

EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13 MAY 2024 AT 7 PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr G Bredin (Chairman), Cllr E Jennings, Cllr D Morgan-Jones, Cllr D Rook (until 7.54pm) and Cllr C Turner.

In Attendance: Alison Ball (Clerk). Cllr T Collins (Hart District Council) (until 8.05pm). Cllr S Parker (Hampshire County Council) (until 7.45pm).

24/114	Election of Chairman for the Municipal Year
	RESOLVED: That Councillor Gary Bredin be elected Chairman for the year 2024/25. Proposed by Cllr Rook, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Jones and agreed unanimously.
24/115	Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the Chairman
	Councillor Bredin signed his declaration of acceptance of office of Chairman.
24/116	Election of the Vice-Chairman for the Municipal Year
	RESOLVED: That Councillor Deirdre Rook be elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2024/25. Proposed by Cllr Morgan-Jones, seconded by Cllr Bredin and agreed unanimously.
24/117	Apologies for Absence
	None.
24/118	Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 22 April 2024
	RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 22 April 2024.
24/119	Matters arising from the Minutes
	None.
24/120	Announcements from Chairman, Clerk and Members' Questions
	None.

24/121	District and County Council Report
	<p>The Chairman welcomed Cllr Collins to the meeting and congratulated her on her re-election.</p> <p>Hart District Council (HDC):- Cllr Collins advised that she had nothing to report in this occasion.</p> <p>Hampshire County Council (HCC):- Cllr Parker advised that there had been two by-elections in Hampshire and the conservatives had lost one seat but gained the other.</p> <p>There was a discussion about some fly tipping on Naishes Lane that had been posted on Facebook. It was understood that this had been reported to HDC.</p>
24/122	Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations
	None.
24/123	Public Participation
	None.
24/124	Planning
	<p>(a) 24/00605/HOU 7 Kestrel Close Demolition of the conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension, alterations to the front porch and replacement windows and doors. Amended Plans.</p> <p>It was AGREED to submit no objection.</p> <p>(b) 24/00699/1 Beacon Hill Road Erection of a two storey, net zero, self build, new build home built from timber and brick.</p> <p>It was AGREED to submit an objection to this application as it did not comply with policy with the final wording to be drafted by the Clerk and Cllr Rook.</p> <p>(c) There were no additional planning applications received since the publication of the agenda.</p>
24/125	Highways Issues at Doras Green
	Cllr Turner reported that he had met with the Assistant Highways Manager – North (AHM) from HCC and Cllrs Bredin, Morgan-Jones and Parker earlier in the day to

discuss highways issues. The AHM had advised that he had ordered various works along the A287 including a full clean and CCTV survey of the drainage system, the aim of which was to discover the cause of the flooding. He had not committed to when this work would take place other than during this financial year.

On the footpath along the A287 the AHM had confirmed that as long as there was a walkway of one metre or more the path would be considered safe and work would not be undertaken. Where the path currently narrowed to less than one metre a work order would be raised to undertake the appropriate works.

On the Beacon Hill Road/ Badger Way junction the AHM would put in a request to cut back the vegetation around the junction to improve sightlines.

It was noted that the Parish Council needed to request that the vegetation be cut back on the Heath Lane/ Doras Green Lane crossroads and on the Church Lane/ A287 junction to improve visibility.

The AHM had confirmed that the anti slip surface on the Heath Lane/ Doras Green Lane crossroads would not be repaired as it was not a safety issue and therefore there would not be any budget for this.

Cllr Parker had agreed to chase up the officer working on the Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) for Heath Lane as this was with a different team at HCC.

On Heath Lane the AHM had confirmed that only one pot hole was large enough to fit the criteria for repair and he would arrange for this to be added to the work programme.

A structural issue had been identified on Doras Green Lane, just before the Hollow, which would need to be resolved but this would not be a quick fix.

There had been a discussion about reducing the speed limits and the AHM had agreed to provide the contact details for the officer at HCC responsible for this. He had confirmed that a speed limit reduction would not be considered without support from the Police. Cllr Turner would make some enquiries on this.

