

## Minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023, 7.30 pm at Evenley Village Hall

Present: Spencer Burnham (SB), Cathy Ellis (CE), Jean Morgan (JM), Jeff Peyton-Bruhl (JPB), Cathy Knott (CK) clerk and 20 members of the public

### 84/23 To receive apologies for absence and welcome

Apologies received and accepted for Sue Ricketts (SR), Charles Reader (CR) and Paul Crompton (PC). The chairman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. It was noted that a member of the public was recording the meeting.

### 85/23 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the annual meeting of the parish council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

A recorded vote was requested: councillors SB, CE and JPB approved. JM was against signing. The minutes were approved and signed.

### 87/23 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

78/23 – ERA/EM held a private meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June but a date hasn't been confirmed for a public meeting.

### 88/23 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

CE for 90/23 invoice for planters.

### 89/23 To receive councillors updated register of interests forms

All councillors present reviewed/updated their registers and signed their forms.

### 90/23 Finance: *(different from agenda)*

- a. Financial statement
- b. To note payments received
- c. To consider invoices to be paid

Account balances	£
Community	13,266.00
Business Saver	22,381.24
National Savings	5,881.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41,528.66</b>

Income		VAT
Cash donations for Raymonds bench	145.00	
Reimbursement from Signs of the Times (Bicester Hill signage)	346.20	
Howe & Co (Coronation contribution)	60.00	
Northants ACRE (refund for overpayment of annual subscription)	6.00	
<b>Payments submitted for approval</b>		
C. Knott (salary)	652.42	0
HMRC (tax)	48.00	0
Barbara Osborne (PAYE service)	69.00	0
Miss MM Morris (postage for pocket park package)	2.40	0
Evenley VH (soup lunch)	23.50	0
SSE (streetlight electricity)	101.62	5.07
British Gas (electricity on the Green)	25.13	1.25
C. Ellis (Green Stuff planters)	59.96	0
A P Labrum (Usual Suspects, Coronation expense)	100.00	0
Maximow (application of overseed on the Green)	200.00	0

**d. To receive an update from the internal controls' councillor**

Cllr SB has checked the following information advising there were no discrepancies:

- Bank balances; as stated in the minutes.
- Cash book entries agree with the items noted in the minutes.
- The forecast planned spend remains within our precept budget limits (as shown on the big screen).

**91/23 To consider new planning applications and to receive an update on applications outstanding**

*WNS/2022/1557/EIA	Proposal The construction and operation of an anaerobic digestion facility, ancillary infrastructure, landscape planting and the construction of a new access road and access from the B4031. Application accompanied by an Environmental Statement. Location: Astwick Green Power Land, North of Barley Mow Farm, Buckingham Road	EPC: Objection WNC: pending
WNS/2022/2062/FUL	Proposal Permanent retention of temporary planning permission approved under S/2020/0303/FUL (Change of use from Agricultural Land to Dog Exercise/Training area, increase height of fence to 1.52m and hard standing area for vehicle parking). Location Land North of Cottesford Road, Evenley	EPC: no objection WNC: pending
WNS/2023/0101/FUL	Proposal to create a track (this is to create a one-way system through the parking area) retrospective. Location Evenley Wood Garden	EPC: no objection with comments <b>WNC: APPROVED</b>
2023/5067/PNHPD	Larger homes notification application for a single storey rear extension extending 8m beyond the rear wall of original dwelling house, max height of 4m, height of eaves 2.65m. Location 13 Lawyers Close, Evenley	EPC: no comment WNC: pending
2023/5271/FULL	Demolish conservatory and new single storey rear extension and front extension/porch. Location: 7 Church Leys, Evenley	EPC: no comment WNC: pending
2023/5296/FULL	Proposal Erection of front porch. Location: 13 Lawyers Close, Evenley	EPC: no comment WNC: pending
2023/5300/FULL	Variation of Conditions 2 of Planning Permission S/2019/2469/FUL (Detached dwelling and associated works) to revise drawings proposing a minor increase in the depth of flat roofed kitchen area and new dormer window on rear elevation. Location: Willowbourne, 5 Bicester Hill, Evenley	EPC: no comment WNC: pending
2023/5291/OUT	Outline Planning Application for a development of 6 no. eco-friendly self-build residential houses. Location: Paddock House Barley Mow Farm, Buckingham Road, Evenley	EPC: no comment WNC: pending

\*WNS/2022/1557/EIA proposed anaerobic digestion facility – the chairman advised that after a local farmer (having been informed by the landowner) had contacted her to say the application would be heard at a strategic committee meeting this month, she contacted the planning officer, Chris Burton asking if this was correct. She is hoping to catch up with Chris this week to understand how this information had come about before being released on the planning portal. She reassured residents that when it does go to committee, we have a strategy in place for a strong, clear argument and we have done everything we can in preparation.

**92/23 Resolve whether to purchase Evenley Common signage from Northants Highways at the cost of £783.67 + VAT or to source our own**

The chairman advised she had requested a quote from Stuart Freestone which came in at £150 + VAT (approx). Councillors resolved to purchase the sign from Stuart.

**93/23 Proposal to add signage to the Green and agree the location (as per minute 139/22 Sept 22)**

The chairman reported that Stuart Freestone has designed a sign (shown on the big screen) free of charge, using our text. A few small amendments were made, and it was resolved to purchase one sign (for now) to be located opposite Forge Coffee at the cost of £144.20 +VAT which we will install ourselves.

