

EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL

**THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EWSHOT PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 13 JANUARY 2025 AT 7 PM
IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr E Jennings, Cllr D Morgan-Jones and Cllr C Turner.

In Attendance: Two members of the public. Alison Ball (Clerk). Cllr S Parker (Hampshire County Council).

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman it was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Morgan-Jones take the Chair for the meeting.

25/001	Apologies for Absence
	Cllr G Bredin (Chairman) and Cllr D Rook. Cllr T Collins (Hart District Council).

25/002	Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 11 November 2024
	RESOLVED: To approve the Minutes of the meeting of Ewshot Parish Council held on 11 November 2024.

25/003	Review of the Actions/ Issues Log
	The Actions/ Issues Log was reviewed and updated.

25/004	Announcements from Chairman, Clerk and Members' Questions
	None.

25/006	District and County Council Report
	Hampshire County Council (HCC):- Cllr Parker gave an update on the devolution proposals being considered by HCC.

25/007	Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensations
	None.

25/008	Public Participation
	A member of the public addressed the meeting requesting that a 20mph speed limit be introduced along Church Lane.

	<p>In response Cllr Turner advised that the Parish Council had been working to try to get the speed limit reduced on a number of roads in the parish but that HCC had not been supportive of this and it was not within the power of the Parish Council to go ahead without the support of the Highway Authority. He confirmed that he intended to contact the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to see if there was anything she could do. Cllr Parker asked to be involved in any discussion with the PCC.</p> <p>Cllr Parker believed that it was possible for a 20mph limit to be introduced in the village centre if the Parish Council was willing to fund the project. He would find out the details and costs involved and pass this on.</p>
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25/009	Planning
	<p>(a) 24/02216/HOU 8 Badger Way Erection of a first floor extension over garage, part single, part two storey rear extension following demolition of conservatory. Conversion of loft into habitable accommodation including dormer windows and conversion of garage into habitable accommodation to include the replacement of the garage door with two windows.</p> <p>A response was required by 6 December so the following was agreed by email and had been submitted before the deadline: No objection.</p> <p>The response was NOTED.</p> <p>(b) 24/02427/HOU Little Hurst, Church Lane Erection of a two storey front extension, first floor front extension, formation of two front gables, raising of roof, erection of porch and detached carport with log store.</p> <p>A response was required by 6 January so the following was agreed by email and had been submitted before the deadline: No objection.</p> <p>The response was NOTED.</p> <p>(c) Additional planning applications received after publication of the Agenda</p> <p>None.</p>

25/010	Highways Issues
	It was agreed to move this item to the end of the agenda.

25/011	Hart Climate Change Engagement Group/ Net Zero Engagement Group
	<p>Cllr Morgan-Jones advised that there was lots of work going on, much at HDC, to progress towards net zero. The project with C-ESCO for solar energy was ongoing. It was noted that there would be little input needed by the Parish Council but that residents should be able to achieve reduced energy costs. He was currently looking for another four or five neighbouring parishes to join in with the project.</p> <p>A member of the public asked a question about charging points for electric cars, specifically the difficulty with these where parking was allocated but not immediately outside the house. Cllr Morgan-Jones advised that this was something that could be considered if residents were interested in it.</p>
25/012	Biodiversity
	<p>Councillor Morgan-Jones advised that there had been a meeting earlier in the day between representatives from the Parish Council, Surrey Wildlife Trust and the Biodiversity Officer at HDC. It had been an interesting and productive meeting learning about the Heathlands Project. It was hoped that the staff from the Surrey Wildlife Trust would arrange a follow up meeting with councillors to look at the land in Ewshot to see if any opportunities could be identified for supporting and encouraging wildlife by creating corridors to link existing habitats.</p>
25/013	Fibre Optic Rollout
	<p>Councillor Morgan-Jones confirmed that all commercial routes on this had now stopped. It would be necessary to fall back on the Government scheme which was also not currently being rolled out in Ewshot. This information would be communicated to residents.</p>
25/014	Farnborough Airport
	<p>Prior to the meeting Cllr Turner had circulated an email giving an update following the last Airport Consultative Committee meeting highlighting the most important thing for Ewshot as the planning application for the airport. The email provided the following summary:</p> <p>Rushmoor Borough Council were targeting the end of February 2025 for a planning determination of the airport expansion.</p> <p>This would be subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional assessments to be completed by Farnborough Airport Ltd; • Natural England to provide its response;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new environment assessment and impact study to be completed; • EIA consultation to be completed. <p>Cllr Turner had also confirmed that the new Chairman had been in attendance at the last meeting and he had suggested that he felt there needed to be a review of the committee to check that it was still fit for purpose.</p> <p>At the meeting Cllr Turner confirmed that there would be another meeting of the Noise Sub-Committee on 16 January. It was thought that at this meeting the results of the noise monitoring carried out in Ewshot would be looked at. The data would show the noise levels down to the type of plane but as the levels were monitored over a 16 hour period and the airport only operated for 12 of those hours the average was always diluted down and not a correct reading. He would report back after the meeting.</p>
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25/015	S106 Funding Ideas
	<p>An email had been received from the Village Hall Committee indicating that an application would be made to HDC to release section 106 funds to be used to fund a new music system for the hall and to replace the front doors to make them better insulated. Support was requested for these applications.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To support an application by the Village Hall Committee to HDC for s106 funding to be released to fund a new music system for the Hall and for replacement front doors.</p>

