

EAST BOLDRE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 9th February 2016 at 7.00 pm in the East Boldre Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Mr K Holmes Chairman
Cllr B Mulhall Vice Chairman

Cllr B Gregory
Cllr M Sterling
Cllr D Drodge
Cllr H Green

In attendance – Cllr K Thornber, County Councillor; Cllr M Harris, District Councillor; Mrs K Penna, Parish Clerk and one resident.

1.0. To accept apologies for absence

Cllr M Gregory.

2.0. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

Cllr Holmes and Cllr Drodge declared an interest in items 10.1. and 10.2.

3.0. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2016

The minutes were agreed and duly signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

4.0. Public session

No comments.

5.0. Clerks' report and information received

5.1. Community Heartbeat has stated that the confirmation of the adoption of the phone kiosk in East Boldre is due any day now.

5.2. The Allotment Association along with the site one allotment representative, council chairman and clerk have had their first 'Taste of East Boldre 2016' meeting. The event will follow a similar schedule as last year with the addition of a 'Great East Boldre Bake Off'. We will be looking for added assistance on the day this year so please keep your diaries free for Sunday the 4th September.

5.3. The Village Hall Committee contacted the clerk for advice on approaching the council for a grant. They have recently applied for and have been granted the status of a Charitable Incorporation Organisation by the Charity Commission for the East Boldre Village Hall and intend to begin operating under this new status from 1 April. This means they will have to transfer the licence held with the Ministry of Agriculture (via the Forestry Commission) from the charitable trust/trustees to the new CIO. At the same time, they will renew the licence which runs for sixty years (the current licence expires in ten years' time). There will be solicitor fees and a licence charge but unfortunately there are no powers for the council to be able to agree a grant for either of these costs.

5.4. The 'Information received' and the 'Pending' list have been circulated to all councillors.

6.0. To receive a report by County Councillor for East Boldre

Cllr Thornber said in relation to item 5.3. he would consider a grant application from the East Boldre Village Hall committee. He asked that they contact him directly to discuss the matter.

The library service is now in a critical situation and under consultation over its usage. There are currently 54 static libraries and 19 mobile units.

Hampshire County Council had planned for £19 million of grant reductions but it will in fact be more like £49 million. The rise in council tax will raise £20.4 million. This will see band D properties paying an extra £41.00 a year.

Cllr Thornber had a broadband progress report. The chairman gave permission for item 11.0. to be discussed at this point in the meeting.

Cllr Thornber read a report from Glenn Peacey which highlighted the difficulties of all stakeholders in the project working together. Cllr Thornber said he understood the frustrations felt by residents. The resident present stated her frustrations with the poor broadband in East Boldre. She is expected to work from home one day a week but this has not been possible due to poor internet access. The resident questioned the effectiveness of the broadband project manager at HCC as there seems to be a lack of communication with stakeholders and residents. It was suggested in the report read by Councillor Thornber that the chosen position for the broadband cabinet at Hatchet Pond did not represent 'value for money'. The chairman questioned 'value for money' as the parish, along with other local parishes had made a successful bid to RCBF for finance. Cllr Green stated that this site had been in discussion for nearly a year and having spoken to some of the stakeholders, it seemed the reason there has been no progress is due to the poor presentation of proposals by BT Openreach. It was suggested that BT Openreach have acted in such an unprofessional manner, ignoring the sensitivities of the New Forest and SSSIs and this has led to the substantial delays in the superfast broadband delivery.

Cllr Thornber will go back to Glenn Peacey for discussion and suggest that another meeting is held to discuss the issues with as many stakeholders attending as possible.

ACTION KP

7.0. To receive a report by District Councillor for East Boldre

Cllr Harris told the meeting that subject to approval, there will be a 1.7% increase in council tax.

He stated that the issue of parking in Sweyns Lease is now on the officer's portfolio list.

The new parking sign and slow signs are now in place in Chapel Lane.

Cllr Harris informed the council that the cost of pony safe litter bins are around £400.00 each plus fitting of approximately £100.00. The chairman gave permission for item 12.0. to be discussed at this point. Cllr Harris answered a query from last month's meeting over concerns that the pony safe bins may suffer with faulty doors. He stated that some doors had needed repair but it was not a major problem. The costs of these bins were questioned by the Chairman as East Boldre had some years ago been on a list to receive the bins at no cost but due to a clerical error, this did not happen. Cllr Harris said he would look into this and also into the costs of plastic pony safe bins and report back to council.