**94/23 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):**

- Allotments** the chairman visited the allotments last week with cllr CR and advised they were looking quite untidy. It was agreed to put an item on the July agenda and investigate splitting the larger plots (in liaison with tenants).
- Evenley Common** see item 92/93. We will commence phase two of the tidy up in Autumn when it is safe (for wildlife) to do so.
- Street Lighting** cllr SB has spoken to Electricity Network Contractors Ltd, to discuss issues. They will put together a proposal with options to share at the next meeting.
- Village Hall** after a breakdown in communications (over the electric vehicle charging points), cllr PC will take over from cllr JPB in the role of village hall liaison between EPC and EVHMC.

- e. **Website** nothing to report.
- f. **Village Green and Trees** the chairman advised Merrick is in the process of making Raymond Roycroft's memorial bench. If you would still like to make a donation, please contact the clerk at [clerk@evenleypc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@evenleypc.org.uk); we have currently received £280 towards his bench.  
The chairman has received a request for a memorial bench from Terry Stopford for her husband Richard who passed away nearly two years ago. CE has spoken to Merrick who has agreed to make another bench and our memorial bench policy states EPC will limit the number of benches in the village to 20 in total; councillors were therefore in agreement. The clerk will order more wood to be sent to Merrick.  
The chairman has asked cllr CR to return the goal which we agreed should be left out for now (minute 75/23).
- g. **Newsletter** the Summer edition has just been printed and will be delivered this weekend along with a letter informing parishioners that we are investigating the installation of electric vehicle charging points in the village (as part of our three-year plan); we hope residents will respond so that we can gauge interest. The chairman advised it isn't part of the parish council's remit to provide infrastructure, however as we have 56 homes in the village without a drive, it would be irresponsible of us not to look into it.
- h. **HS2 & Highways** EKFB (HS2) has agreed to provide funds to purchase a Coronation bench which will be placed at the entrance to Lawyers Close.  
SB advised the next step in the maintenance programme for the Green is a slow-release fertiliser (spread at the appropriate time when the weather allows), followed by herbicide treatment. He said it is looking better already.  
Cllr JM advised Northants Highways engineers visited Broad Lane earlier to clear the drains. She informed them cllr CR had cleaned out the drains and the gullies over the weekend before the rain and it was still flooding. The clerk has chased Helen Howard asking for an update on the Flood and Water Management Team investigation and will write to councillor Rosie Herring (our Ward councillor) asking for her help in getting this issue prioritised.  
Cllr JM advised she has contacted WNC to ask whether Evenley Wood Garden (EWG) had submitted an events and traffic plan regarding Gifford Circus traffic. WNC has requested plans from EWG.
- i. **Three-year action plan** nothing to report.
- j. **St. George's Church** a fete will be held this Saturday (24<sup>th</sup> June) 2.00 – 4.30pm. Donations for the tombola, cakes, etc will be gratefully received. Please contact Jane on 840018.

#### 95/23 To note correspondence received that requires discussion

- Request from a resident to add public participation to the beginning of meetings. The chairman advised this wasn't necessary as it works well having it at the end of the meetings.
- Request from allotment tenant to split plot 2 into further sections. Councillors agreed (see 94/23.a).
- Response to the vice-chairman from the chairman of EVHMC regarding electric vehicle charging points and the village hall liaison role. See 94.23.d.

#### 96/23 To receive areas for improvement suggestion(s) from members

None received.

#### 97/23 Councillors questions/comments

- Cllr JPB asked for support in promoting Speed Watch as volunteer numbers are dwindling.
- The chairman asked the clerk to write to James Alder, our flag warden and ask him to fly the Union Jack on Armed Forces Day, 24<sup>th</sup> June.
- The chairman thanked Stuart Freestone for his help with signage and cllr Reader for clearing the drains and gullies on Broad Lane and trimming the grass verge and hedge on Mixbury Road.
- Cllrs SB and JPB will help with watering the planters over the summer months. Thank you to Chris for taking on the majority of watering over the last few years.
- Cllr SB will tend to the pothole on the Green and the loose branch on Sunday.
- Cllr JPB will trim back overgrown foliage which is obscuring the 30mph sign on Broad Lane.

#### 98/23 Public Participation session *(members of the public are invited to address the council through the chairman).*

- Two members of the public voiced their concerns over Evenley Common saying it was very overgrown and unkempt. The chairman agreed it needed mowing, however it was tidied in Spring and there would be another tidy up in Autumn. We are mindful not to interfere with the wildlife which is flourishing there.
- The chairman of ERA thanked EPC for all the hard work carried out on behalf of the village. He attended tonight as he is concerned over the inferred messages that something underhand is going on with ERA/EM and asked residents to direct questions to him so he can address them and discuss with committee members.

- A member of the public thanked EPC and was sorry we had to deal with so many trivial matters.
- A member of the public advised overgrown foliage was obscuring the sign on the corner of the Green and Church Lane.
- A member of the public requested whether both goals could be returned to the Green.

**99/23 Close**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**The minutes of a council meeting are a public record of who attended and the decisions that were made.**

**The next meeting will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Evenley Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**Signed: Jeff Peyton-Bruhl      Dated: 17.07.23**