

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of **ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**, which was held on the 15th January 2024 in the Memorial Hall, Ellisfield at 7.00pm

ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME	ATTENDANCE	APOLOGIES	ABSENT
Cllr Haas	✓		
Cllr Rule	✓		
Cllr Guinness	✓		
Cllr Dunse	✓		
Cllr Swanston	✓		
Cllr Alexander	✓		

Also in attendance: Karen Ross, Locum Clerk. There were 7 members of public present.

240101 To open the meeting to members of the public.

Items raised

- Issues with College Lane and large vehicles damaging the verges
- The extreme Flooding that took place 4th January 2024

It was noted that the Lengthsman had carried out work to the ditches which held out reasonably however, additional work would need to be considered.

240102 To receive and accept apologies for absence.

NOTED apologies for absence County Councillor Juliet Henderson and Borough Councillor Diane Taylor.

240103 To receive and note any declarations of pecuniary interest relevant to the agenda.

RECEIVED_no declarations of pecuniary interest relevant to the agenda.

240104 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Ellisfield Parish Council meeting held on 15th November 2023.

APPROVED with the following amendments.
Item 231110 the Biodiversity Policy was rejected.
Appendix D should state For Consideration.

240105 To receive any reports. County Councillor Henderson Andy Jones PCSO

ATTACHED Reports as Appendix A.

- 240106** To approve the requests for Payments for December 2023 and January 2024.
APPROVED the requests for Payments for December 2023 and January 2024. Attached as Appendix B.
- 240107** To note the current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance.
NOTED the current financial situation and the reconciliation of the bank balance. Attached as Appendix C.
- 240108** To approve the Budget for financial year 2024/2025.
APPROVED the budget for financial year 2024/2025 as detailed in Appendix D.
- 240109** To approve the Precept for financial year 2024/2025.
APPROVED as £6,073.
- 240110** To approve the Asset Register.
APPROVED the Asset Register.
- 240111** To approve the Biodiversity Policy.
NOTED the update from Cllr Guinness. She will keep the Council apprised of the progress of the policy.
- 240112** To approve the financial risk assessment.
DEFERRED the financial risk assessment.
- 240113** To approve a publication scheme.
DEFERRED a publication scheme.
- 240114** To approve the Chainsaw risk assessment.
APPROVED the Chainsaw risk assessment.
- 240115** To note the Playground Inspection findings and consider any recommendations therein.
NOTED the Playground Inspection findings.
- 240116** To note the date of the Cosmic Roots festival in September 2024
NOTED the date of the Cosmic Roots festival as 6th–9th September 2024.
- 240117** To consider Councillors roles and responsibilities.
DEFERRED for discussion at the next meeting in March.

- 240118 **To consider the format of the Annual Parish Meeting.**
AGREED for reports to be submitted in writing with a 2-minute presentation slot at the event.
- 240119 **To consider the Lengthsman Scheme.**
The timetable of works will be reviewed and discussed with the Lengthsman.
- 240120 **To note the Local Plan update.**
NOTED the Local Plan update.
- 240121 **To consider projects for S106 funding.**
APPROVED to request Flood defences.
- 240122 **To consider planning applications received since the last meeting.**
240122.1 **T/00576/23/TCA Coopers Farmhouse Bell Lane Ellisfield**
Fell 1 Leylandii
NO OBJECTION
- 240122.2 **23/03120/FUL | Demolition of three dwellings, outbuildings and related structures and construction of storage and distribution units (use class B8) with ancillary offices and gatehouses, associated infrastructure works (including parking and landscaping), and full details of site levels, access, drainage, tree retention and diversion of underground pipeline. (Phased and delivered across separate and self-contained plots) | Land at Oakdown Farm Winchester Road Dummer Basingstoke Hampshire RG23 7LR**
OBJECTION
- 240123 **To confirm the date of the next meeting as 11th March 2024.**
APPROVED as 11th March 2024.

Appendix A

Hampshire County Councillor report

January 2024

1. Household DIY waste charges ended.

From 1 January 2024, residents using Hampshire County Council Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) will no longer be charged for disposing of their DIY waste – in line with the Government policy changes. Up to two 50-litre rubble bags, or one bulky item such as a sink or toilet pedestal, will be accepted for free, at a maximum frequency of four visits over four weeks. Anything more than this amount will be chargeable at current rates, as permitted by national legislation, to cover specialist disposal costs. DIY waste can be accepted at all HWRCs in Hampshire except New Alresford due to its restricted size. Customers must also be able to lift, carry and empty out their DIY waste.

The Council estimates that the removal of the charges could impose an additional cost to Hampshire council taxpayers of up to £2 million every year. This is because recycling or disposal of DIY waste, such as soil, rubble, asbestos and gypsum board, requires specialist processing and the fees we currently charge help to cover these expenses. This will need to be taken into account as part of the Council's savings proposals to help meet a £132 million budget shortfall faced by the local authority from April 2025. This will include a review of Hampshire's HWRCs.

