

East Boldre Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12th March 2019 at 7pm in the East Boldre Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr B Mulhall, Chairman
Cllr B Hawker
Cllr M Husband

Cllr D Drodge
Cllr I Moyse

In attendance – Mrs Nicola Curzon, Parish Clerk; Cllr Mans, County Councillor, and one member of the public.

1.0. To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr Holmes and Cllr Harris

2.0. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda.

None.

3.0. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2019.

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

4.0. To receive the clerk's report. For information only.

- The clerk has now received information and guidance from New Forest District Council about the elections in May. This has been forwarded to all current councillors as well as to residents who have expressed an interest in becoming a councillor in May. The nomination papers for the elections on 2nd May 2019 are now available to download.
- Cllr Mulhall has now looked at all aspects of the parish council website and the clerk has made several amendments, including increasing the font size on all pages and articles as well as and changing the font colour on all articles. All links have been updated and newsletters added. Out of date material has been removed and information updated where necessary.
- The clerk has received an email from Jayne Allbery of the Forestry Commission to say that they will be putting verge restoration signage on site this week. The first part of the work by Farwell's will not now start until week beginning 25th March. Jayne will update the Parish Council with the start date for the dragon's teeth in due course.

5.0 To receive a report by County Councillor for East Boldre. For information only.

- Cllr Mans reminded the council that the county council precept has been set and will increase by 2.99%. Hampshire County Council has one of the lowest precepts in the country. A large proportion of the council budget is taken up with special educational needs and elderly care.
- Cllr Mans was pleased to report that KS2 Sats results for 2018 across Hampshire were excellent and well above the national average. Although some secondary schools in Hampshire are struggling to maintain the government target levels for progress, schools in the New Forest are performing very well.
- Cllr Mans informed the council that Roy Perry, leader of Hampshire County Council will be standing down this year, a new chairman will be elected in May.
- Southampton General Hospital is seeking a new governor from the New Forest area. The clerk will advertise this on the parish council website. Action NC
- Cllr Mans also reminded the council of the widening of eligibility for the County Councillor Grant scheme. The grant scheme will be open again for applications at the end of May.

6.0. To receive a report by District Councillor for East Boldre. For information only.

Cllr Harris was not present

7.0. Public session. A member of the public asked if they could comment on the planning application for Clear Springs (item 9.1. on the agenda).

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.

<i>Payee</i>	<i>Bacs details</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Payment</i>
Payments date			
N Curzon	06/03/2019	Clerk salary	£601.42
N Curzon	12/03/2019	Clerk overtime	£115.60
NSALG	12/03/2019	Membership renewal	£111.00
N Curzon	12/03/2019	Clerk expenses	£85.74
Mint Gardens	12/03/2019	allotment hedge cutting	£558.80
Mint Gardens	12/03/2029	allotment fence repair	£120.00
Total to pay			£1,592.56
Amount to be transferred to current account			£500.00
Receipts as at date			
		<i>Detail</i>	<i>Amount</i>
HSBC		bank interest	£3.80
HMRC		VAT rebate (Apr-Oct 2018)	£516.26
Bank reconciliation			
Balance as at date			
HSBC Current	01/01/2019		£1,832.43
HSBC Savings	01/01/2019		£22,317.73
Total			£24,150.16
Net bank balance as at date			
The net balances reconcile to the cash book for the year to date, as follows			
Opening balances			£22,984.54
Add receipts			£19,788.95
Less payments			-£18,658.33
Uncleared direct debit			£35.00
Total			£24,150.16

Chairman's signature:

Date:9/04/19

8.2. To agree final budget review for 2019-2020.Alterations to budget:

Increase allotment hedging cost to £1000

Increase allotment water cost to £650

Increase allotment rent received to £2000

Increase allotment water costs received to £1000 (a £10 surcharge for all plot holders to account for underpayment of last water bill)

Increase staff costs to include national increment rise for 1/4/19

Add Public transport subsidy £2000.

8.3. To review the asset register for 2018-2019.

The Epson EMP X5 projector was removed from the asset register, the council donated the projector to the Village Hall Trust and Cllr Husband thanked the parish council on behalf of the Village Hall.

