

## Minutes of the virtual extraordinary meeting of Evenley Parish Council held via Zoom on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 8.00 pm

Present: cllr Spencer Burnham (SB), chairman Cathy Ellis (CE), cllr Jean Morgan (JM), vice chairman Jeff Peyton-Bruhl (JPB), cllr Charles Reader (CR), cllr Sue Ricketts (SR), Cathy Knott (CK) clerk and five members of the public.

### 51/21 To receive apologies for absence and welcome

All councillors present. The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### 52/21 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the virtual meeting of the parish council held on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

The clerk noted that the date was incorrect on item 34/21 and item 35/21 should have read 'to fertilise the Green' rather than 'to carry out weed/moss treatment to the Green'. The minutes were amended, approved and virtually signed.

### 53/21 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

07/21 – CE advised that because deliveries of fertiliser are behind (due to Covid-19) this hasn't yet been actioned but is imminent.

44/21 – the clerk has written to Northants Highways and our request has been passed over to the chair of the speed limit group for consideration.

All other matters are on the agenda or are being dealt with.

### 54/21 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

Cllr CE for 63/21 – neighbour of Forge Coffee and PO.

### 55/21 Finance:

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

Account	£
Community	3,106.35
Business Saver	23,182.47
National Savings	5,875.36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,164.18</b>

Receipts since the last meeting	£	VAT £
Allotment rent for plots 1, 4a, 7 and 10	113.65	
<b>Payments made since last meeting (approved via email)</b>		
WEL Medical Ltd (for defibrillator cabinet)	114.95	22.99
Media Tribe (website hosting fee)	138.00	0
<b>Payments approved</b>		
ICO (data protection fee DD)	35.00	0
C. Knott (April salary)	608.57	0
HMRC tax	26.60	0
C. Knott (expenses)	154.55	10.90
Barbara Osborne (PAYE service)	66.00	0
Media Tribe (website updates quarterly fee)	200.00	0
PWLB (loan repayment DD)	1,750.05	0
SSE (street light electricity DD)	100.57	5.02
SLCC membership (shared with Westbury PC)	83.00	0
NCALC subs, internal audit fee and data protection officer fee	598.08	0
Aylesbury Mains Ltd (streetlight emergency maintenance light repair no.8)	122.60	24.52
WAVE (allotment water)	0.76	0

## 56/21 To receive updates and recommendations from planning representatives

S/2020/1438/FUL	Single commercial building providing 3 B1/B8 units with trade counters. Location: land west of Oxford Rd, Evenley	EPC: no objection SNC: consults dispatched
S/2020/1932/FUL	Erection of a new agricultural building and associated works, incl. extension to agricultural farm track and apron hardstanding to new building. Location: Hall Farm, 31 The Green, Evenley	<b>EPC: objection</b> <b>SNC: refusal</b>
S/2021/0461/FUL	Side & rear extension and a dormer on the front of the property. Location: 3 Anden Cottage, Mixbury Road, Evenley	EPC: objection SNC: consults dispatched
WNS/2021/0179/TCA	T1 - Remove Norway Spruce T2; - remove Norway Spruce; T3 - Remove Norway Spruce; T4 - Remove Larch; T5 - Remove Larch; T6 - Remove Larch due to excessive shade and over planting. Location: Anden Cottage, 3 Mixbury Road, Evenley	<b>FOR INFORMATION ONLY</b>

## 57/21 Insurance

- **Review and approve insurers for one fixed year or long term (three years)**
- **To decide whether to include the war memorial on the schedule**

Prior to the meeting, the clerk circulated a comparison spreadsheet containing information requested from Zurich, BHIB and Came & Company (AXA). She thanked cllr SR for her help deciphering the information.

It was resolved to instruct Came & Company for a long-term three-year agreement.

After careful consideration and seeking advice from other councils it was resolved not to include the war memorial on the schedule.

## 58/21 To receive a report on communications with SNC/WNC regarding Evenley Wood Garden (EWG)

The chairman advised that following last month's meeting she contacted Tom Ansell, senior planning officer at WNC to discuss the issues villagers are experiencing and to review EWG's planning permissions and discharges. Tom confirmed that conditions 2, 3 and 5 have been discharged; however, he was unable to find the information that demonstrates compliance with the conditions/approval associated with the track across the field from the car park. Furthermore, following concerns over the amount of traffic generated by EWG, Tom has confirmed the site will breach the condition for its 90-day-per-calendar-year operating rule if it continues stay open after 1<sup>st</sup> May this year (which resets on 1<sup>st</sup> January every year).

It was agreed to chase the information outstanding and request a site meeting again in order to be able to answer parishioner's questions. The chairman reiterated that we are very pleased EWG is so successful and it is a huge benefit to the village; however, the traffic needs to be better managed and it shouldn't intrude on villagers' well-being.

