

EVENLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Little Brook Ward Meeting held on Monday 19th January 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Evenley PC: Jill Kelly, Jackie Fox, Jean Morgan, Alan Thornhill, Keith Cousins, Michael Genner.

Croughton PC: Ann Le Druillenec, Fran Bodley-Scott, Brian Tomlin, Margaret Bennett, Pamela Gelder, Penny Forbes, Jean Coles.

Aynho PC: Jeremy James, Sadie Patamia, Andy Anderson, Bob Mann.

Evenley residents: Mo Greatbatch, Mike Baul, Brian Lewis, Andy Gordon-Stewart, Sally Gordon-Stewart, Carrie O'Regan, Brian Sinclair, Ian Inshaw, Isobel Inshaw, Cliff Payne.

Cllr Ron Sawbridge – NCC, Cllr John Townsend – SNC, Jenny Collyer RAF Croughton,

1. Welcome and apologies:

Apologies received from Mike Boshier, Joyce Stevens, Kevin O'Regan, Kings Sutton PC.

2. To Approve the Minutes of the Ward meeting held at Croughton on 21st

July 2014:

It was proposed and agreed to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21.07.14.

3. Matters arising – No matters were raised

4. David Allen: Report on HS2 and how this will affect local traffic.

HS2 have given continual reassurance that the impact on minor roads will be minimal. DA has put together a petition detailing concerns including additional traffic on B roads and additional traffic due to staff at new construction sites. HS2 have suggested that they would use mainly A roads and motorways on their designated construction routes with B roads only being used to enter compounds. All contractors will be expected to use the designated route and to maintain public access. HS2 have committed to have a named contact/site manager for each compound with a deputy who could take calls in the site manager's absence. A hearing will take place in Parliament on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb when the needs of the district will be represented. The earliest start date is 2017 and the project must be completed by 2024.

Parishioners are concerned that although the HS2 contractors will need to use the designated route, the existing traffic using those roads may choose to drive through Evenley rather than deal with the additional traffic on the A roads and motorways. DA suggested that a ban on HS2 traffic travelling at peak times could be the only way to reduce the risk of this happening.

A councillor asked if there has been any request for revenue funding for additional police enforcement to cope with the additional traffic. DA advised this is part of the NCC request for resources across all areas. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner signed by all three Parish Councils, Cllr R Sawbridge, Cllr J Townsend and David Allen, requesting that they apply for extra funding for enforcement of speeding and weight restrictions as this will help to prevent HGVs using villages rather than main routes.

Concerns were raised about the possible closure of the road between Mixbury and Westbury. Councillors are aware that this is likely to cause a problem for villages and DA advised that the best possible resolution for this is to have an HGV ban in the villages.

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5. Guest Speaker: Dr Philip Stevens speaking on the hybrid application for a proposed mixed use development for a new food store and petrol station (full application), 60 bed nursing care home (including the relocation of the Brackley Cottage Hospitals 12 beds) and a new primary care centre facility including a new pharmacy.

Dr Phillip Stevens discussed the planned extension of services (as detailed above) and advised that this is planned to be completed around Jan 2017. This is dependent on Sainsburys as they will fund some of the infrastructure that is needed.

A parishioner asked what will happen between March, when the Cottage Hospital closes and Jan 17 when the new facility opens. Dr Stevens advised that the GPs in Brackley were unaware until very recently that the Cottage Hospital is closing in March but they have now approached the Trustees to see if there is a way to keep it open including contacting other organisations to see if they could take it over. The Physiotherapy service will continue to run as it is run by a different trust.

6. To receive Reports:

- 6.1 County Councillor Ron Sawbridge, NCC

Cllr Sawbridge read his report which is attached.

A Councillor asked what the procedure is for clearing litter outside the perimeter of the village. There are twice yearly litter picks on the main roads and SNC Environmental Services will pick up reported large items. It was suggested that Young Offenders could be given the task of litter picking. Cllr J Townsend agreed to look into this.

Evenley Parish Council expressed their thanks to Cllr R Sawbridge for his hard work and funding for the War Memorial.

## 6.2 District Councillor John Townsend, SNC

SNC has a balanced budget again so the District part of Council Tax should stay the same. Working with Cherwell Council has saved around £3 million by sharing services and costs. The planning department has not been joined with Cherwell and Cllr Townsend would like it to stay that way. Cherwell District Council have requested land on the Northants side of the motorway to expand the Industrial Estate. SNC have objected to these plans and are waiting to hear the result of this.

## 7. Parish Council News:

### 7.1 Aynho Parish Council

Aynho PC feel there is a disconnection between Parish Council level and District/County level. They believe that the Parish Council could provide positive solutions to problems if given more power.

Aynho have received funding for a defibrillator (possibly two) for the village and would be interested in hearing feedback from anyone else who has one.

### 7.2 Croughton Parish Council

Croughton have received their defibrillator and the system has been tested once and worked well.

Croughton have had 11 affordable homes built in the village which were connected to a drain that no one is willing to take responsibility for. They are now experiencing problems with flooding but cannot get this resolved.

### 7.3 Evenley Parish Council

AT read out the PCSO report which is attached.

## 8. Local Elections 2015 including timetable (Croughton PC)

Evenley are aiming to hold an election with a ballot this year and wondered if the other councils would be interested in sharing the document that has been put together by JM. It was suggested that it would be a good idea to encourage those who have applied previously but were unsuccessful to apply again. It would also be positive to promote the successes of the Councils to show what good a PC can do. Some feedback has been that people don't want to go through the competitive element of an election and would rather be co-opted afterwards.

9. Broadband (Aynho PC)

Evenley now have BT fibre broadband and most people are finding it is working well. Work should start at the end of February for Aynho and Croughton.

10. Use of PC facilities by villagers (Aynho PC)

Aynho PC enquired if any of the other Councils have dealt with an issue of PC facilities which are provided free of charge to the parishioners being used for a commercial nature, which then excludes the parishioners using the facility, and if so, how did they deal with it. This is not something the other Councils have come across before but they agreed that the action they would advise would be to find a way to manage and charge for the facility to ensure it is not taken advantage of in this way.

11. Date of next meeting to be held in Aynho – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015

MEETING CLOSED at 9.15 p.m.