



## East Tisted Parish Council

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### Minutes of the Meeting of East Tisted Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6.30pm

- Summoned to attend:** Phil Cutts (Councillor)  
Helen Evison (Councillor, Clerk & RFO)  
Sandra Nichols (Councillor & Chair)  
Colin Rule (Councillor & Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator)  
Carl McBean (Councillor, co-opted at item 5)
- By Invitation:** 3 Villagers – 2 left at 8.05pm  
Charles Louisson (District Councillor) - left 8.05pm  
Russell Oppenheimer (County Councillor) – left 8.05pm  
Pippa Cockhead (Incoming Clerk)
- Apologies:** Mick Crumplin (Village Hall Management Committee)  
Rob Jones (Hampshire Constabulary)

*The meeting opened at 6.30pm*

#### 1. Apologies and welcome

The Chairman welcomed all. Apologies were noted from Mick Crumplin and Rob Jones.

#### 2. Declaration of interests

CR and PC advised that they anticipated that they would need to express an interest in relation to a matter likely to be raised in the public forum.

#### 3. Public forum

3.1 The Chairman invited Carol Rule to speak on behalf of the Parochial Church Council. PC declared that he had an interest in this item being Treasurer to the PCC. CR advised that he also had an interest, being closely involved in the proposed project. Carol Rule explained that the hangings and ladders associated with the bells of the village church had been declared unsafe: remedial work was needed. This was expected to cost around £20,000. The PCC were not applying for funding from the Parish Council, however, the Diocesan Advisory Council had advised it was necessary to consult with the community and obtain support before the work could progress.

HE, SN and the other villagers present expressed their support for the project; the bells were an asset to the village.

3.2 RO summarised the items from his December Report highlighting the work of Hampshire Highways, the increase in Arts Council funding, the fact that the council was seeking more sites for tree planting and the extra payments to the hosts of Ukrainian refugees and their guests.

**Q: It had been reported in the press that some homeowners were not renewing their offer to house refugees so some were becoming homeless. Was this a problem in Hampshire?**

A: There had been so many offers to house Ukrainians that rehousing some was unlikely to be an issue.

**Q: CR had been involved in a number of appeals for places at schools for Ukrainian children because schools claimed to be full and objected to taking more pupils because the funding did not come through quickly enough. Could funding be expedited?**

A: RO acknowledged and sympathised with the issue.

HE advised that she knew of at least two local schools that had recently received extra funding to support Ukrainian pupils; this was a specific grant rather than per head pupil funding based upon school numbers which, as the school complained of, they were not eligible for unless in school on the count day in October.

3.3 CL advised that:

- The shortage of HGV drivers had affected waste collections. Glass collections had been



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suspended for a few weeks while new drivers were recruited and trained.

- EHDC's current waste collection contract with Norse was a joint contract with Havant Borough Council. The new contract, target date 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023, would not involve Havant; the split was largely complete. It had been necessary to relocate some staff.
- Penn's Place was expensive to run and too expensive to upgrade. EHDC were moving to an office they already owned at Bedford Road in Petersfield. Redevelopment of Penn's Place was the subject of discussions with the South Downs National Park Authority. The move to Bedford Road had started; this was expected to save £400K p.a. in running costs.
- He had attended a meeting with the police about a pilot project to address speeding in Beech. There had been some horrendous speeding; it seemed that there were a small number of repeat serious offenders. They were talking to EHDC about how to fund cameras which could recognise number plates and were working to identify 'hotspots' for the occasional location of a fully-equipped police camera van.
- CL highlighted the availability of Councillor's grants for local projects and suggested that the PCC might wish to apply as work on the bells might qualify.

Going back to the issue of waste collections, a villager reported that they had not received a letter about the need to renew brown bin licences for garden waste collections; it was really difficult to get a licence renewal. CL explained that they were adding a third round in order to allow more brown bin collections; she should get an e-mail or a letter before Christmas.

