



## Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Evenley Village Hall, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7:30pm

Present: Mike Baul (MB), Spencer Burnham (SB), Cathy Ellis (CE), Jeff Peyton-Bruhl (JPB), Charles Reader (CR), Cathy Knott (CK) clerk and seven members of the public

### 35/18 Apologies and welcome

Apologies were received from Cllr Jean Morgan. Chair CE welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

### 36/18 To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting of the parish council held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018..

The minutes were approved and signed.

### 37/18 To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

115/17 - To chase costs (to link a chargeable battery using electricity from a streetlight). CK advised EON are looking into the possibility of connecting a transformer cable into an isolator inside the post and will let the clerk have costs before the next meeting.

### 38/18 To receive declarations of interest related to business on the agenda

None received.

### 39/18 Finance

- a. Financial statement
- b. Payments received
- c. Approval of invoices for payment

Account	Balances as at 09.03.2018
Community	£9,455.15
Business Saver	£16,687.34
National Savings	£ 5,745.39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£31,887.88</b>
<b>RECEIPTS since 22.01.2017</b>	
	£
EVHMC (reimbursement for planning app)	117.00
<b>INVOICES PAID SINCE 22.01.2018</b>	
C. Knott (Feb salary & expenses)	623.90
SNC (EVHMC planning app fee)	117.00
<b>INVOICES SUBMITTED FOR PAYMENT</b>	
Evenley Village Hall	46.50
NCALC (Off to a flying start)	42.00
Aylesbury Mains Ltd (repairs to light no 6 Lawyers Close)	131.28
Steve Thorburn (2x newsletter deliveries)	50.00
Cancellation of cheque fee	8.00
Aylesbury Mains Ltd (2 new lights Lawyers Close)	£3,357.86

#### **40/18 To receive updates and recommendations from planning representatives**

Cllr JPB provided a summary of applications still outstanding and advised of five new applications (please see documents/links associated with the agenda for the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 for further information). A decision of "no objection" was agreed for all five.

#### **41/18 To receive an update on the purchase of land – the Green, School Lane from South Northants Homes**

Chair CE explained that as Gilroy Steel's fees were so high we have instructed Spratt Endicott to act on our behalf in the purchase of land.

During the meeting of May 2017 (minute 42/17) councillors resolved to purchase the land from South Northants Homes for the sum of £1.00. At the meeting of February 2018 (minute 22/18) it was resolved to put ERA's fete donation towards solicitors' fees and to supplement the rest from reserves.

#### **42/18 To agree on a format for the annual parish meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April**

It was agreed to have a different format this year by asking representatives from groups and organisations to focus more on the forthcoming year rather than the previous year. It was agreed to have an invitation printed and delivered to all villagers inviting them to attend.

#### **43/18 Speed watch update**

Cllr MB advised that following on from the decision at the last meeting, he decided to inform the speed watch team that the project had been suspended with the key issue being co-ordination. He said it has been clear from responses that the vast majority of volunteers want it to continue. Two volunteers have come forward willing to take on the co-ordinator role. It was therefore agreed that Evenley Parish Council (EPC) would unreservedly support the speed watch project and continue to promote communications with residents but would not be able to financially commit to it. Cllr JPB advised that there is still a need for more volunteers so that there is a good strong team.

EPC is putting every effort into applying for funds for traffic calming on Broad Lane and will continue to publicise VAS data on the village website. Cllr JPB will move the speed sign-data collector in April to get some A43 bound data.

#### **44/18 Streetlights – resolve to seek the Secretary of States approval for borrowing and consider alternative funding opportunities**

Forty responses have been received from the street light consultation, with 38 responses in favour of supporting EPC's proposal to apply for a public works loan (PWL) to replace the lights.

Cllr SB explained that because Northamptonshire County Council is in such dire straits, the road safety fund we are hoping to apply to (for road calming chicanes on Broad Lane) may not be viable or within time constraints, so we might need to use the PWL for this rather than the streetlights. Cllr SB is also looking at applying to the HS2 community environment fund for streetlight replacements.

It was therefore agreed to resolve to seek the Secretary of States approval for borrowing in the first instance and in the meantime chase the NCC Road Works Fund and the HS2 Community Environment Fund to try and come up with a solution.

**Action: SB/CK**

#### **45/18 Co-option – to consider applications from interested parties**

Chair CE proposed to co-opt Susan Ricketts onto the council and all councillors were in agreement.

#### **46/18 To accept councillors reports on the following areas:**

**A Allotments (CR)** A successful meeting was held for tenants on Sunday with 11 people in attendance. All plots are now tenanted.

