

MINUTES of the MEETING of ESSENDON PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Essendon Village Hall on Monday 11 July 2022 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Ian Venables (Chair), Keith Venables Mike Brown, Rex Jones, Fran Christensen

Clerk: Nerine Chalmers and 2 members of the public

22/61 Apologies

To receive and accept apologies for absence
 Apology received and accepted from Tracey Willetts

22/62 Interests

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

22/63 Minutes

To confirm the Minutes of Essendon Parish Council held on 13 June 2022 as an accurate record of proceedings
 Resolved that these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. The minutes of the meeting were duly signed by the Chairman

22/64 Matters arising

None

22/65 Public Issues

Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern

A member of the public expressed concern that there had been no feedback or action on issues previously raised:

- a) Speeding through the village. Response to the council from Cllr Stephen Boulton was that he saw no prospect of extending the 30mph zone. It would certainly be at the lower end of necessary traffic measures in the county. Residents plan to encourage villagers to write to all those in authority explaining how much worse the situation is and requesting change.
- b) Flooding of the drains near the Spinney. Cllr Stephen Boulton has agreed to take this up with Officers at HCC
- c) Drain outside 9 Eastview is blocked. Clerk to report
- d) Lamp post number 15 is completely obscured by foliage. Clerk to report

22/66 To receive updates on:

- a) 21/26 c) Drains on West End Lane – no further progress
- b) Damaged road surface on Essendon Hill - no further progress
- c) White gates on either end of the village – Cllr Stephen Boulton is awaiting the quotation for the cost of the works from the contractor so that he may accept it from his locality budget.
- d) The Grade II listed building, the Ice House which is falling into disrepair. – The Senior Planning Enforcement Officer at WHBC stated that a site visit has been carried out and the conservation officer was happy with the general condition of the Ice House. However she has requested that ivy at the entrance be removed. It may be that in the future repairs are needed to areas of the brickwork in which case a listed building application would be submitted before carrying out the work.
- e) Speeding concerns in the village – see 22/65 a) above

- f) Drainage at the entrance to the Spinney – see 22/65 b) above
- g) Broken sunken drain near the white gates leaving the village near the Spinney. Highways aim to complete these works by 18th July
- h) Accuracy of Speed Indicator Devices – under investigation
- i) Overgrown hedges limiting access to garages on Rectory Close – clerk to inform WHBC if the hedge has not been cut by the end of July
Foliage obscuring the Speed Indicator Device opposite the Rose and Crown – Highways is investigating.
- j) Pathway from Essendon to Wild Hill running along Essendon High Rd/Cum Cum Hill – no response. Clerk to follow up.
- k) Fence along the High Road from just beyond the Spinney to the main entrance to the club– no response. Clerk to follow up.
- l) Bins left permanently on the footpath adjacent to the road. Position of the bins have been adjusted so that they no longer pose a hazard.
- m) ROSPA playground inspection. Clerk to go through the report and flag anything that needs urgent attention and then request a quote for work that needs to be done, including removing graffiti from the children’s playhouse.

22/67 Planning

No action or comment required on any of the notifications received.

Update on notifications received and considered for planning applications between 13 June 2022 and 11 July 2022

- a) **Application Reference:** 6/2021/3290/FULL **Proposed development at:** Land between The Manor House and Whitehall Field Cottage Essendon Hill Essendon Hertfordshire AL9 6AJ **Proposal:** Erection of 4 dwellings (Use Class C3) with associated access, parking, landscaping and site infrastructure. Approved
- b) **Application Reference:** 6/2022/1381/LAWP **Proposed development at:** 7 Mill Green Cottages Low Road Essendon Hatfield Hertfordshire AL9 6AB **Proposal:** Certificate of Lawfulness for an outbuilding in the garden. For information only.
- c) **Application Reference:** 6/2022/1198/PN8 **Proposed development at:** Farmleigh Berkhamsted Lane Essendon Hatfield AL9 6JS **Proposal:** Prior approval for proposed single storey rear extension- 5.4m in depth, 2.75m to the eaves and 3.0m
Prior approval was not required.

22/68 Finance

- a) To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget
Grant of £1,500 to Essendon Playing Fields, TDC - Essendon Playing Fields hedge and trim conifer £570, Moody Ground Maintenance £405, ROSPA £100.80, clerk’s salary.
- b) Update on Village Day 2021 accounts where a profit of £209.52 was recorded. In hand.
- c) To consider the estimate from TDC Tree Care (£700 +VAT) to trim the top and all sides of the hedges around the tennis court with chainsaws to create as much space on the inside of the hedge as possible, and to remove all waste from the site for recycling.
This proposal was unanimously approved. Clerk to inform TDC Tree Care
- 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.

22/69 Correspondence

- a) Update on HCC Never too late to be active scheme. Noted
- b) Request for input from the trustees to the annual charity commission return for the Village Hall. Clerk to respond to the Hall Committee
- c) Welwyn Hatfield Healthy Hub Bulletin, focusing on Talk to Us Month from the Samaritans and Deafblind Awareness Week. Also news from local health and wellbeing services, detailing information on their free services, activities, programmes, and volunteer opportunities. Noted

22/70 Next Essendon Parish Council Meeting: September 12, 2022 (Note no meeting in August)
Meeting closed at 7:45 p.m.

DRAFT