2. Schools

Parents with children due to start school or move to a junior school in September 2024 are reminded that they have until Monday 15 January 2024 to submit their primary school applications. Parents will have the best chance of being offered a place at one of their preferred schools by applying on time and naming three preferences on their applications.

A recent survey across secondary schools and colleges in Hampshire shows a large increase in the percentage of young people both experimenting with, and using vapes. The survey shows that experimentation with vapes increases from 4% in year 7 to 53% in year 13. Similarly, vape use increases from 7% in year 10, to 18% in year 13. The Council is therefore continuing its clampdown on shops selling vapes illegally to underage buyers. Test purchase operations took place in December 2023, with visits to 17 different premises with teenage volunteers helping officers by going into the businesses to attempt to buy a vape, also known as an e-cigarette. Since September 2023, Trading Standards has prevented the sale of over £200,000 of illegal vapes and e-cigarettes by removing them from shops across Hampshire.

3. Fire and Rescue Authority Mid-Year Update

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service has published its mid-year update on their annual performance. This provides useful (and positive) insights as to the activities of the service and is well worth a look. The update can be seen at <https://www.hantsfire.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/HIWFRS-2023-24-Mid-Year-Performance-Update-Report.pdf>.

4. Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan consultation

The consultation on the updated plan is expected to start during the week beginning 8 January 2024 and to last for eight weeks. Details can be found at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/minerals-waste-update>.

5. Climate change and nature recovery

The Council has published its Climate Change Annual Progress Report which highlights the progress of council backed community initiatives and its own efforts to tackle climate change. One example is the Solar Together scheme – over the past two years, 2,100 households have purchased competitively priced solar panels, resulting in the installation of 7,400kw of rooftop solar power, which has the capacity to save an estimated 46,000 tonnes of carbon emissions.

Separately, the Council is launching a survey asking residents where they would like to see improvements for nature recovery, their views on nature priorities and what action they may be taking locally to help nature in their area. Gathering this information is an important first step in the development of a Local Nature Recovery Strategy which aims to ensure Hampshire's natural environment is protected for today's and future generations. That strategy is intended to create a blueprint for the recovery of nature in Hampshire – outlining what we can do, where the opportunities for doing it are, and considering how it can be delivered alongside wider positive environmental outcomes for people and nature, such as reduced flood risk. It will provide organisations with a framework for developing nature recovery projects and help prioritise funding and investment in Hampshire's nature's recovery.

6. Roads

A final report for your perusal, this time the County Council's Highways Service Annual Review for 2022/23 which offers useful insights into the Highways team's activity over what has been an exceptionally busy and challenging period. You can access the review via the link. You will notice the continuing intensive focus on fixing potholes and other road defects following confirmation of the 3-year Stronger Roads Today campaign in July. This has enabled the deployment of significantly more repair teams and specialist equipment with the primary aim of making our roads better, fixing defects more quickly, and addressing the widespread deterioration from last winter's wet and freezing weather. You can find out more about the Stronger Roads Today programme here.

7. Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all residents

Ellisfield Parish Meeting 15th Jan 24

17th Nov 23

Suspicious incident

Rapid Incident created from Dashboard for CW119 - POACHING IN ELLISFIELD Vehicle seen on the lane near to the farm near SCRATCHFACE LANE- believe poaching pheasants in the nearby woodland. Strong search lights seen coming from the vehicle. Multiple units attended and a silver RAV 4 stopped in the vicinity, the occupants checked through the Police National Computer and known for burglary and theft. Search conducted of the vehicle and occupants within, nothing found and no further Police action.

9th Dec 23

Theft / criminal Damage

Poaching incident reported which has resulted in £275 worth of theft and damage to crops as a result of them being driven over. No information provided to the Police which enables any follow up enquiries.

10th December 23

Criminal damage

Tracks have been noticed in a nearby field of crops which show 3 vehicles had been driven around and in the process partridges had been run over as a result.

This incident happened between unknown times and alas there is no evidence in order to progress this report.

12th Dec 23

ASB

Numerous reports were made to the Police in relation to deceased Hares being hung over road signs in Ellisfield and other locations nearby.

This report predominantly comprises of Poaching / coursing offences in the area. This hasn't gone unrecognised by the Hampshire Constabulary and already a significant increase in visibility has occurred. In the coming weeks operations will be taking place and working with cross boarder authorities.

On the 12th Jan 24 a meeting was held in Chilton Candover were a large turnout of gamekeepers and farming community attended to raise concerns and ask questions what Hampshire Police were doing as a result of the increase in crime involving wildlife type offences etc.