Issues arising from the meeting:

- Overgrown hedging – Cllr CR will speak to individual tenants.
- The path by the wall is very rough and unsafe – it was agreed for Cllr CR to replace the surface.
- Cllr CR will replace the push taps with twist taps. Water will be turned off from end of October to the beginning of March each year.
- Some tenants are keen to have individual greenhouses/poly tunnels on their plots – it was agreed to allow this on the basis that the tenant is wholly responsible and EPC will accept no liability. Safety glass must be used and tenants must be respectful of overshadowing other plots.
- Tenants would like contact details for plot holders – the clerk will write to all tenants requesting that this information is shared.

**Action: CK**

**B Pocket Park (CR)** The AGM was held two weeks ago and the Spring clean was held on 17<sup>th</sup> March with nine villagers in attendance resulting in a good tidy up. At the AGM it was proposed and accepted that Cllr CR be added to the committee. It was also agreed to spend £100.00 on owl nest boxes. Cllr CR advised that the notice board is looking very worn and will look into having a new one made. CK suggested making a wish list and apply for funding from the HS2 Community Environment Fund. **Action: CR/CK**

**C Street lights (SB)** Aylesbury Mains Ltd have advised they are unable to re-site the new light in Church Leys without charging almost £1000.00. Cllr SB proposed he speaks to the homeowner to seek their view before taking it further. A resident has reported two faulty lights in Spencer Close. As these are of the Victorian style, it was agreed to look into costs of having the fittings changed rather than spend money on repairs. **Action: SB/CK**

**D Village Hall (JPB)** The annual village hall spring clean will take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 10 am to 12.30 pm.

**E Website (MB)** After an internal review of the website, the homepage has been updated with clearer links to the clerk's contact details, HS2 information and village news. Some pages have been re-formatted to give a cleaner look. The clerk will promote the website on documentation and communications.

**F Village Green and Trees (CE)** A response has been received from Northamptonshire Highways regarding the diversion in January and the damage to verges. They have advised they will pass the photos of the damaged verges to the Area Team for consideration of any further action. Chair CE therefore proposed that EPC should lead on repairing the verges ourselves next month. Cllr JPB suggested sending any costs to NCC and to take photos of volunteers repairing the verges and to get press involvement. Councillors agreed. The chair and clerk will write to the head of Highways to advise. **Action: CE/CK**

**G Newsletter (CE)** Nothing to report at this time.

**H Hs2 & Highways (SB)** All covered under other items.

#### **47/18 Correspondence received**

- Barbara Osborne (PAYE advisor) - charges have gone up by £1.00 per month.
- CPRE – response received re: membership termination 2018.
- Evenley Cricket Club – annual requirements for exclusive use of the village Green have been received.
- Emma Faulkner, democratic elections officer has written regarding the outcome of the community governance review advising that the working group have recommended that the boundary between Evenley and Brackley be moved. Changes will take effect in May 2019.
- SNC press release asking for witnesses regarding the asbestos fly tipping near the junction of A421 and the road to Cottisford.
- A New Home Bonus grant allocation of £1252.00 is available to Evenley.
- E.ON energy prices will increase from 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 from 15.75 per kWh to 17.90 per kWh. CK will contact OPUS for a quote.
- Brackley Town Council invitation to attend a civic service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 3.30 pm.
- Email received from Northants CALC advising that they will offer a data protection officer service to member parish councils free of charge for the first year.
- HS2 notification of temporary night road closure on the A422 between Brackley and Westbury 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April. CK will circulate an email and add to Facebook and website.

#### **48/18 Councillor questions**

Cllr CR asked if home/land owners had carried out vegetation clearance following our request last month. Chair CE advised that overgrown vegetation had been cut back around the light in Lawyers Close but nothing had been cleared from around the Red Lion as yet. The clerk & chair will write to the landlord. **Action: CK/CE**

#### **49/18 Public Participation session (Members of the public are invited to address the council through the chairman)**

A resident reported a significant increase in dog poo around the village, particularly on the Green.

Small laminated posters will be produced again to affix around the village to remind dog owners to clean up after their pets and the clerk will ask if the SNC dog warden is able to visit Evenley to try and catch the culprits.

A resident expressed how pleased she was to hear that the speed watch project had been re-instated and will happily participate in future sessions.

A resident advised that the wheelie bin lid at Pocket Part had been split since the beginning of 2016. Cllr CR agreed to tape it up.

#### **50/18 Close**

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm

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