

MINUTES of the MEETING of ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Essendon Village Hall on Monday 13 December 2021 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Mike Brown (Chair), Keith Venables, Ian Venables, Tracey Willetts and Rex Jones
 In attendance: Clerk Nerine Chalmers and 1 member of the public

21/93 Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence
 Apology received and accepted from Fran Christensen

21/94 Interests

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

21/95 Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of Essendon Parish Council held on 8 November 2021 as an accurate record of proceedings
 Resolved that these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman

21/96 Matters arising

No matters arising

21/97 Public Issues

Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern

- a) A member of the public raised the on-going issue of parking in the village. The clerk is to raise with the WHBC Parking Services team the issue of vehicles parked on grass verges, and on pavements, as well as cones being used to secure a parking place which is vacant.
- b) The tree which was planted by the council on the corner of Rectory Close has been destroyed. Clerk to contact HCC to request a replacement

21/98 To receive updates on:

- a) The damaged dog fouling notice which was reported on 9 July is still open on the WHBC website. Informed that this will be included in inclusion in planned, budget limited work programmes. Ref number 401002108415 Noted
- b) 21/26 a) Entrance to Spinney Development Ref number 401001679413.
 21/26 c) Drains on West End Lane
 Clerk to contact Ringway again as the entrance to the Spinney Development is now impassable for pedestrians
- c) The new Speed Indicator Device has been installed. It was noted that the adjacent trees will need to be trimmed once they are in full leaf.
- d) Fencing between the playground and golf course – IV will endeavour to have 2 quotes by the next meeting, with the intention of having the fence repaired before the spring

21/99 Planning

- a) Update on notifications received and considered for planning applications between 8 November and 13 December 2021
- b) The Spinney 6/2021/3158/HOUSE - single storey extension above garage

The council unanimously objected to this application and will submit its objection to the Planning Department of WHBC

- c) 53 High Road 6/2021/2816/HOUSE - Dropped kerb

The council unanimously objected to this application and will submit its objection to the Planning Department of WHBC

- d) Land between The Manor House and Whitehall Field 6/2021/3290/FULL - 4 new dwellings

The council supports this application, with the proviso that high quality material is used throughout the construction.

- e) 6/2021/3179/HOUSE - Lower West End Farm West End Lane Essendon Hatfield AL9 6AZ Replacement of existing conservatory with new orangery. Any objections to be directed to MB within 7 days. Should this be the case a planning meeting will be convened.

21/100 Finance

- a) Payments made to Moody Grounds Maintenance, TSO Host (Web hosting) and the clerk. All payments unanimously approved, as were payments to HCC for the Speed Identification Device and to IV for costs of the Christmas Tree Lighting event.
- b) Transition from Barclays to Unity Bank completed. Noted
- c) Investment of funds for the Hall Replacement Fund – a meeting will be arranged with an adviser from CCLA in the New Year to discuss this investment. Clerk will present the EPC Investment Strategy at the next meeting.
- d) Note that on 14 July 2021 (minute 21/58 d) Council agreed that repayment of the loan of £5,000 to the Hall Management committee for payment to OT Construction Ltd should be deferred for a period of one year.
- e) Consideration of budget for 2022_23, and precept demand. The budget and precept demand were unanimously approved. Proposed by IV, seconded by TW.

21/101 Correspondence

- a) Email from Cllr. Stephen Boulton:
- white gateway features at either end of the village will be replaced by HCC. The works are programmed in but may take a while
 - Cllr Boulton is going to have a traffic level survey carried out on the main road to see if a pedestrian crossing could be provided
 - Cllr Boulton offered the village a defibrillator, if it did not already have one. However this will not be necessary
- b) Fireworks at Essendon Country Club - there is a Fireworks email group that any resident can be on. The contact is Demi, the head receptionist on reception1@essendoncc.com In addition information will be shared on the Essendon WhatsApp group. Noted
- c) Thank you to all the Parish Council for their generosity regarding the Remembrance Day wreath. Acknowledged with thanks.
- d) Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council are in the process of developing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the Welwyn Hatfield area. In the coming months, the key routes that come out of the current workshops will be audited on-site to assess their suitability for walking and cycling. Noted
- e) An integrated passenger transport network forming a sustainable transport network across Hertfordshire and connecting into west Essex is being considered. (Hertfordshire to Essex Rapid Transit - HERT). More detail is available on the website. Noted

- f) Electricity supplier for the War Memorial Lighting is changing from E.On to Power Business Solutions (nBS) Noted

AOB

- a) Councillors expressed their appreciation of the successful Christmas Tree Lighting event and thanked IV and Belinda and her team.
- b) Reminder that at the September meeting (Minute 21/69g), it was agreed that the Council would pay the hall rent for Essendon Connect gatherings. RJ will propose that the rate should be £7.50 per hour. Further, once the current funding has been depleted, the council unanimously agreed to pay £25 per month for refreshments. All invoices to be sent directly to the clerk.

21/102 Next Essendon Parish Council Meetings:

In view of current COVID restrictions it was agreed that the main hall should be booked for at least the January and February meetings, but since the hall is in use on a Monday evening, these meetings will be moved to Tuesdays.

January 11, 2022

February 15, 2022

The meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.