

Notice of
Meeting of the Parish Council on

Monday 6th June 2005

at 20:00 h
in
The Village Hall

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Declarations of interest
3. Minutes of previous meeting
4. Matters arising
5. Current tasks
 - Play wall/area
 - RAF
 - State of roads
6. Planning
7. District Councillors Reports
8. Correspondence
9. Accounts & administration
10. Standing orders review
11. Any other business
12. Next meeting – 13th July 2005 8pm

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Minutes of a meeting of Parish Councillors
held on
Wednesday 8th May 2005

Present	Neil Blake (NB)	Sue Pryce Jones (SPJ)
	John Lockyer (JL)	Dee Rosier (DR)
	Peter Lemaire (PL)	
	Sue Hill (SH)	

Details

Action

Suzanne Willers, Rural Housing Enabler, ORCC, gave a presentation of the results of the housing needs survey conducted in Ewelme last year. Councillors decided that they should have a special meeting to discuss the results and to determine whether the idea of affordable housing should be progressed. NB to write a summary of the presentation for Ewelme News.

1. **Apologies** – Brian Benson (BB)
2. **Declaration of interests** – none
3. **Minutes** – Agreed
4. **Matters arising** –

- Parking – New police constable (on leave at moment) should be invited to the next meeting so that we can find a solution. JL reported more problems with parking and DR expressed concerns about access to the Cloisters being blocked. JL to write an article for Ewelme News. **SH**
- Footbridge on Benson path – SC had sent another letter, still awaiting a response. **JL**
- Erosion of verges – OCC leaflet to go on notice board. **SC**
- Martyn’s Way – SH awaiting comments from OCC. **SH**
- Tree guards (9th hole) near Ewelme Down Farm – SH to arrange for collection of old guards. Councillors agreed that it was a job that should have been done sooner as many trees would soon have deteriorated because of the guards. Councillors thanked Barry Rosier for pointing it out to them. **SH**
- Post Box by village hall – on Post Office job list.
- State of roads – gravel build up by Ford’s Farm and edge line at top of Rabbit’s Hill – SH awaiting response from OCC **SH**
- Drainage at bottom of Rabbit’s Hill – District Council had cleared the drains once, but they were blocked with mud from the work being done at Ford’s Farm, SC to ask District Council to write to the Contractor asking them to clear the drains. **SC**
- Notice board – checking ownership of the alternative potential site on the footpath from Eyres Close to the High Street was a slow process. Alternative sites were discussed. All agreed that the board should be put by the bus stop at the bottom of Green Lane. SH to instruct Paul Wyatt to go ahead. **SH**
- Parish plan - DEFRA are providing funding for producing parish plans so it was felt a good time to do one. All agreed that a plan of action should be prepared. **SH**
- Ewelme News – letter to editor section was felt to be a good idea. DR requested that the ads be spread out throughout the magazine. It

