



EVERSHOLT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Eversholt Parish Council held on Wednesday 5th May 2021 at 8.00pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

PRESENT: Cllr M Gabrys (Chairman), Cllr P Collin, Cllr E Crichton, Cllr F Newport-Hassan,
Cllr P Richardson, CBC Cllr J Baker

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs K Barker (Clerk), 1 member of the public was present

1509 **Election of Chairman** – Cllr Richardson proposed Cllr Gabrys be elected as Chairman. Cllr Miller seconded the motion. There being no other nominations and Cllr Gabrys being willing to accept, she was duly appointed as Chairman of Eversholt Parish Council. Cllr Gabrys to sign the declaration of acceptance of office form.

Election of Vice-Chairman – The Chairman proposed Cllr Richardson be elected as Vice-Chairman. Cllr Miller seconded the motion. There being no other nominations and Cllr Richardson being willing to accept, he was duly appointed as Vice-Chairman of Eversholt Parish Council.

1510 Apologies for absence – There were no apologies for absence

1511 Declaration of interests – Cllr Gabrys – Eversholt School, Cllr Richardson – Village Hall, Eversholt Parochial Charity

1512 Minutes
The minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2021 were approved. Cllr Richardson proposed, seconded by the Chairman the approval of the minutes as a true record. All agreed by those present and to be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting in person.

1513 Matters Arising
There were no matters arising.

1514 Reports and representations
1514.1 Central Beds Councillor J Baker
CBC staffing: A number of staff have left so it is a struggle to get things done due to understaffing.

Schools: Fulbrook School has been given the go ahead to convert from a middle school to a secondary school.

Safer Communities Officer: The new Officer is Karl O'Dell. He is happy to attend a Parish Council meeting.

Glass collection: CBC are carrying out a consultation on glass collection

1515 Public Forum
A resident spoke about the planning application for Hounsfild House and said that the proposal is for a very large horse arena. This is a significant development and seems to be overdevelopment of the site.

- 1516 Finance
1516.1 Bank Balances:

Bank Account	Amount £
Barclays Current Acct	10,348.56
Barclays Business Premium Acct	3,290.77
TOTAL	13,639.33

- 1516.2 Payments:
Cllr Richardson proposed, seconded by Cllr Miller the approval of the following payments, agreed by all present:

Cheque Number	Payee	Amount £
100973	K Barker – salary April	259.38
100973	K Barker – expenses April	29.52
100974	HMRC – Clerks tax	44.20
100975	Zurich – insurance renewal	167.44
100976	Barbara Osborne – payroll	66.00
100977	M Gabrys – gift for resident 100 th birthday	29.46
	TOTAL	596.00

- 1516.3 Other finance matters:

- 1516.3.1 Budget Report
The Clerk circulated the budget report/accounts and these were noted.
- 1516.3.2 Accounts 2020/21
- 1516.3.2.1 Governance statement/Accounting Statement
The Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement. The Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statement were proposed for approval by the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Richardson and agreed by all. The Chairman to sign the statements and the Clerk to place them on the website.
(Action Clerk)
- 1516.3.2.2 Exemption from external audit
Cllr Miller proposed, seconded by Cllr Newport-Hassan that the Parish Council confirm their exemption from external audit, agreed by all. The Chairman to sign the form and the Clerk to send it to the external auditor.
(Action Clerk)
- 1516.3.3 Insurance renewal
The Parish Council agreed to renew the insurance with Zurich.
- 1516.3.4 Precept received £7,454
Noted by the Parish Council.

- 1517 Planning

- 1517.1 Planning Applications:

- 1517.1.1 CB/21/01343/LB - Church Farm, Church End - Listed Building:
Ground and first floor extensions and adjustments to internal alteration, with windows replaced to match proposed outbuilding, weatherboarding to continue to ground floor level mid extension. The Parish Council has no objection to the application.
- 1517.1.2 CB/21/01452/FULL - The Paddock, Higher Rads End - change of Use: Extension of builders yard and construction of workshop/storage building, fencing and gates (retrospective)
The Parish Council object to the application. They wish to point out that there are several aspects to the application in that it is not

retrospective in its entirety. The Parish Council take the number of issues separately, as listed:

