

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 2 October 2024 at 7.30pm East Knoyle Village Hall

Councillors Present – Sue Entwistle (Chair), Ian Tait, Hugo Middleton, Ann White, Rob McCarthy, Ann Ambrose, Garry Staunton.

Clerk - Martin Brown. **Guest** - Cllr B Wayman

Members of the Public present – None

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Deb Bateman, Neil Southerden, John Tyson.
2. **Notices of Interest** – None
3. **Public Open Forum** – n/a
4. **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4 September 2024** – Proposed Cllr Tait / Seconded Cllr McCarthy - Approved and Signed as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising** –
 - i. Replacement trees – Carried forwards. Cllr Ambrose needs advice on suitable trees and grant application
Action Cllr Ambrose and CLAROW to investigate suitable native trees for the site/ Cllr Wayman to investigate grants via Cranborne Chase and advise Cllr Ambrose.
 - ii. Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Middleton provided an example and comments based on his research. Current government policy changes might impact as well as Wiltshire Council’s response. Cllrs attending the forthcoming WALC Conference will find out more and report back in December.
Action – Agenda Item December plus councillors to continue to monitor.
 - iii. Review of HSBC Accounts access – to be carried forward.
Action – Finance Committee to review and recommend.
 - iv. Fly-tipping/CCTV signage – following on from a resident’s offer to pay for signage, Clerk had investigated costs, restrictions and practical aspects of placing roadside signs, plus the likely effectiveness. The PC decided that the proposed signage is unlikely to have the desired outcomes.
Action – Clerk to inform resident that not pursuing this generous offer.
6. **Planning Applications:**
 - i. **PL/2024/07546 - Hartmoor Barn, Underhill Wood Nature Reserve, Underhill, East Knoyle, SP3 6BP.** - Variation of Condition 2 (approved Plans) on PL/2022/06794 to allow minor alterations to internal layout, fenestration & western porch of the dwelling. No Support – application to be objected to. Voting – Objections = 5 / Abstentions = 2.
 - ii. **PL/2024/08279 – Church Road, East Knoyle, SP3 6AE- 2 x Lime trees: West Lime tree - overall reduction of canopy spread by 3m and cut back limb overhanging road by up to 5m East Lime tree - overall reduction of 2m-3m.** Proposed Cllr Middleton/Seconded Cllr Ambrose – Unanimous approval.

Note – Planning Applications and any comments submitted by East Knoyle Parish Council are available on the Wiltshire Council website – under Planning and Building Applications.
7. **Cllr Bridget Wayman’s Report** –
 - i. Notified of a WC Unpaid Carers Road Show to offer support to home cares – Salisbury 18th October
 - ii. Police and Crime Commissioner report highlights a 16.6% drop in anti-social behaviour incidents in 2023/2024 compared to 2022/2023, as well as a 13.4% reduction in in domestic abuse-related crimes, observed across all Neighbourhood Policing Team areas
 - iii. Notified the PC of the Wiltshire ‘Best Kept Village’ awards – perhaps for next year.
 - iv. Coffee pods can now be recycled at WC recycling centres
 - v. Cllr Wayman continues to seek action regarding the water run-off from the re-surfaced road – Wsie Lane near The Green.
8. **Highways** – Cllr McCarthy
 - i. Update – Recent Parish Steward visit was mixed success – vegetation cleared alongside road at entrance to the village, while most other PC requested work was not carried out. Repairs to Touchorne Lane are already breaking up.
 - ii. A350 - Speed Limit Assessment – Clerk confirmed he had informed WC that we would pay our share of the costs, had received the WC amended Speed Limit Assessment Brief, but no start date.

9. Chair's Report – Cllr Entwistle

- i. Wren's Shop Lease – Chair had received communication for the Chair of Wren's Shop regarding this. The lease between EKPC and the Shop expires December 2025. It was suggested that a sub-committee is formed to start reviewing the lease in January 2025. Proposed Cllr Entwistle/ Seconded Cllr Ambrose – unanimous approval.
- ii. Wreath Laying at War Memorial – Sir N Wright has requested that the PC participates again at this year's Remembrance memorial service. Proposed Cllr Entwistle / Seconded Cllr Staunton – approved unanimously. Cllr Entwistle to represent EKPC.
- iii. RBL had approached the Chair with a request to instal a temporary black metal silhouette showing 3 troops (size approx. 5ft x 4ft) for the duration of the Remembrance period on the Grass at the War Memorial. Proposed Cllr Entwistle / Seconded Cllr McCarthy – unanimous approval.

Actions – 1) Lease Sub-cttee to be set up at the January 25 PC meeting 2) Clerk to inform re Wreath Laying 3) Clerk to inform RBL and mention security concerns plus request how it will be installed.

