

DRAFT MINUTES

MINUTES of the MEETING of ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL HELD in the Village Hall on MONDAY 19th November 2018 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors:

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

- 1 Apologies of absence have been received from Councillors Ian Venables, Ian Screech, Stephen and Jonathan Boulton.
- 2 No declarations of personal or financial interest in the Agenda.
- 3 Minutes of Meeting of Essendon Parish Council held on 15th October 2018 were approved and duly signed.
- 4 **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - a. **LED LIGHTING**

Since no Councillors could attend the Highways Liaison Meeting, Councillor Mike Brown raised the concerns of the level of LED lighting in writing and was met with the same response as previously intimated that lighting in the village meets British standards. Regarding the lamps on the High Road, it is intended to replace these with an LED equivalent.
 - b. **ALLOTMENTS**

A meeting of allotment holders was held on 4th November when all rubbish was cleared, the communal shed was cleared, dismantled and a bonfire was burned. New allotment holders attended with their children and tea, buns and toasted marshmallows was served.
 - c. **SID**

No developments on cutting back overhanging vegetation.
 - d. **LOCAL PLAN**

Jane Oram attended the Hearing Sessions and reported to the Council that from a village point of view Essendon was presented in four parcels of high or low value and the parcelling up needs a full reality check. More hearings planned for early December. East Herts Local Plan was adopted on 23rd October when full council approved it. This is the area to the east of the WHBC Local Plan although WHBC is some way behind adopting the Local Plan for this area.
 - e. **VILLAGE HALL CURTAINS**

Rupert Priestnall, Treasurer of the Village Hall, spoke to the council regarding the increase in lettings and thus increase in income from £6340 to £8973. £2,500 has been set aside towards the installation of new curtains and it would be most welcome if the parish council could match that fund in order to carry out the installation. The clerk announced she had managed to achieve confirmation of a grant from Councillor Stephen Boulton's Locality Budget of £1,000 towards this purchase and read the email confirmation that the Village Hall Committee can now officially apply for this grant. The Clerk agreed to pass the relevant information to Rex Jones (Councillor who sits on the Village Hall Committee) to action the official application. As only 3 Councillors were in attendance, the Councillor Brown stated it was not possible to make any decision regarding additional grant from parish council funds and this was added to the next agenda in January 2019.
 - f. **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS**

All in hand for Thursday 13th December at 7pm. This has been advertised in the parish magazine.
 - g. **WAR MEMORIAL BOLLARD**

The repair has been carried out and in time for Centenary Remembrance Sunday. Thanks were extended to Jane Oram, Derek and Evette for their work at preparing the War Memorial for the day. It was suggested a flag be erected as a permanent fixture. Councillor Keith Venables asked if the repair had been carried out at no

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charge and whether UNO bus company was contributing towards the repair of the damage as they had agreed to do.

5 ANY MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

- a) Jane Oram raised the matter of the School Woods area where it is planned to make a nature trail for the children. There was concern that the trees in that area are not covered by TPO (Tree Preservation Orders) unlike all other trees in the parish and are not protected. There had also been talk of a fire pit. Some trees had been marked two years ago – perhaps assessed as dangerous? Rupert Priestnall suggested Jo Priestnall (Essendon School Association) can investigate TPOs with WHBC.
- b) Colin Rees raised the matter of the defibrillator and Rupert Priestnall distributed a costing for the installation and training for a total cost of £1806.40 and £55.00 annual maintenance for which a grant from the parish council was requested. Colin Rees suggested some finance had been agreed from the Village Day Fete Committee and Jo Priestnall has organised a training day at the village hall on Sunday 2nd December 4-6pm for free CPR training and defibrillator familiarisation. Councillor Brown stated it was not possible to make any decision regarding additional grant from parish council funds and this was added to the next agenda in January 2019.

6 FINANCE

Budget for 2019/2020 distributed but no discussion until January meeting.

Cheques were signed for the following expenditure:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Clerk pay 11 wks 3/9-19/11/18 | £469.78 |
| HMRC Tax due on pay | £117.40 |
| Clerks & Council Magazine Subscription | £12.00 |
| Meeting Room Hire for Allotment Meeting | £5.00 |

TOTAL £604.18

7 PLANNING MATTERS

6/2018/2628/TPO St Mary's Church yard to fell one chestnut tree and reduce one cedar tree by 30%.

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

Regarding the potential planning application for installing new windows and erecting a range of eco pods at Essendon Country Club Councillor Brown suggested the parish council wait until the planning application has been received.

8 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Letter from Chancellors School 2020/2021 Admissions Consultation informing the parish council of the increased PAN from 180 to 210 is dependent upon planning approval for a new building.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Councillor Brown contacted HAPTC regarding May 2019 elections. Nothing too difficult to organise.
- b) Councillor Keith Venables confirmed the bags of gritting salt had arrived and were stored at the side of the village hall.

11 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:

2019: 7th January; 11th February; 11th March; 8th April (Annual Parish Meeting); 13th May (Annual Meeting)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 7th January 2019 at 7pm

This meeting was closed at 8.05pm