

**MINUTES of the MEETING of ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held via video link on MONDAY 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.00pm**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors: Mike Brown (Chair), Keith Venables, Ian Venables, Fran Christensen, Rex Jones Tracey Willetts and one member of the public.

In attendance: Clerk Nerine Chalmers

**21/01 Apologies**

To receive and accept apologies for absence  
 No apologies

**21/02 Interests**

To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda  
 No declarations received

**21/03 Minutes**

To confirm the Minutes of Essendon Parish Council held on 14 December 2020 as an accurate record of proceedings  
 Resolved that these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity. Unanimously agreed.

**21/04 Matters arising**

No matters arising

**21/05 Public Issues**

Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern

- a) A resident raised his concern over littering around the village, particularly along West End Lane and Cucumber Lane. He suggested asking Essendon School whether there could be a poster competition with pupils designing posters to discourage littering. The winning designs would then be professionally printed onto billboards for display in locations determined by the Parish Council. Councillors supported the idea, and suggested that he wrote to the headmaster, requesting that at a convenient time, this might be instigated. The council expressed willingness to consider financial backing. Clerk to write to the headmaster indicating council's support.

**21/06 To receive updates on:**

- a) Area outside the entrance to the Spinney development, and blocked drain  
 Case Reference: 401001679413 – response was that it was noted for future reference  
 Clerk to contact Highways again, as the problem has not been resolved.
- b) Poor quality roadworks at the bottom of Essendon Hill.  
 This has been repaired by Ringway.
- c) Blocked tunnel under the road at the bottom of Cum Cum hill  
 Case Reference: 401001656330  
 This will be monitored after the next spell of wet weather.

**21/07 Planning**

- a) Notification received and considered for planning applications between 7 December 2020 and 4 January 2021

**Application Reference:** 6/2020/3353/HOUSE

**Proposed development at:** Dimsdale House Essendon Place High Road Essendon Hatfield AL9 6GZ

**Proposal:** Erection of a new porch/boot room located in the NE end elevation

Resolved that this plan will not affect others in the village, and consequently is a matter between the planners and the owners. Council does not intend to object, but individuals may do so.

## 21/08 Finance

- a) To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget  
Unanimously agreed
- b) To revisit moving EPC accounts from Barclays Bank to Unity Trust Bank.  
With the issue of statements having been resolved, a unanimous decision was taken to stay with Barclays for the next three months, and to monitor their services. Clerk is to inquire whether Barclays will offer online banking on the EPC accounts.
- c) Precept demand  
The precept demand, representing a 25% increase has been submitted.
- d) A grant of £1000 has been awarded from County Councillor Stephen Boulton's Locality Budget Scheme to go towards repairing the roof of the Village Hall.  
The secretary of the Hall committee has been informed. The money will remain in the EPC account until it is required to pay for the repairs to the roof.

## 21/09 Correspondence

- a) Notification from Highways England of an upcoming improvement scheme taking place on the M25 junction 25. The enabling works will start from January, which will not impact the travelling public as these works will be off network. The main construction works will begin in February and this will see reduced speed limits and traffic management in place, which will likely cause delay to journey times.  
Noted
- b) Notification from Hertfordshire County Council that crushed concrete resurfacing on Cole Green Way with associated drainage improvements, in two sections between the A414 and East End Green and between Hertford viaduct and Hertford Town Football Club, will now start on 11th January 2021 and will take around five weeks. The work will be undertaken without closing the route, but users should be aware of the risk of short temporary closures and take great care when passing through the working area. Sealed surfacing, again with associated drainage improvements, between Hertingfordbury and Hertford viaduct, is likely to start in February or March 2021. This section will be closed for four to six weeks while the work is carried out, and dates will be advertised when confirmed.  
Noted
- c) Letter from a resident requesting easier access on the website to the zoom link for meetings, and with concerns over fly-tipping.  
Access to the zoom link has been improved.  
Issue of littering was discussed, and is reported at minute 21/05

## 21/10 Next Essendon Parish Council Meetings:

8 February 2021

8 March 2021

The meeting closed at 19:55

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