

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, Wednesday 5th June 2024 at 7.30pm East Knoyle Village Hall

Councillors Present - Sue Entwistle (Chair), Neil Southerden, Deb Bateman, Ian Tait, David Pickering, Garry Staunton, Hugo Middleton, Ann Ambrose, Ann White

Clerk - Martin Brown.

Members of the Public present – Mr J Tyson.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr. Rob McCarthy
2. **Notices of Interest** – None
3. **Public Open Forum** – None
4. **Minutes of Parish Annual Assembly held on Wednesday 1st May 2024** – Proposed Cllr Tait / Seconded Cllr Pickering - Approved and Signed as a true record.
Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 1st May 2024 – Proposed Cllr Southerden / Seconded Cllr White - Approved and Signed as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising** – None
6. **Planning Applications:**
 - i. **PL/2024/03882 - Dayspring Cottage, The Street, East Knoyle, SP3 6AJ** - Change double window at rear of the property to double doors to garden. Change single door at the rear of the property to a window. Approved – Proposed Cllr Entwistle/Seconded Cllr White – Unanimous support
 - ii. **PL/2024/04158 - Dayspring Cottage, The Street, East Knoyle, SP3 6AJ** - Change double window at rear of the property to double doors to garden. Change single door at the rear of the property to a window. Listed building consent (Alt/Ext). No objection subject to condition – Proposed Cllr Entwistle/Seconded Cllr White – Unanimous support
 - iii. **PL/2024/04357 - Orchard House, East Knoyle, SP3 6AQ** - Erection of oak framed garage with first floor home office space following removal of existing garage. No objection subject to condition – Proposed Cllr Middleton/Seconded Cllr White – unanimous decision.

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. **Bridget Wayman’s Report** – Apologies received from Cllr Wayman. Notes sent prior to the meeting were distributed to all councillors and will be discussed at the July PC meeting with Cllr Wayman.
Action – Clerk to redistribute notes and include in July agenda
8. **Chair’s Report** – Cllr Entwistle
 - i. Thanks were given to Gill and Garry Staunton for donating the proceeds of their Garden Open Day to the Knoyle House Grounds Playground Appeal. A total of £1,383.83 was raised. Additional thanks from the Parish Council to everyone involved in making the day such a success. And not least to members of the local community who were so generous in their donations.
 - ii. Report from Wiltshire Council Local Highways and Footway Improvements Group on 8 May –
 - a) Church Rails signage – revised proposals have been/are due to be submitted to EKPC for approval
 - b) Proposed A350 speed assessment – this would require local PCs to part fund this. If all PC’s were to agree the cost to EKPC would be £775. Discussion on this deferred to July PC meeting/Cllr Wayman input.
 - c) Local road improvements – it would appear that there is still a fairly substantial Wiltshire Council budget available for road improvements. Councillors asked to consider how we might approach WC for improvements in EK.
 - iii. AGM of the Village Hall Committee – Chair raised the issue of the unreliability of the heating system. The main problem appears to be that people turn it down and do not return it to the original setting prior to leaving the premises. A suggestion was made that the caretaker would check depending on her availability.

Actions – 1) Clerk to write thanks to Mr and Mrs Staunton. 2) Clerk to investigate Church Rails Signage situation. 3) Cllr Entwistle - Agenda item for July meeting – A350 speed assessment – more details needed.