The verge parking along Beacon Hill Road had been discussed with the AHM who had confirmed that on the western side the highway land extended to the oak trees and on the east it extended to the fence. Cllr Morgan-Jones had been in touch with the MoD training estates organisation and it had been confirmed that they did not want to encourage parking as they would like to decrease the number of individuals walking on the training area. They had suggested that the verges be built up by converting them into small berms. They possibly could provide the soil

	<p>to carry this out. Cllr Morgan-Jones would be linking up the AHM with the representatives at the MoD estates to allow them to organise the best way forward. It was noted that this may not put all drivers off parking in this location and there would likely be damage caused over time by vehicles continuing to park. It was also noted that preventing parking along this section of Beacon Hill Road would likely displace vehicles to other parts of Beacon Hill Road and the Charles Church Estate. It was suggested that HCC be asked to put in double yellow lines from the A287/Beacon Hill Road roundabout to Badger Way.</p> <p>It was agreed to send a copy of the Parish Council minutes to the AHM to ensure he had a record of what was agreed.</p> <p>It was noted that in 2024/2025 all the lengthsman hours would be used for maintenance work required alongside the highway, to be managed by Cllr Turner.</p>
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24/126	Reinstatement of Verges – Beacon Hill
	This had already been discussed as recorded in Minute 24/125 above.

24/127	A287 - Flooding
	This had already been discussed as recorded in Minute 24/125 above.

24/128	Fly Tipping on A287
	Nothing had progressed on this since the last meeting but it was still hoped that a meeting would be held in the week beginning 20 May involving the Parish Council, HDC and HCC to discuss a way forward.

24/129	Repair of roundabout A287/Beacon Hill Road
	The repair to the signage on the A287/ Beacon Hill Road roundabout was still on the HCC work list but no timescale had been given as to when this would be carried out.

24/130	Rural Fibre Optic Rollout
	Cllr Morgan-Jones advised that he had written to Gigaclear requesting an update on the project but he had not received a detailed response. He would see if he could escalate this enquiry.

24/131	Parish Online Mapping Service
	Cllr Morgan-Jones advised that he had been mapping the Parish Councils assets using the Parish Online system. So far he had added the CCTV, play area, defibs,

	<p>bins, phone box, noticeboards, the bus shelter and the grit bins. It was possible to use the system to create an asset register. The Clerk confirmed that the asset register had not yet been reviewed as she was waiting for the results of the Life Expectancy Assessment which would look at how long each piece of equipment in the play area should last and should be carried out in May.</p> <p>(NOTE: Cllr Parker left the meeting at the conclusion of this item.)</p>
24/132	Enhancing Parish Communication and Engagement
	<p>Councillor Morgan-Jones requested that discussion on this item be delayed until June as he was still researching this. He intended to see what other councils did and see what worked in other areas.</p>
24/133	Hart Climate Change Engagement Group
	<p>Cllr Morgan-Jones advised that he would be attending the Hart Climate Emergency Engagement Group meeting on 28 May.</p>
24/134	Biodiversity
	<p>A draft Biodiversity Policy had been circulated prior to the meeting by email along with some suggestions from the Clerk with regard to first steps to engage residents and to work together on some small projects.</p> <p>It was noted that some nearby parish councils were meeting to share ideas and consider ways that parish councils could work together to try to reduce the impact of climate change. The Clerk agreed to forward the details of this on for anyone who would like to attend and see if this would be useful for Ewshot.</p> <p>Cllr Morgan-Jones felt it was important to understand the biodiversity in the parish before setting out an action plan. He was happy to map all of this onto Parish Online.</p> <p>(NOTE: Cllr Rook left the meeting on the conclusion of this item.)</p>
24/135	Replacement Waste Bin on Recreation Ground
	<p>Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated the details of quotes received for the replacement of the dog poo bin next to the tennis court which needed replacing as the lid had rusted and would no longer shut.</p> <p>Quotes had been received from two contractors and various options for the type of bin had been explored. The Chairman suggested that the bin be replaced with</p>

	<p>something similar as dog owners were used to seeing this bin in this location and, although dog poo could be put in any waste bin, it was thought that a dedicated dog poo bin was a very visual reminder for people to pick up after their dogs.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept the quote from B J Cranstone for the supply and installation of the replacement dog poo bin.</p>
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24/136	Farnborough Airport
	<p>Cllr Turner advised that he would be attending the Noise Sub-Committee on 14 May where they would be looking at the data collected by the mobile noise monitoring equipment. They would also be looking at where next it could be deployed. He welcomed suggestions of locations but they needed to be on the main flight path with access to a power source.</p>

24/137	S106 Project Proposals from the Village Hall Committee
	<p>It was noted that the work to improve the access to the village hall had been carried out.</p>

24/138	CCTV Policy
	<p>Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated a CCTV Policy which had been updated following the recent upgrade of the system. Comments had been received on this which needed to be looked at.</p>