- The new entrance has been built significantly forward of the original hedge line by as much as 3m and should be reinstated on the original hedge line. It is believed it is also excessive in height but this is a planning matter. This encroachment is not acceptable to the Parish Council.
- The area of the new yard is believed to be on agricultural land and it has been covered in hard standing of rolled and compressed hard-core. There has been no application for this work or a change of use for the land.
- The new workshop/storage building is not retrospective as it has not been built. It is on agricultural land and is considered to be overdevelopment of the site.
- On the subject of storage on the site. When this site was given permission for development two containers were placed on the site and local neighbours complained. The issue was raised by the Parish Council at the time and it was agreed the containers would be allowed for up to 2 years. This period has been exceeded and the containers appear to have been relocated and a roof fitted. It would be apparent these containers have become a permanent feature which is not acceptable and should be removed as agreed. If developers are allowed to keep containers on land permanently it will set a precedent and the council will not be able to object to others doing the same.

1517.1.3 CB/21/00630/FULL - Hounsfeld, Lower Rads End - erection of indoor horse arena for dressage with associated landscaping
The Parish Council object to the application. They consider that the size of the proposed indoor horse arena would have a substantial negative visual impact on the local landscape and that its size would substantially reduce the amount of available grazing land left available to sustain 6 horses. (The recommended grazing for horses is 1 - 1.5 acres per horse.) It is considered an excessive development for the area of land available.

1517.2 Other Planning Matters

1517.2.1 Enforcement cases

1517.2.1.1 CB/EN/20/0552 – Coach House, Witts End – removal of protected hedgerow. The Clerk read out an update from James Clancy at CBC. He has made a couple of site visits, initially to assess the extent of the cutting down of the hedge (if it had been destroyed) and the second to see if the hedge was growing back. After discussing the findings with his team leader it was decided that although the hedge had been very poorly maintained and possibly negatively impacted by the heavy and poor quality works, the evidence of re-growth suggested that it had not been destroyed. As such he wrote to the last registered owners of the land (registration is currently being updated) advising them that further poor hedge management techniques such as the cutting back demonstrated would likely result in formal enforcement action if the hedge were destroyed as a

result. It has been 4 weeks since the date of that letter so he will now be recommending the case for closure as although the works were very poor he can find no breach in planning control.

1517.2.1.2 CB/EN/20/0550 – The Paddock, Higher Rads End – new entrance/gate. See Point 1517.1.2

1517.2.2 Builders Yard – concrete pads
Nothing to report.

1518 Highways and related matters

1518.1 Highway Representative Report

Cllr Newport-Hassan said that a number of potholes have been filled recently. The Clerk to ask the Parochial Charity whether the drain at the access to the allotments has been/can be cleared as the ditch is getting blocked and water is going under the road rather than in the culvert. **(Action Clerk)**

1518.1.1 Encroachment of verges/Signs and speed limits
Nothing to report.

1519 Other Village matters

1519.1 Recreation Ground lease

Cllr Richardson to draft a letter to village organisations regarding the costs incurred by the Parish Council to date.

1519.2 Refurbishments

1519.2.1 Benches

Cllr Miller said that the benches need a second coat of paint.

1519.2.2 Recreation Ground railings - refurb/painting

Cllr Miller said that it will take 2 – 3 days to repair the railings and he has received a quote of £300 plus VAT for the work. He is not sure whether this includes the paint etc and he will find out. Cllr Richardson proposed, seconded by the Chairman to accept the cost, agreed by all.

1519.3 Bench in memory of Robin Smith

Cllr Miller said that he will be ordering the bench shortly and will re-claim the cost.

1519.4 Dog Bin

Cllr Miller said that he has sent the location details to the Clerk. The Clerk to request a new dog bin from CBC. **(Action Clerk)**

1519.5 About Eversholt

The Chairman to put the Editor vacancy on Whatsapp. **(Action Chairman)**

1519.6 Christmas Tree

Cllr Collin said that he believes that the Church will be happy for a tree to be planted outside the Church. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

1520 Parish Council Administration

1520.1 Review of policies

Cllr Richardson, proposed, seconded by the Chairman to approve the review of the annual policies, agreed by all.

1521 Village Committees – Representatives/Reports

There were no village reports.

1522 General correspondence: There was no correspondence.

1523 Date and place of next meeting: Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th May 2021
7.30pm, Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.22pm