9. **Highways** – No update.
10. **Village Hall Update** – Cllr Pickering
- i. New main hall floor has been laid.
 - ii. Funds raised at a recent afternoon tea event held by Mrs L de la Moriniere are to be kindly donated to the VH.
11. **Common Lands** –
- i. CLAROW update – Cllr Ambrose
 - a) Meeting with Mr Buttress to be held on Weds 12 June to discuss Windmill grass cutting (to be done following days, weather permitting). Next (final) cut after this is due in October.
 - b) Meeting with WC Footpaths officer – hopefully WC will assist with new/replacement FP signage in August, including a survey of the missing ‘bridge’ over the River Loddon which hopefully WC will replace.
 - c) Gate on FP40 opposite St Marys – needs repair/replacement as gate post has rotted. Due to the potential H&S issue of children/dogs running out onto the road from this well used FP it was agreed that the gate should be in working order and that the owners (Clouds Estate) should be approached to do this work.
 - d) Cllr Ambrose is meeting with a local group to investigate how we might ensure that increased conservation measures (e.g. swift bricks/boxes) can be included in PC and local activities, such as adding requests to planning applications.
 - e) FP/BW 28 – the fence obstruction has been removed, but the large hole remains. This presents a real danger to horse riders/walkers. EKPC to contact Wessex Water who did the recent works there.
 - ii. Tree Works – Clerk
 - a) Milton – diseased ash. Wiltshire Council have issued a felling order on the tree on common land next to Maple Cottage. It is a condition of the notice that EKPC replace the felled tree with a suitable replacement tree at the next planting opportunity. Felling work, including road management to be carried out by tree surgeons on 20/21/22 June. Quote presented for work – Proposed Cllr Tait/seconded Cllr Middleton – unanimous agreement.
 - b) KHG – Oak tree at entrance to KHG has obvious dead branches which pose a danger to KHG users. Quote to remove dead branches presented – Proposed Cllr Tait/Seconded Cllr Middleton - unanimous agreement.

Actions – a) Cllr Ambrose to contact owners of gate (FP40) to request replacement on H&S grounds. b) Clerk to contact Wessex Water regarding repairs to FP28. c) Clerk to authorise contractor to proceed. d) All councillors to investigate possible sites for replacement tree(s) in the parish plus agenda item July.
12. **Post Office & Village Shop** – Cllr Tait
- i. The vegetable boxes have been delivered and installed and are awaiting commissioning for use.
 - ii. Volunteers – currently struggling to find enough people to keep the shop open on some days/times primarily due to people being on holiday.
 - iii. New coffee machine is to be provided which will be more cost effective and up to date.
 - iv. Shop (EKCSA Ltd) Annual General Meeting will be on Thursday 25th July – 7pm for 7.30pm
13. **Vacancy for Parish Councillor** – Following due process, a new co-opted councillor was voted onto the EKPC. Proposed Cllr Tait/Seconded Cllr Bateman – unanimous agreement that Mr John Tyson should be asked to join the PC.
- Actions – Clerk to formally invite Mr Tyson to join the PC, then arrange induction and paperwork process before July PC meeting.**

14. **KHG/Playground –**

- i. Review plans for maintenance and improvement – Cllr Staunton
 - a) Meeting with KHG maintenance contractor – key areas of discussion were what is done, when and how, and waste disposal. Cllr Staunton. Arrangements were clarified and agreed, and the contractor (Mr P Buttress) will meet regularly with Cllr Staunton to discuss things. In their discussions the contractor mentioned he had submitted a quote to carry out additional major improvement works to the PC some years ago.
 - b) Volunteer Working Group – the intention of this group is to meet on Tuesday 11 June and start work. Materials have been purchased for basic maintenance and will be invoiced to PC by Mr Chris Cox. It is hoped that the group will be able to meet on a regular basis to carry out the plans.
- ii. Cllr Staunton submitted a list of immediate works to be carried out.
- iii. KHG Playground Appeal update – Cllr White reported that another donation of £250 had been received, plus the donation from the Open Garden event was due to be paid soon.

Actions – a) Cllr Staunton to provide plan of works due and costings for PC approval and an update on works completed. b) Clerk to acknowledge new donations.

15. **Finance**

- I. Cash Book reconciliation – Clerk presented current cash book, Agar exemption and highlighted costs involved in maintaining common lands.
- II. Payments due for approval – Tree works at Milton and KHG, KHG maintenance, clerk salary all approved. Proposed Cllr Middleton/Seconded Cllr Pickering

16. **Defibrillator** – Clerk reported that defibrillator had been accessed and returned/reset.

17. **Update on Cranborne Chase Presentation Wednesday 17th July** – Clerk reported that all going ahead as planned and requested that councillors encourage residents to attend. A4 posters to be put up soon to advertise. Thanks to EKN for advert in last Newsletter.

Actions – Clerk to a) confirm arrangements with Linda Nunn. b) request help setting up hall nearer the date

18. **Correspondence Received** – none

19. **Urgent Items** – none submitted

20. **Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 17th July 2024 @ 7.30pm East Knoyle Village Hall, preceded by Cranborne Chase Presentation @ 6pm. All residents welcome.**

Meeting Closed at 9pm

Signed as a true Record Chair

Date

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