The Optoma HD27E projector was added to the register.

9.0. Planning.**9.1 To consider planning application: 19/00107 Clear Springs**

CLEAR SPRINGS, MAIN ROAD, EAST BOLDRE, , SO42 7WT	Single storey extensions; open sided porch; roofs to 2no dormer windows; chimney; cladding; external alterations; outbuilding with first floor	8/2/19	<p>Comment 4: East Boldre Parish council recommend REFUSAL, for the reasons listed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The appearance of the proposed application is not in keeping with surrounding properties 2. The council believe that the proposed extension of the house is more than 30% of the 1982 area of the property in view of the fact that the sun room was built after 1984. 3. The inhabitable space above the garage takes the extension well over the 30% allowance. 4. The garage is excessively large for a property of this size.
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10.0. To receive feedback on the Allotment Association meeting.

All Allotment holders were invited to a meeting on 26th February. The council informed them about changes to water charges: As agreed at council in February, a £10 surcharge will be added to allotment bills this year to cover the council's increased water costs. It was proposed that from 2020 water should be included in allotment rent. Although the parish council should not make a profit from allotments, a fund for ongoing maintenance must be included in the rent charged, therefore an allotment rent increases of approximately 5% was proposed for 2020, and tenants were told to expect subsequent annual rent increases. The council discussed amendments to allotment rules and made it clear that tenants must adhere to these or they will be given appropriate notice that their allotment lease will be terminated. The council highlighted rules relating to the proper use of the garden allotment plots.

11.0. To update the allotment rules.

Resolved: Small amendments were made to the allotment rules to ensure clarity about the definition of an allotment garden plot and to underline the importance of considerate water use. The allotment rules are available on the Parish Council website. The council made it clear that growing produce on an allotment site which may go on to be used as part of a business (ie. growing feed for livestock which may go on to be sold or vegetables, fruit or flowers which are sold) contravenes the allotments acts 1908-1950. Garden allotment plots must be used to grow flowers, fruit and vegetables for personal consumption only.

Recommendation: The council has considered evidence for the plots 12-24 and plots 27-31 inclusively and without data to the contrary, the plots currently growing grass, beet and potatoes are considered commercial enterprises.

Resolved: Following guidance from the NSALG legal team, the council will give notice to terminate the leases of plots 12-24 and plots 27-31 inclusively, which must be vacated by 1st April 2020. The tenants concerned may apply for a garden allotment plot if they wish to comply with the allotment rules 2019 and the allotments act 1908-1950.

12.0. To agree allotment rent increases for 2020.

Resolved: The council approved the proposed rent increases of approximately 5% for 2020 and agreed that there should be an annual review of allotment rents.

13.0. To receive an update on the emergency plan

7 residents from East Boldre attended a working group led by Mike Upton. The group consolidated the risk register and discussed how to identify vulnerable people. The clerk is currently discussing the printing of new parish maps with NFDC which will be used for the emergency plan. The group discussed ways of collating a list of community skills and resources. A further meeting has been planned for later in March.

14.0. To receive reports from external meetings.

Cllr Mulhall and the parish clerk attended a meeting with representatives of Boldre PC (Chairman and Clerk) and East Boldre PC (Vice-Chairman and Clerk). This followed concerns expressed by residents in both parishes about the planned withdrawal of the 112 bus on Saturdays.

Resolved: The clerk has now written to Peter Shelley from HCC to request information on the costs of either reducing the Saturday service to one bus in each direction rather than removing it entirely. Alternatively, introducing a taxi share service, along the lines of the Beaulieu/E. Boldre to Hythe taxi share.

15.0. Agenda items for the meeting on 9th April 2019.

To receive an update on the Saturday 112 bus service.

To consider parish council communication in East Boldre.

To receive a broadband update.

To consider Parish Council support for HARA to explore the provision of affordable housing in East Boldre.

16.0. To confirm the next Parish Council meeting as 7.00pm on 9th April 2019 in East Boldre Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm and was followed by the APA