

MINUTES of the MEETING of ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD in the Village Hall on MONDAY 7th January 2019 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Mike Brown (Chair), Ian Venables, Rex Jones. Clerk Dee Daniell and six members of public

- 1 Apologies of absence have been received from Councillors Ian Screech, Keith Venables and Fran Christensen.
The Chair read an email from Councillor Ian Screech to inform the Parish Council of his decision to retire from his position as Councillor with immediate effect and to allow the Parish Council to co-opt a new member prior to the May elections.
The Chair expressed sincere thanks for Ian's hard work for the Parish Council for the past twelve years, seven of which he acted as Chairman of the Council.
- 2 No declarations of personal or financial interest in the Agenda.
- 3 Minutes of Meeting of Essendon Parish Council held on 19th November 2018 were approved and duly signed.
- 4 **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - a. **LED LIGHTING**
Since the engineers at County have no intention of improving the level of LED lighting in the village and intent on putting cost over people's safety, unless there is an accident or any other development, it was decided to put this issue aside.
 - b. **DEFIBRILLATOR**
The defibrillator has been installed by Essendon Village Hall Committee, is working and fully active and on site at the village hall for people to use. Regarding the funding for the defibrillator, Councillor Stephen Boulton has offered £500 towards the cost from the Locality Budget. However, this is now unnecessary since the cost to Essendon Village Hall has been fully met by Nigel Brunt as "a Christmas present from Warrenwood to the village of Essendon". Therefore, Essendon Village Hall Committee will not now be asking for any funding from Essendon Parish Council. The Councillors suggested the clerk email Councillor Stephen Boulton with this information and a request that he perhaps fund another project in the village, particularly the installation of a permanent flagpole at the war memorial. This would be in addition to the £1,000 from the Locality Budget he had agreed towards the purchase of the village hall curtains.
 - c. **VILLAGE HALL CURTAINS**
Councillor Rex Jones stated the estimated cost for the replacement of the village hall curtains is £3,531.38p including fixtures and fitting. Together with the Locality Budget grant from Councillor Stephen Boulton, the Village Hall Committee now has £3,500 towards the installation and the Committee would request approximately £32 to complete the necessary fund. It was decided that the Parish Council would make the purchase in order that VAT might be reclaimed and Rupert Priestnall, Treasure of the Village Hall Committee would initiate payment to the Parish Council.
 - d. **TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS ESSENDON SCHOOL**
Charlotte Tudway, Head of Essendon School has emailed MB and IV to reassure the residents of Essendon that no remedial work on the trees in the school grounds would be taken unless necessary. A tree survey has been carried out and there is one dead tree and two badly diseased trees. Jane Oram was invited to speak to the Councillors who confirmed that all trees in the parish had Tree Preservation Orders apart from those in the school grounds. It was agreed that Jane Oram would follow this matter up.
 - e. **WAR MEMORIAL UPDATE**
The bell bollard had now been fully cemented in at no extra cost. However, upon close examination the paint had been scratched off by the UNO bus and now

requires repainting. Since UNO bus company offered to pay for the damage the Chair will now follow this up with a request for £100 for the cost of the paint. It was also suggested the War Memorial might be out of plumb and Councillor Ian Venables will visit the memorial to ascertain whether this was fact.

5 ANY MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

- a) Jane Oram confirmed there was a problem 20 years ago to get insurance cover for the war memorial as it is built over a well. The parish clerk, John Spragg, had managed to overcome this issue and insurance is now in place.
- b) The matter of the recent Parking survey – Essendon was discussed. It was generally felt that no further yellow lines were required to be painted. Since the village has no public railway station or shops, residents parking permits were unnecessary. There was some discussion about the grassed areas near parking bays that could be converted to extra parking spaces.
- c) New residents at 31 Rectory Close asked if the parish council could assist them in their parking problem. The road at this point is very narrow and already these residents have had four wing mirrors broken by passing traffic. This property is social housing and approximately two years ago WHBC offered all council tenants in Essendon the opportunity to have their front garden converted to parking spaces. The tenant at that time refused the offer and WHBC will not now offer the service to the new residents. It was suggested the tenants contact our local councillors and were informed of the existence of the Saturday monthly surgery on the first Saturday of the month.
- d) The planning application 6/2018/2149/OUTLINE for a covered manege at Warrenwood Manor was raised by concerned residents and particularly why the parish council had not made any comment on the application. The Chair and Councillor Rex Jones attempted to comment on the situation but were shouted down, after which the said residents left the building.

6 FINANCE

Budget for 2019/2020 distributed. The clerk produced the request for precept application and it was decided to apply for £18,000 since it was intended to use some of this money again to add to the reserve fund that has been set up for the village hall.

It was explained the annual subscription for the Wix website was increasing and the domain host fee could not be paid by cheque and the clerk pays these fees from her own account since the parish council does not do on line banking. A cheque payment for these are applied for as and when necessary by the clerk.

Cheques were signed for the following expenditure:

Replacement keys for filing cabinets (R. Jones)	£21.85
Christmas tree event expenses (I. Venables)	£271.29

TOTAL	£293.14
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7 PLANNING MATTERS

6/2018/2752/HOUSE – Little House, West End Lane erection of two storey side extension following demolition of storage unit and alterations to openings with porch – REFUSED – The Chair explained this was refused on the grounds of overdevelopment of the green belt and impact on a conservation area as there was no heritage statement.

6/2018/2149/OUTLINE – Warrenwood Manor (Equestrian area) erection of single storey equestrian building to form covered manege and riding area with landscaping details reserved – REFUSED

6/2018/2815/VAR – West End Farm, West End Lane variation of condition 1 (Basement subterranean light wells) on planning permission 6/2016/0890/FULL – APPROVED

APPLICATION 6/2018/1997/LAWP – 53 High Road, Essendon Certificate of Lawfulness for the formation of vehicular access to cross the pavement of an existing dropped kerb – For information only – no comments can be made.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

a) Buckingham Palace Garden Party Draw for invitation to Chair and guest. The application had been forwarded to the Chairman and this will be duly completed in time for the 18th January deadline.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Direction sign down near Essendon Country Club before Cumcum Hill. The clerk will report this on the fault reporting site.

b) SID

No developments on cutting back overhanging vegetation. It was suggested that the clerk email Mark Goodyear to again request this cutting back of the branches whilst there is no foliage on the trees. It was agreed that there appears to have been a positive effect on the speed of cars approaching the SID but once foliage appears on the trees the SID will again be obscured.

c) The Chair requested a closed meeting of parish councillors to discuss the co-option of a new Councillor to replace Ian Screech and to discuss the replacement of the clerk.

d) The Chair requested the Clerk contact HAPTC regarding procedures when dealing with public disturbances at meetings.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:

2019: 11th March; 8th April (Annual Parish Meeting);
13th May (Annual Meeting), 17th June

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 11th February 2019 at 7pm

This meeting was closed at 8.09pm