- was agreed that since Richard Baker is away quite a lot it would be helpful to have an assistant editor. A request for a volunteer should be placed in the next issue. SH to discuss with Richard Baker. SH
- Speedwatch – SH to contact Steve Wood re the next phase of speed recording. It was agreed to put up some Speedwatch signage in the Green Lane area. SH
5. **Current tasks –**
- RAF** – an invitation had been sent to the Council for Top Gear filming event at the end of May. The RAF had invitations for 10 Ewelme and 10 Benson residents to the event. Councillors discussed how to ensure a fair way of finding 10 residents who would be interested in attending. It was decided to drop a letter to every household using the Ewelme News distributors. Residents could apply for an invite, £1 per entry and only 1 entry allowed per household. Sue to produce the text and the email to PL for printing/distribution by Saturday 8th May. Applications to be dropped into a box at PL's house. Any monies collected would be donated to the RAF Benevolent Fund. SH/PL
- Play area/play wall –**
- The existing area was being well used. The spare chalk produced by clearing the new basketball/football goal area would be grassed over. Some of the posts on the road side of the common had rotted and need to be replaced urgently. Also the gravel in the car park had still not been levelled. SH to arrange for both to be done. SH
- Teenage play area – excavation had been completed, the wall had been built and was being backfilled. JL queried the size of the football goal as he felt it was too small for the people using the existing goal. It was decided that the 5 aside goal and basket ball hoop were meant for the younger ages. The existing full size goal (by the road) has to be removed for safety reasons, but councillors agreed that despite it not being planned for originally, they would be happy for it to be replaced so that older youths/adults could use it. JL proposed Council buy a full size goal, DR seconded it. All agreed. SH to find costs. SH
- Pavillion** – work was progressing, the kitchen units had been put in, toilets had been altered, shower room altered, windows replaced and external blockwork/rendering done. JL queried when the work would be completed as he was getting hassle from the various clubs who wish to use the facilities. SH to discuss with the contractor. SH
- State of roads –**
- DR/SH to take the report of road problems forward. DR/SH
- Cat lane – a new sign had been put in and the roadside clearance was scheduled for this week. A resident of Hampden Way had complained about the sign. OCC had been asked to look into the position and height of the sign, but after waiting so many years for it to happen, councillors agreed that this should not hold up the rest of the job being completed.
6. **Planning –**
- Ford's Farm** – Demolition of detached agricultural brick building which is in poor order. Permission granted by SODC as the building was felt to be of limited historical or architectural interest and was in a poor state of repair.
- The Old Rectory** – Remove contemporary boiler house and re-locate it in log store, re-route boiler pipework internally. Remove sash window and replace with glazed doors. Councillors had no strong views.
- Grundons Depot, Gould's Grove** – Further details on the redevelopment. Since Ewelme Parish Council had objected to the initial application Grundons have sent further information on changes to lorry traffic and a mechanism that had been implemented to keep an eye on the situation.

Copies of correspondence were given to all councillors. Due to the brief timescale allowed the Chairman had looked at these and responded before the meeting.

7. District Councillors' Reports –

Sue Cooper reported the rejection of proposal to make changes to the planning procedure which were strongly felt to be detrimental to Parish interests, and also that District Council had voted to look into withdrawing from SEERA. Sue was very concerned that our area won't be represented if this goes ahead and felt that it was potentially dangerous.

8. Correspondence -

- SODC – Waste Services. Clear plastic sacks (an alternative to green boxes) are being sold (£2.50 for 25) by SODC
- SODC – Paper “green waste” sacks are now available on a trial basis from SODC. Sacks cost 65p each. Full sacks can be collected from the kerbside if you make arrangements with SODC.

Meetings/consultations:

- None

9. Accounts & Administration –

Cheques paid between meetings: Southern Electric (£57.54), Thames Water (£15.39), Vernon Miners (£2000)

Cheques signed meeting: Universal play (£1223.18), Clerks wages (£193.50), Paul Wyatt (£1151.37)

Payments in: Ads (£108), VAT reclaim (£2558.06)

Business rates for the pavilion had been reduced by £137.28.

£4000 (paid so far for the pavilion upgrade) was being reclaimed as part of the TOE grant. The TOE interim report had been sent off.

The arrangement with Roy Troth to cut various bits of grass in the village was not working. Councillors agreed that SH should ask Paul Wyatt to cut the play area, pool and the pound whilst in the village cutting the churchyard. Clearing of leaves from the bus shelter could be included in the Odd Jobs Day. Barry Rosier had kindly cut the grass at the top of Burrow's Hill again. SH to thank him.

SH

SH

10. Any other business –

- Complaints had been received about noise from the pub going on after midnight. Some Councillors were surprised, since noise levels were much lower than with the last owners. Councillors recommended that residents should really discuss the problem with the landlord so that he is aware of the problem. If the problem persists and can't be resolved informally then residents should contact Environmental Health at SODC.
- NB had received a reply from his letter to District Council querying use of Council Investment funds for topping up pensions stating that such actions were legal. Not felt to be an adequate explanation. NB will pursue use of assets.

11. Meeting ended at 9.55pm

12. Date of next meeting – Wednesday 13th July 2005 at 8pm in the Village Hall