Appendix B Payments

December 2023

From	Item	Invoice Number	Payment Method	Amount
Staff	Salary	December	Bank transfer	494.00
Sovereign	Garage Rental	December	Standing Order	52.52
Staff	Expenses-Mileage	December	Bank transfer	6.75
Andy Webb	EVG Expenses	December	Bank transfer	6.70
Total				£559.97

January 2024

From	Item	Invoice Number	Payment Method	Amount
Staff	Salary	January	Bank transfer	£883.14
Sovereign	Garage Rental	January	Standing Order	£52.52
Cllr Rule	Expenses	January	Bank transfer	£70.00
Memorial Hall	Hall Hire July-Nov 23	January	Bank transfer	£112.50
Total				£1,118.16

Appendix C Financial Report

Monthly sheet November 2023			
		Balance Bought Forward	20,405.66
			20,405.66
TRF	Allotment Account	Rent	12.00
FPO	Memorial Hall	Room Hire	139.50
FPO	HALC	Training	57.60
FPO	Hannah Ford	Salary	494.00
FPO	Seamus Foster	Expenses	8.95
FPO	SLCC	Membership	112.00
FPO	Tree of Life	Tree works- Hill Farm Pond	895.00
DD	Sovereign Housing	Gargae rental	52.52
			1,771.57
		Balance as at 30th November 2023	18,634.09
	Lloyds Bank		8,109.10
	NS&I		10,524.99
			18,634.09

Monthly sheet December 2023			
		Balance Bought Forward	18,634.09
		Lengthsman Grant	1,000.00
			19,634.09
DD	ICO	ICO renewal	35.00
FPO	Andy Webb	Expenses	6.70
FPO	Hannah Ford	Salary	494.00
FPO	Hannah Ford	Expenses	6.75
DD	Sovereign Housing	Garage rental	52.52
			594.97
		Balance as at 31st December 2023	19,039.12
	Lloyds Bank		8,514.13
	NS&I		10,524.99
			19,039.12

Appendix D Budget

Expense	FY 2022/2023 Actuals	FY 2022/2023 Budget	Differentials	Actual Spend 2023/2024 to date	Predicted Spend to year end 2023/24	Budget	Funding Sources		
						Budget 2024- 2025	Precept	Reserves	Donations/Grants given to Parish Council
FIXED/RUNNING COSTS									
Net Salaries and Allowances	2,947	2,500	447	3,503	4,446	5,995	5,609	166	220
Pension/Maternity cover	0	0	0	0	1,600	0			
Clerks Expenses	11	0	11	41	60	60	60		
Chairmans Allowance	50	50	0		50	50	50		
Hall Hire	193	128	65		279	300	253		47
Audit Commission (Audit Fees)	160	170	-10	190	190	200			200
Insurance	391	300	91	449	450	480			480
Subscriptions	284	250	34	204	250	250			250
Playground Inspection	250	350	-100		350	350			350
Grants and Donations	0	500	-500			576			576
EVG			0	1,007	1,007	500			500
Repairs and Maintenance	0	4,200	-4,200	1,629	2,100	1,400			1,400
Playground Equipment	1,944	2,000	-56			0			
Communications		250	-250	60	120	120	101		19
Garage Rental	400	572	-172	295	635	650			650
Section 137 Payment	0		0			600			600
Training	0	500	-500	58		250			250
IT & Admin Costs	164	300	-136	450	450	450		450	
Lengthsman			0	2,450	2,450	1,950		445	1,505
SUB-TOTAL	6,794	12,070	-5,276	10,336	14,437	14,181	6,073	1,081	7,047
PROJECT COSTS			0						
SID			0						
Lower Common Playground			0			450		450	
Village Signs			0			2,250		2,250	
History of Ellisfield			0			1,000		1,000	
			0						
			0						
SUB-TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	3,700	0	3,700	0
TOTAL	6,794	12,070	-5,276	10,336	14,437	17,881	6,073	4,781	7,047
TARGET (Last year precept + 10%)			-				6,073		7,047

INCOME BUDGET 2024-2025

Ellisfield Parish Council

RECEIPTS	FY 2022/2023 Actuals YTD	FY 2022/2023 Budget	FY 2022/2023 Variance	FY 2023/2024	FY 2024-2025 plus 10%
PRECEPT					
Precept	5,521	5,521	0	5,521	6,073
GRANTS AND DONATIONS					
Grants	1,958		-1,958	1,958	1,547
Lengthsman Grant	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
EVG Transfer			0	2,271	0
Other Income (Burial Ground etc)			0	1,771	500
Bank Interest	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total (exc Precept)	1,958	0	-1,958	7,000	3,047
OTHER POTENTIAL GRANTS AND DONATIONS					
Amber Solar					4,000
Total Potential Budget Income					7,047

RESERVES		
2023-2024		£
* Savings and Current as at November 2023		
Current Account		8,514
NS&I		10,525
Sub-Total - Savings		19,039
Expected spend to end 23/24		-4,101
Sub-Total - Expected closing balance at end 2023/24		14,938
2024-2025		
* Income		
Grants and Donations for 2024/25		7,047
Precept		6,073
Sub-Total - Expected balance in 2024/25		28,058
* Fixed Cost Expenditure		
Fixed/Running costs in 2024/25		-14,181
Sub-Total - Available Reserves before EMR		13,877
* Earmarked Reserves (EMR) for Projects		
SID		0
Playground		450
Signs		2,250
History of Ellisfield		1,000
Sub Total - EMR for 24/25		3,700
Total - Available Reserves for 24/25 after EMR allocation		10,177
Assumptions:		
EMR allocations are ringfenced but potentially available in an emergency		
With precept increasing by 10%, there is still a depletion of the reserves of £2905.		