25/016	Grounds Maintenance
	<p>(a) New Gate on the Recreation Ground</p> <p>It was noted that the wooden gate on the recreation ground needed to be replaced and quotes were being sought for this.</p> <p>(b) Clothing Recycling Facility in Recreation Ground Car Park</p> <p>A request had been received from a private company to place a clothing recycling bin in the car park in aid of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. The Clerk advised against this as it was likely to increase the instances of fly tipping (clothes left outside the bin once it was full) and this would be costly for the Parish Council to clean up and dispose of.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To not give permission for the clothing recycling bin to be placed in the car park.</p>

	<p>(c) Planting 2025</p> <p>There had been a contract in place for 2024 for the planting and maintenance of the pots under the ‘Welcome to Ewshot’ signs. The contractor had advised that the same could be done again for 2025 for the same price.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To not renew the planting contact with Thyme to Blossom and that alternative solutions be considered.</p>
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25/017	Grant Application from the Village Hall
	<p>A grant application had been received from the Village Hall Committee for funding for new hand dryers.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That a grant of £289 be awarded to Ewshot Village Hall Committee for the purchase and installation of hand dryers.</p>

25/018	Summary of Payments and Receipts for Q3 to 31 December 2024
	<p>A summary of the figures for quarter three had been circulated prior to the meeting. This also showed the total spend to 31 December across the budget headings against the budget for the year.</p> <p>The Clerk recommended that the money set aside for highways works be reduced by £7k and that this be added to the tennis court reserve as this pot needed to be increased following works to the tennis court in 2024. In addition the Clerk advised that there was currently £2,450 set aside for ‘design codes’ but as this project was no longer going ahead she suggested reallocating this - £450 to ‘new planting’ and £2k to a new ‘Climate Change/ Biodiversity’ reserve.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To approve the summary of receipts and payments for quarter three and that the reserves be amended as above.</p>

25/019	Bank Reconciliation to 31 December 2024
	<p>The RFO had produced a bank reconciliation to 31 December 2024 which had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To accept the bank reconciliation to 31 December 2024.</p>

25/020	Budget 2025/2026
	<p>Prior to the meeting the draft budget for 2025/2026 had been circulated. This set out the actual spend to 1 December 2024 together with the predicted spend to</p>

year end, 31 March 2025. Also circulated were details of the money spent on projects during 2024.

It was noted that the proposed budget recommended a 0% change and did not increase the amount each householder would need to pay compared to 2024/2025. There had been an increase in the Parish Council’s tax base which meant that there would be a small increase in the overall precept without having any effect on the amount each household would pay. As a result the proposed 2025/2026 budget was similar to the previous year’s budget but for areas likely to see an increase in prices the amount allocated had been slightly increased. This included staff salaries, grounds contractors and repairs and maintenance works.

Cllr Turner advised that he had spoken to the co-ordinator at the Village Pump Group who had previously requested an annual sum be set aside for the group to provide some consistency and certainty. He was going to discuss funding with Crondall Parish Council, as the majority of users came from that area, and then provide more information. The proposed budget did include money for grants that could be awarded to the Village Pump Group if approved by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: To approve the budget for 2025/26. Proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Jones and agreed unanimously.

25/021 Precept 2025/2026

The budget showed that a precept of £37,556 for 2025/2026 would be sufficient and authorisation was now sought for this amount to be set as the precept amount.

RESOLVED: To approve the precept as £37,556 for 2025/2026 and that Cllrs Turner and Morgan-Jones and the Clerk be authorised to complete the paperwork for submission to HDC. Proposed by Cllr Turner, seconded by Cllr Morgan-Jones and agreed unanimously.

25/022 Approval of Payments

The following payments were approved:

December Payroll	£593.39*
HMRC - tax	£16.80
January Payroll	£593.59
HMRC - tax	£16.60
Castle Water – water bill (January)	£6.26**
Castle Water – water bill (February)	£6.26**
Scottish Power – electricity bill (December)	£25.58**

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Larkstel – Bin emptying (December)	£188.70*
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NJL Box Green – Grass Cutting (November)	£337.80*
AM Vodden, Transition Trees – tree works in play area	£660.00*
All 4 One – Giftcard	£50.00***
Thyme to Blossom – Planting 2024	£450.00
Information Commissioner – Annual Fee	£40.00
Gary Bredin – Reimbursement for Grit and Tree Guards	£99.01
Allan Lang Timber – Christmas Tree	£480.00
D M Payroll – Payroll services October 2024 – March 2025	£66.00
Ewshot Village Hall – Grant for Hand dryers	£289.00
RBS Enterprises – Dog Waste Bags	£76.68
* Already paid – agreed by email and from within existing budgets	
** Paid monthly by direct debit	
***Paid on Council debit card	

25/023	Date of Next Meeting
	It was noted that the next meeting would take place on 10 February 2025.

25/024	Any Other Business
	<p>It was noted that the Police would be running a session on cyber crime in Elvetham Heath Village Hall on 3 March which would be open to Ewshot residents to attend. This would be advertised as soon as timings were known. If there was a good take up of the session the Police may be willing to run something similar in Ewshot.</p> <p>It was noted that the contractors working on the Homecroft site had been parking in the Village Hall car park. A member of the Village Hall Committee had spoken to them and had asked that they park as far away from the entrance to the hall as possible to allow hall users the easiest access. She had also suggested she would try to get a contact number for someone on site so that they could be contacted should parking become an issue. It was agreed to monitor this.</p> <p>It was agreed to delay looking at the highways agenda items to allow more time to be allocated.</p>

The meeting ended at 8.10pm

Signed.....

Dated.....