24/139	Website MOT
	<p>Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated a proposal to ask the website providers to perform a 'website MOT'. This would look at functionality of the website including usability, accessibility, security and content. She was not suggesting a big overhaul as the website was created in 2019 and was still fit for purpose.</p> <p>It was AGREED to engage the website providers, Vision ICT, to do a website MOT at a cost of £145 + VAT.</p> <p>(NOTE: Cllr Collins left the meeting when this item concluded.)</p>

24/140	Roles and Responsibilities 2024/2025																						
	<p>RESOLVED: That the following appointments be agreed:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Responsibilities</th> <th>Appointment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Traffic and Highways</td> <td>Cllr Turner Cllr Morgan-Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning</td> <td>Cllr Rook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Estates</td> <td>Cllr Bredin Cllr Jennings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finance</td> <td>Cllr Turner</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)</td> <td>Parish Clerk</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HR and Standards</td> <td>Cllr Turner Cllr Jennings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fundraising</td> <td>Cllr Jennings</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Plan/Neighbourhood Plan</td> <td>Cllr Morgan-Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Operational Risk Management and Contingency Planning</td> <td>Cllr Morgan-Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rural High Speed Broadband Project</td> <td>Cllr Morgan-Jones</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ewshot Village Hall: Cllr Jennings • Crookham Alms-houses: Cllr Jennings • Farnborough Airport Consultative Committee: Cllr Turner 	Responsibilities	Appointment	Traffic and Highways	Cllr Turner Cllr Morgan-Jones	Planning	Cllr Rook	Estates	Cllr Bredin Cllr Jennings	Finance	Cllr Turner	Responsible Finance Officer (RFO)	Parish Clerk	HR and Standards	Cllr Turner Cllr Jennings	Fundraising	Cllr Jennings	Parish Plan/Neighbourhood Plan	Cllr Morgan-Jones	Operational Risk Management and Contingency Planning	Cllr Morgan-Jones	Rural High Speed Broadband Project	Cllr Morgan-Jones
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24/141	To appoint the Internal Auditor for 2024/2025																						
	<p>RESOLVED: To appoint Mike Platten of April Skies as the Internal Auditor for 2024/2025.</p>																						
24/142	Appointment of Bank Signatories																						
	<p>It was noted that all councillors were appointed as Bank Signatories with the majority having online access.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the current arrangements were acceptable.</p>																						
24/143	Adoption of the Internal Auditors Report																						
	<p>Consideration was given to the report of the internal auditor which had been circulated prior to the meeting. All sections of the internal audit part of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) had been signed off without any comments.</p>																						

	RESOLVED: To accept and note the report of the internal auditor for the year 2023/2024.
24/144	To confirm no conflicts of interest with BDO LLP
	RESOLVED: That the Parish Council had no conflicts of interest with the external auditor firm BDO LLP.
24/145	To receive and approve the Summary of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024
	Prior to the meeting the Clerk had circulated a summary of the 2023/24 accounts which had already been subject to internal audit. RESOLVED: That the summary of the accounts for 2023/24 be approved.
	Approval of Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2024
24/146	RESOLVED: To approve Section 1 – The Annual Governance Statement 2023/24 as completed by the Clerk.
24/147	RESOLVED: To approve Section 2 – the Accounting Statements 2023/24 as completed by the Clerk. Both sections were signed by the Clerk/RFO and Chairman of the meeting as appropriate.
24/148	To approve the dates for Electors Rights
	The Clerk advised that each year the Parish Council set a period of 30 working days (which must include the first 10 working days of July) during which the accounts would be available for inspection by the public. It was suggested that the period commence on 3 June and end on 12 July as this was as soon as possible whilst complying with the requirements of the legislation. RESOLVED: That the period for the inspection of the accounts commence on 3 June 2024 and end on 12 July 2024.

24/149	Approval of Payments	
	The following payments were approved:	
	May Payroll	£593.39
	HMRC - tax	£16.80
	A Ball – reimbursement for stationery	£7.77
	Castle Water – water bill (paid by direct debit)	£6.06
	Scottish Power – Electricity Bill (paid by direct debit)	£25.58
	Larkstel – Bin emptying (May)	£188.70
	NJL Box Green – Grass Cutting - April	£675.60
	April Skies – Internal Audit	£172.50

24/150	To note that payment to Scottish Power by Direct Debit has been set up	
	It was noted that payment to Scottish Power by direct debit had been set up.	

24/151	Date of Next Meeting	
	It was noted that the next meeting would take place on 10 June 2024.	

24/152	Any Other Business	
	Cllr Turner suggested that for the Parish Council to be more effective a business plan approach should be adopted. All project proposals should be presented setting out what has happened before, what do we want to achieve and what is being asked for.	

The meeting ended at 8.10pm

Signed.....

Dated.....