**Action: CE/CK/JM**

## 59/21 Proposal to purchase an outdoor Tommy figure for the village and decide on a location

The clerk circulated information prior to the meeting. After a lengthy discussion it was resolved that as we already have a dignified listed war memorial honouring our war dead, a Tommy figure isn't needed. It was agreed that instead, we should look into purchasing a bench for the School Lane Green (once we've gauged residents views).

**Action: CE/SB**

## 60/21 Proposal to purchase three water troughs (for each tap) at the allotments to stop wastage (at the cost of £70 each)

It was unanimously resolved to purchase three troughs.

**Action: CR/CK**

## 61/21 To receive an update on the community defibrillator and discuss the rolling responsibility of checking it is all working correctly

Cllr JPB advised that he has purchased new parts and fixed the heater and light in the defibrillator cabinet. The pads are up-to-date and he has been carrying out fortnightly checks on the defibrillator which he is happy to take responsibility for going forward. Cllr JM thanked cllr JPB for assisting with this.

## 62/21 To accept councillors reports on the following areas (if there is anything to report):

- Allotments (CR)** – a request for a shed on plot 4 has been requested (measuring no more than 6 x 4 ft). It was agreed to look at the space before making a decision. **Action: CE/CR**
- Pocket Park (CR)** – nothing to report.
- Street Lighting (SB)** – work continues by Western Power to replace decayed poles in Church Lane. Cllr CR has contacted homeowners with regards to overgrown foliage obscuring streetlights.
- Village Hall (JPB)** – the hall will reopen on 17<sup>th</sup> May (dependent upon Government guidance in place) but will continue with certain restrictions and procedures to keep it covid secure.

- e. **Website** – the SNC/NCC pages have been replaced by a West Northamptonshire Council page.
- f. **Village Green and Trees** (CE) – the Green had a cut and pick up last week. It is hoped it will be fertilised this week before cricket season commences on Saturday. Spare soil from a neighbouring property has been utilised to fill in some of the eroding verges. Parking issues are ongoing, as is the future protection of the verges. It was agreed to have a brainstorming session in the near future to work out the best way forward. The chairman has mended the goals again where some children continue to use them as a climbing frame and dogs are using them as a 'pee post'. It was agreed to put a post on the village Facebook page about this.  
*Action: CK/CE*
- g. **Newsletter** (CE) – it is hoped to publish the next newsletter mid-May.
- h. **HS2 & Highways** (SB/CE) – we are waiting to hear back from the speed limit group at Northants Highways regarding our request to lower the speed limit on Bicester Hill.
- i. **Local government reorganisation** – West Northamptonshire Council's website is live at: <https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/>. It was agreed to change this item to West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) to report anything of importance from WNC.
- j. **St. George's Church** – nothing to report.

### 63/21 Correspondence received

- Reopening of Evenley Village Hall. The clerk has confirmed we'd like to return to face-to-face meetings at the village hall from 21<sup>st</sup> June.
- Cricket Club requirements – added date approved for 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021.
- Request to re-dig the soakaway for drainage to the front of 28 The Green – the chairman and clerk have approved the work which has taken place.
- Request to ask Forge Coffee to change the colour of the windows and door from blue to white as outlined by SNC in the appeal decision for application S/2019/1808/FUL last year. This has been actioned; Forge Coffee anticipates it will be completed shortly.
- RAF Croughton has offered an additional pair of hands for a Spring tidy-up.

### 64/21 Councillor questions

- The chairman advised that the lettering on the village notice board is in a bad state of repair so has looked into replacing it. She has received a quote for vinyl stick-on signage (a picture was shown to everyone present) and will make a proposal at the next meeting.
- Cllr JPB has been trying to make the two small black board hanging signs (which hook onto the new village sign) easier to attach and manage using a pulley system. However, it was agreed that we should go back to the hook and chain method and let the cricket club and church take ownership of one each going forward, to be able to advertise matches/services.
- Cllr SR asked if the village hall could be better utilised as a village amenity once it is open again, as it is beautifully looked after but not well used or marketed. Cllr JPB advised that organising village events isn't an easy task; the village hall committee are happy to host events but not to organise them. Cllr JM explained about the deed of trust and asked the clerk to circulate to councillors. It was agreed that cllr JPB and the chairman should attend the next live village hall committee meeting to support them in getting going again.  
*Action: CE/JPB*
- Cllr JM requested that we regularly update parishioners via village email regarding the upkeep of the Green.

### 65/21 Public Participation session (members of the public are invited to address the council through the chairman)

- A resident thanked the council for tidying up the Green in School Lane. She advised the opposite corner (on Broad Lane) is very overgrown. The chairman advised she thought this was private land, so we will look into it.  
*Action: CE*
- A resident advised he had contacted Rebecca Breese (WNC) to discuss the lack of a bus service in Evenley. He is campaigning for the 505 bus (which goes straight past Evenley to Bicester) stop in Evenley and is asking residents to subscribe to using it so that it is reinstated.

### 66/21 Close

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

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

**The next meeting will be the Annual meeting of the Parish Council at Barnowl Farm Education Centre on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.30 pm.**

**Signed: Cathy Ellis**

**Dated: 17.05.2021**