

ETCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Etchingham Parish Council
held on Thursday 18th July 2019
at 7.30pm at the Parker Hall, Parsonage Croft, Etchingham

Members Present: Cllrs Mr John Barnes, Mrs M Barnes, Mr C Boylett, Mr Doug Lambert and Ms Roma Turner.

Also present: Ms P Barton – Clerk to the Council, District Cllr Kirby-Green, Mr Paul Stott – Vice Chairman of ETSR, also members of the public. *The Chairman explained that the Parish Council meeting was a meeting held in public but not a Public Meeting. Any person present wishing to speak about any item on the agenda should do so under agenda item 6 'Public Time'. There would not be any other opportunity for the public to speak at the meeting.*

1964. Apologies for Absence:

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs S Barrow and R Beeney, which were accepted.

1965. Minutes of the previous meetings:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th June 2019 having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting.

1966. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. J Barnes declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 13, Etchingham School and Community Development as the Chairman of ETSR.

Cllr. M. Barnes declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 13, Etchingham School and Community Development as a member of the Parochial Church Council and reminded Council that she is a member of the RDC Planning Committee.

1967. Etchingham Parish Council – Dispensations

The Clerk confirmed that no written requests for dispensations had been received.

1968. Chairman's Announcements:

It was formally noted that ERGT, of which the Parish Council is the Trustee, had held its AGM earlier that evening. It was also noted that the annual Big Etchingham Weekend - village fete, flower and dog show on Saturday and events in the church concluding with a sung Evensong for the Sunday – is arranged for 7th and 8th September this year.

1969. Public Time:

- a) ESCC County Cllr John Barnes reported that the Fire Service is conducting a full review of its service to this area. He also reported that the 'underspend' by ESCC this year cannot be repeated next year but that the new business rate formula does seem to be working so far.
- b) District Cllr John Barnes reported that the new waste disposal contract with Biffa has made a good start. He also reported three made Neighbourhood Plans in the District, also that a government grant has been secured to put in a new road to enable the Blackfriars estate at Marley Lane.
- c) Nothing to add to last month's report except that tickets for the ETSR grand summer draw are now on sale.
- d) Mr Dan Lach, having notified the meeting in advance of his wish to make a detailed presentation on the noise pollution and associated Planning issues emanating from the Nortrade building, was asked to take the floor. Noise from the external refrigeration units had been affecting residents living in a wide circle around the site for some months, some residents had been keeping 'noise' diaries which had been forwarded to the Environment Officers and a Notice to desist from this nuisance within 90 days has been issued. To achieve this end – and following the intervention of the District Councillor to secure an update – Nortrade has had to apply for retrospective planning permission, not just for the installation of the refrigeration units which were not part of the original permission but also for constructing a building around them to correct the noise nuisance. Thanking Council for being allowed to speak, Mr Lach expressed real concern that the course of action being taken by RDC could set a dangerous precedent across a number of issues of particular impact in rural areas.

Encroaching vegetation including brambles are again reported along the public pathway between Burgh Hill and the Station. Similar problems were also being experienced surrounding the Lower Orchard site and the overgrown and untidy state of the site in general was discussed. It was noted and thanks made via Cllr Barrow for the hedge cutting along the Lower Orchard/High Street boundary undertaken f.o.c. as contact with the landowner to fulfil his responsibilities cannot be made at this time.

- e) No members of council will be excluded from the meeting so no further reports or comments.



1970. Parish Matters:

a) Village Amenities:

- i) Minor amendments to the Draft Lease for the Old Etchingam Stores, first floor, have been raised by the tenant. Advice is being taken from EPC's solicitor. It is anticipated that some of the amendments, if acceptable, will also be inserted into the lease for the ground floor.
- ii) Immediate action had to be taken to fell a dangerous oak in Burgh Woods as it was threatening safety in Fysie Lane. It was **RESOLVED retrospectively that this action was appropriate**. Additional feedback from the LANTRA inspection shows that a great deal of work and a proper maintenance schedule going forward will be required.
Regarding the oak adjacent to No 1 The Orchard, District Cllr Kirby-Green formally agreed to speak with the Tree Officer at RDC to Call-In the issue and to ask that a deferral of the decision on whether this tree should be felled until after the full report and recommendation of the LANTRA inspection was available to the Parish Council so it could submit its own application for work on this TPO could be made.
- iii) There were no other matters to consider.

b) Children and Young People:

- i) There was nothing to report on the school or other subject not already on the agenda.
- ii) The full report on ERGT fundraising, having been circulated prior to the meeting was taken as read and approved. The full report is on file.
- iii) It was **Resolved to form a Working Party to move the Playgrounds project forward**.
Cllr Doug Lambert will lead, Cllrs Mary Barnes, Roma Turner and Colin Boylett to join him.
Sue Westbrook, a local resident with experience in applying for grants and fund raising in general, will be invited to join the team as a valuable asset to the skills base.
- iv) There were no other matters to consider.

