

MINUTES of the MEETING of ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL
HELD in the Village Hall on MONDAY 12th March 2018 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Mike Brown (Chair), Mike Brown, Keith Venables, Rex Jones, Clerk Dee Daniell and one member of the public

- 1 Apologies for absence received from Councillors Ian Screech, Ian Venables and Fran Christensen.
- 2 There were no declarations of personal interest in items on the agenda.
- 3 Minutes of the meeting of Monday 12th February 2018 were read, approved and duly signed.

The Chair expressed condolences from the Parish Council to our Chairman Ian Screech for the sad loss of his wife Ditty Screech.

4 MATTERS ARISING:

- a. **WAR MEMORIAL** – An email from Ringway to Ian Screech was read with a quote for siting the bollard of £540 + VAT. This covers two site operatives, 1 ton excavator and concrete foundation 800x800x600. The bollard should be purchased and delivered to their depot. This is less than half the original private estimate and it was agreed that Ian Screech action this as soon as practicable.
- b. **RUBBISH AND RECYCLING SKIP EVENT** – Email response from WHBC read “Unfortunately Waste Cage days have been put on hold for a while. If we decide to hold another cage day in your area we will keep you informed. Chair suggested a follow up reminder be sent at some point in the future.
- c. Clerk apologise for error in Agenda – no point c.
- d. **SUNSET VIEW** – Letter send to Grant Shapps and response from his aide Sarah Tallon was read “Grant is very sympathetic to the matter and has raised the question of affordability with the Minister of State for Housing, Dominic Raab, MP. Grant has asked for some advice and clarification with regard to what constitutes affordable housing more generally and whether the latest proposed arrangement for 4 Sunset View meets the criteria. A copy of the response will be shared with you once received.”
- e. **LED LIGHTS** – Further to the follow up email to Mark Goodyear at HCC Highways, the request to adjust the LED lighting was referred to Jonathan Watt at Ringway. The response was read “The policy is that LED replacement lighting is installed on a point for point basis designed to be no worse than before on the adopted highway.” This was statement was challenged and Mr Watt was invited to visit the village to inspect the lighting and to come to this evening’s meeting. His response was read “We will investigate further, the meeting is too soon to have completed that beyond what I have already advised. As soon as I have further information I will report back.” Again, the Chair suggested a follow up reminder be sent if we do not hear further.
- f. **ALLOTMENT GRASS CUTTING EQUIPMENT** – Councillor Rex Jones produced a pro forma document for the allotment holders health and safety training in the use of the new equipment once purchased. Councillor Jones was asked to consider taking responsibility for the allotments. He is also willing to take responsibility for the purchase of the equipment and safety training. He will discuss all of this further with Councillor Screech, who is currently responsible for the allotments. It was agreed to circulate a copy of the pro forma document to all Councillors for approval.
- g. **VILLAGE HALL RESEARCH** – This will be considered at the next meeting in the absence of Councillor Screech.
- h. **DOG FOULING** – Email response from WHBC Community & Environment Officer Carol Simpson read “I can confirm there are already signs up on many of the lamp posts around the village . . . if you notice any specific location where there isn’t a sign we can arrange for this to be installed”. The clerk responded to the effect that the signs are too small and too high on the lamp posts to be noticeable, to which WHBC replied “These

are standard signs . . . which have to be installed at a height whereby they would not cause a hazard. Unfortunately therefore we are not able to install larger signs or at different heights.”

- i. **FAULTS REPORTED** – Email response from HCC Highways regarding the damaged posts exiting the village towards Brookmans Park was read “We have assessed the issue . . . and it is considered safe.” It was suggested to bring the matter to the attention of Councillor Stephen Boulton.

5 ANY MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC.

- a. Chris Papalexandrakos reported the damaged chevron signage on the bend near the entrance to Essendon Country Club on the B158. The clerk agreed to report this as a fault.

6 FINANCE

Cheque was signed for the following expenditure.

Essendon Village Hall – Annual Grant £2,000.00

The matter of a pay scale point increase for the clerk was briefly discussed. It was agreed this should be discussed at the next meeting when all Councillors are present.

7 PLANNING MATTERS

A report of the presentation regarding The Spinney was discussed. It was decided this would be circulated once the planning application has been received.

The planning appeal for 6/2017/2001/FULL for change of use of Warrenwood Manor Stables Building that was refused in December 2017 was briefly discussed. It was decided no further representation be made.

Update of outstanding planning applications was read: 6/2018/0399/HOUSE – 3 Hornbeam Lane (no comment) and 6/2017/1452/LAWP – Camleigh Farm, Cucumber Lane (no comment).

8 CORRESPONDENCE

- a. The latest footpath/ROW update for February 2018 was discussed. The Chair suggested a map of the footpaths be put on the website. The update to be circulated to all Councillors.
- b. Parking Survey by WHBC emailed to all Councillors and on Facebook page.
- c. Parts of a letter to Councillor Screech from Mischcon de Reya, solicitors acting for the “Redmond’s” of Skyfield Manor were read regarding the existence of Balsam – an invasive herbaceous species. “. . . there is a possibility the Balsam could spread elsewhere in the local area . . . We will continue to monitor the situation of the Balsam and will keep yourself and the Parish Council informed of any updates.”
- d. HAPTC Chairmanship and Meetings Process training – no takers.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Fly-tipping on the A414 leading to the Cole Green waste and recycling to be reported.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 14th May 2018 at 7pm
(Annual Meeting)**

This meeting was closed at 8.20pm