices should be placed at Cross Lanes stating residents only/no access or no through road. It was also agreed that dragon's teeth should be put on the Parish Council verge to reduce parking areas and possibly by the gate on the other side, however this is not a Parish Council verge.

Action: Cllr Wilson to write to Newlands Livery to set out how the Parish Council will help to progress the proposed solutions.

(iii) To receive an update on the King's Oak project

Clerk stated that she had returned the amended NE consent after the discussion at the last meeting. However, we are still awaiting NE consents for all our work, they should be here by this Friday (30th July). Cllr Errington and the Clerk are meeting with RTS Fencing next week to get a quote for the proposed dragon's teeth work.

Cllr Loader visited the Oak today, reporting that the leaf coverage is down to 25% and only the bow on the right hand side has leaves. Unfortunately this is the most hazardous limb as it overhangs the road. It is declining very rapidly. Cllr Loader raised the question as to whether it would be better to gradually diminish the tree rather than try to save it. Jeremy Barrell has a programme which removes limbs every 2-3 years to veteranize the tree but still preserve it as a wildlife haven.

Action: Cllr Loader to ask Jeremy Barrell to review the current state of the Oak again

9. 21/07/172 Community Matters

i. Annual Ragwort Pull.

Question has been raised about whether this event should be held this year, it is a divisive subject and without the National Trust's help Chair stated that it will be difficult to organise. Cllr Errington stated that when the annual event started ragwort was prevalent on the verges, but this has since reduced. Ragwort can be removed on private land by the landowner however the Parish Council do have a duty to remove it on Parish Council verges. Key issues are disposing of the pulled ragwort and timing, it should have been done in July ideally. On discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would not be holding an annual ragwort pull this year, but next year it would.

10. 21/07/173 Crime in the Parish

Nothing reported.

11. 21/07/174 County/District Matters

i. Parliamentary Boundary Consultation

Chair raised that has been circulated for comment, either as an individual or a Parish Council. However, on review of the documents there will be no change to our parish area and no changes to the New Forest District Council area.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

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

Planning Committee

10th August
14th September
12th October
9th November
14th December
11th January
8th February
8th March

Council

28th September
26th October
23rd November

25th January
22nd February
22nd March