c) Highways, Footpaths and Community Safety:

- i) a) Cllr Boylett undertook to raise the issue of dangerous parking in Church Lane with the police.
b) The independent Engineering Report has been commissioned.
- ii) Cllr Boylett's full Speedwatch report, having been previously circulated, was taken as read and approved. It was noted with thanks that the average percentages of speeding incidents are still falling. The full Report is on file.
- iii) Cllr Lambert undertook to deal with the overgrown footpath in the vicinity of Borders Lane.
- iv) It was noted that at the next meeting of RALC, its help would be sought in a campaign to stigmatise speeding in the same way that drink/drive is perceived. Initially as a local initiative it is hoped eventually this will become a nationwide movement. There were no other matters to consider.

d) Environment and Other issues:

- i) There were no issues to consider.

1971. Planning:

Cllr Mary Barnes reminded Council that she is a member of Rother District Council Planning Committee.

- a) There were no applications to consider.
- b) All possible support will be made to ensure that proper procedures, including representations to the MP, are undertaken and all eventualities explored before any irrevocable decision is taken on the closure of Broad Oak School.
The premise that the High Weald AONB should be an integral part of the new Core Strategy being prepared was welcomed.
There were no other planning matters to consider.

1972. Finance:

a) 1st Quarter Accounts – 1st April to 30th June 2019

The Bank Reconciliation for the above period was presented and approved. Presentation of the full accounts will be deferred until the next meeting as they were not ready in time for the July meeting.

b) **Authorisation of payments** – the Clerk presented to Council accounts for payment.

It was **RESOLVED that the following payments be approved and that the cheques together with copies of the relevant invoice be signed by two councillors to comply with Financial Regulations and best practice.**

Statement of Receipts & Payments for July 2019

Receipts			
K Campbell	1 month rent due 01/06/19 direct from Cali & Co		418.50
K Campbell	1 month rent due 01/07/19 direct from Cali & Co		418.50
Total Receipts			£837.00
Payments July		VAT	PAID
Paulette Barton	Reimbursement for replacement china etc for ETSR	100.36	602.18
P Barton	Salary & expenses - July 2019	23.22	1,244.19
HM Revenue & Customs	Q1 PAYE		905.01
PCC Etchingam Church	£137 grant to assist cost of felling tree		100.00
Friendship Club	Replacement for missing cheque of 18/4/19		100.00
Frances Carne Assoc	20 x Pick Up Stickers	2.37	14.20
Crane Designs Ltd	NP Mthly charge for hosting site DD 4/7/19	2.50	15.00
Crane Designs Ltd	EPC Mthly charge for hosting site DD 10/7/19	2.50	15.00
Focus Group	DD 24/07/19 Office Phone to 28/06/2019	3.48	20.87
Co-Op Bank	Auto Charge Fee Sweep D/D 05/07/2019		30.00
Total Payments			£3,046.45

1973. Etchingam Proposed Cricket Field Development:

As the anticipated granting of permission for works to the Cricket Field has yet to be received any decisions regarding the formation of Working Parties will be deferred until the next meeting.

1974. Etchingam Neighbourhood Plan

It was reported that following advice from RDC's NP Consultant re-drafting of the Reg 14 Consultation documents is underway.

1975. Public Realm Working Party

There was nothing to report.

1976. Etchingam School and Community Development

Cllr. J Barnes declared a personal interest as Chairman of ETSR.

Cllr. M Barnes declared a personal interest as a member of the Parochial Church Council.

Cllr John Barnes reported that although the Lease has now been signed, registration required by the Diocese remains to be done.

1977. To receive Reports from Members and Representatives and pass such resolutions as may be necessary:-

- a) There had been no meetings of SALC so there was no report.
- b) Cllr John Barnes reported that the recent RALC meeting had majored on speeding (as minuted at 1970 iv c above). Cllr John Barnes was elected to be one of the RALC representatives on ESALC.
Cllr Doug Lambert will be the second EPC representative on RALC.
- c) There were no other meetings or conferences attended.

1978. Correspondence

As all correspondence had been distributed by e-mail upon receipt there were no further items to discuss.

1979. Etchingam Parish Council – Notification to members of Council decisions:

There were no notifications.

1980. Agenda items for the next meeting

As noted through the above minutes and, when space/time allows routine review and resolution of necessary updates to Council Policies including the communications process of EPC to residents.

Signed..........

Date.....*5.1X.2019*.....