8.0. Finance

8.1. To agree payments in accordance with the budget and to note bank reconciliation.

Resolved: Payments agreed as shown on table below, income and bank reconciliation noted.

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Cheque No</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Payment</i>
Payments 06/02/16			
K Penna(Paid K Wright)	100507	Salary	£597.13
K Penna(Paid K Wright)	100508	Expenses	£77.61
ICO	100509	Data Protect	£35.00
Royal mail	100510	PO BOX	£312.00
Total to pay			£1021.74
Amount to be transferred to current account			£1100.00
		Receipts	
Source		Detail	Amount
HSBC bank		Interest	£1.04
Total income			£1.04
Bank Reconciliation			
Balance as at 06/02/16			
HSBC Current			£938.98
HSBC Savings			£20,768.41
Total			£21,707.39
Net bank balance as at 06/02/16			
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows			
Opening balances	14,862.38		
Add receipts	16,916.78		
Less payments	10,071.77		
Less unclear cheque	0.00		
Total			£21,707.39

8.2. To consider opting out of external audits for smaller councils.

The clerk asked that this item be deferred until the next meeting as there was still more information to come forward and a decision was not required until the end of March.

Resolved: Item deferred to the March PC meeting.

8.3. To confirm appointment of internal auditor.

Resolved: Council agreed to appoint Eleanor Greene from Do The Numbers LTD.

8.4. To approve payment for ICO.

Resolved: Payment approved.

8.5. To consider costs for repair or replacement of council printer.

The council printer has not been working adequately. The clerk has looked for someone to mend and service the printer but has been unable to find anyone. It was considered that as the current printer is now 6 years old it would be more cost effective to purchase a new one. The clerk informed council that it was possible to replace the printer with a good quality colour printer for around £110.00 plus extra for ink cartridges.

Resolved: Council agreed to the purchase of a new printer up to a cost of £150.00.

9.0. Planning.

9.1. To consider planning applications 16/0009 Under The Rails.

Resolved: Planning application resolved as shown on the schedule below.

16/0009 L Young	Under the Rails, Main Road, East Boldre. SO42 7WD.	Two storey extension; singles storey extension 2 No. sunpipes; render; alterations to fenestration; demolition of existing attached garage and conservatory	02/16	Comment 5 –The Council question whether the 30% calculation allows for what appears to be living accommodation which has already been converted from an existing garage. The application also states that the property is not within 500mts of a SSSI which is incorrect.
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9.2. To consider tree work application 16/0016 The Wheelhouse.

Resolved: No comments.

10.0. Amenities

10.1. To consider changes to allotment rules.

The updated allotment rules were presented to council for consideration.

Resolved: Cllr Sterling and the clerk will finalise the allotment rules and they will then be brought back to the next council meeting for adoption. **ACTION KP/MS**

10.2. To receive an update on vacant plots at the allotment sites.

There have been no notifications from plot holders that they intend to relinquish their plots for 2016/17. The recently vacated plots have been inspected and it was noted that there is a substantial amount of rubbish to be cleared which could result in huge costs to the council. Richard Daponte from the Reptile centre has offered to visit the site to advise the council on sympathetically clearing the plots which may be a hibernaculum for adders. The clerk will contact Community Payback and the Lengthsman to establish a way forward to clearing the plots as cost effectively as possible. **ACTION KP**

11.0. To receive an update on Superfast Broadband in the parish.

Item discussed at 6.0.

12.0. To discuss new rubbish bins for the parish.

Item discussed at 7.0.

13.0. To receive reports from external meetings.

13.1. South East Quadrant attended by Cllr B Gregory on 3rd February at Exbury Social Club.

Cllr B Gregory informed council that the Verderers are becoming extremely concerned at the amount of vehicles being parked on forest verges. The Forestry Commission will be providing the council with a map in order that we can mark areas of concern within our parish.

14.0. Agenda items for next meeting.

Broadband update; new rubbish bins for the parish; allotment rules; allotment costs; newsletter contents; costs for a microphone; opting out of external audits.

15.0. To confirm date of the next meeting of East Boldre Parish Council

Confirmed as Tuesday 8th March 2016 at 7.00 pm in East Boldre Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.