10. Clerk Role –

- i. Recruitment update and next steps – Clerk informed the PC that adverts had been placed on the notice boards (no response) and in the EKN (as of 2nd October not yet distributed). A recruitment sub-committee was required to manage the process and Cllrs Tait, White and Entwistle agreed to be responsible, with assistance from the Clerk.
- ii. File Storage – the Village Hall has recently released several boxes of historical PC records that were held there – these are now in the Clerk's garage. It is understood that there are records in other places. Once it has been determined what needs to be kept and for how long the records will be sorted and kept/disposed of accordingly. Cllr Tait suggested that the same recruiting team assisted the Clerk in this process and that once completed we can investigate storage.

Actions – 1) Recruitment sub-cttee to meet and determine plans, review terms of employment, etc. 2) Clerk will share previous recruitment information on file 3) Clerk to determine current PC record keeping requirements

11. Finance

- I. Cash Book reconciliation – Clerk presented current cash book and accounts
- II. Payments due for approval – Payments approved and proposed by Cllr Tait / Seconded Cllr McCarthy approved unanimously.
- III. Churchyard Maintenance – Request for support – Decision postponed to November PC meeting as further financial information is required.
- IV. Update on recommendations for accounting software – Cllrs Tyson & White – carried forward to November meeting

Actions – 1) Clerk to inform St Mary's treasurer of delay 2) Finance Cttee to provide finance projection for rest of year/next year 3) Agenda item – accounting software – for November meeting

12. Village Hall – no report

13. Common Lands – Cllr Ambrose

- i. Cllr Ambrose reported on an excellent response from CLAROW members to clearing blocked FPs recently.
- ii. FP16 – the post showing the end of the 'spur' has been knocked down, presumably by cattle in the field and needs reinstating.
- iii. Meeting with Tisbury FP Group – Cllr Ambrose is meeting this active group soon to see how they operate.
- iv. Bridleways – many of EK bridleways are not used by horse riders. Cllr Ambrose will try to engage with them to ascertain why they are not used, and roads are seemingly preferred.
- v. Windmill View – tree growth continues to increasingly block the view – which is enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. A review needs to be undertaken, and findings/recommendations presented back to the PC. (Note – due to restrictions this work would need to be programmed for the winter). The PC holds a ring-fenced account for this work.

Actions – 1) Clerk to write to landowner re FP16 post 2) Cllr Ambrose report back on discussions with horse riders 3) Windmill Review – Cllr Ambrose and CLAROW to present report by December PC meeting.

14. **Post Office & Village Shop** – Cllr Ian Tait

- i. Volunteers – remains a problem getting enough volunteers to cover shop opening hours – resulting in some early closing of the shop.
- ii. Coffee ‘shop’ – no update on progress.
- iii. Kitchen area is being refigured.

15. **KHG/Playground** – Cllr Staunton

- i. Repairs to KHG Playground continue – last major project is ‘the tunnel’ and work is underway on this big repair job. Soil replacement is also taking place.
- ii. Hedges and overgrown areas – review, recommendations and costings to be undertaken to improve these areas – aim to get work done before next spring – subject to budgets.
- iii. Signage – the existing sign(s) have been taken so there is no indication as to playground ‘rules’ and safety instructions. These need to be replaced for many reasons, including potentially managing the use of the area when anti-social behaviours are occurring.

Actions 1) Cllr Staunton and Clerk to determine what work required re hedges, overgrown areas and put out to tender – results presented to December PC meeting. 2) Cllr Staunton to investigate signage and costs

16. **Antisocial Behaviour** -

- i. Response to communication from Seeds4Success – No further action required at the moment, but to monitor the situation.
- ii. Updates re KHG and The Dips – Both areas have not seen a recurrence of the problems recently experienced. Councillors to continue to monitor.

17. **East Knoyle Village Fete** – update from Cllr Middleton

The recent fete raised over £4000 for church funds, and despite the weather forecast was well attended – though the forecast probably deterred visitors. The PC congratulated the organisers, especially the dog show commentator.

18. **Correspondence Received**

- i. See Chair’s Report
- ii. Mr T Kenyon submitted a copy of a FOI request regarding the East Knoyle precept over the last 4 years that he had obtained from Wiltshire Council. He requested no action, apart from an acknowledgement.

19. **Urgent Items** – none submitted

20. **Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 6th November @ 7.30pm East Knoyle Village Hall**

Meeting Closed at 9.24pm

Signed as a true Record*S. Entwistle*.....Chair

Date6th November 2024.....

Martin Brown, Clerk to the Council
Oak Dell, The Green, East Knoyle, SP3 6BN
clerkeastknylepc@gmail.com