It was noted that it was difficult to address speeding on some roads as there were no suitable places for a camera van. CL confirmed that in such places a hand-held speed gun could be employed.

**Q: Did anyone have any update regarding the average speed cameras for the A32?**

A: RO advised that he had been invited to a meeting in January and hoped to provide an update in February.

**Q: Could average speed cameras catch motor bikes?**

A: Yes.

3.4 On behalf of Neighbourhood Watch CR advised that the summary crime reports were now coming through occasionally and that he had received an e-mail highlighting the importance of cyber-security awareness in the run up to Christmas. He was also pleased to report that he understood from 'Protect UK' that the assessment of the terrorist threat over the Xmas period was no higher than usual.

3.5 SN reported that she had attended a meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee last Friday. Some redecoration had been undertaken; the new oil tank had been a considerable outlay. A number of regular hirers had been lost so income was not covering costs, particularly utilities. New users were needed. Currently the surplus from the bar was the main source of income, contributing about twice as much as lettings. Unless income could be increased reserves would run out in 3 to 4 years.

**Q: Had they tried reaching out to villages without a village hall?**

A: SN advised that every village seemed to have its own hall; Four Marks and Farringdon were planning to build new ones.

*The Chairman thanked all and closed the meeting for public participation*

#### **4. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 were accepted as an accurate record and signed by the Chair.



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### 5. Councillor Appointment

Carl McBean introduced himself and provided a brief CV. The Chairman proposed and PC seconded his co-option to the vacancy. All Councillors were in favour. CM completed the Disclosable pecuniary Interests form and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

### 6. Clerking Arrangements

The Chairman reported that the post of Clerk had been advertised, a contract prepared and funds earmarked for the employment of a Clerk from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023. It had been agreed to appoint Pippa Cockhead, who was 'shadowing' HE today, to the post.

The Chairman thanked HE and welcomed Pippa.

### 7. Correspondence

It was noted that, further to discussions at the last meeting, the Clerk had submitted the Council's responses to the review of EHDC polling arrangements and that there had been no new correspondence since the last meeting.

### 8. Facilities

The Chairman reported that:

- There had, to date, been 3 e-mail and 7 questionnaire responses to the **Village Hall Usage Survey**, perhaps now was not a good time of year for a survey. Interests raised were art and craft, knitting, gardening, movie night, French lessons and something for children. She thanked Mark Bizley for distributing the questionnaire. A villager had suggested that, if it was decided to go for some kind of fitness class, she could see whether any of the personal trainers from Alton Sports Centre might run a trial, using the Hall free of charge. The Village Hall Management Committee had agreed to consider this. Any further responses could be left at the shop or e-mailed to SN. It was agreed to chase responses in the new year.

- As, at some point, the power supply to the farm and hence to the **defibrillator** would be cut off, it was going to be necessary to move the defibrillator. It had been suggested that it might be moved to by the front door of the Village Hall. Councillors considered this but decided that they would prefer it to be closer to its current location, possibly on the front wall of the village shop. It was agreed to approach Rotherfield, owner of the shop, about this.

**ACTION: SN**

It was agreed to obtain quotes for moving the defibrillator.

**ACTION: PC**

**Q: Could the defib be solar powered?**

A: This was not known. It was agreed to enquire.

**ACTION: PC**

- The **Licence to use the land behind the Village Hall** had been agreed and signed.

- Meetings had been held but no progress made regarding renewal of the **lease for use of the Recreation Ground**; the current arrangements had evolved over generations; the possibility of the Parish Council sub-leasing to the Cricket Club was not going to work. The Parish Council were willing to lease the Recreation Ground but were unwilling to accept responsibility for the buildings. The matter had been referred back to the Estate. PC suggested that the Cricket Pavillion might be valued at, say £25, hence creating a very limited liability. It was agreed that he would e-mail some information to SN.

**ACTION: PC**

It was noted that Emilie Hobday was leaving soon; SN was to meet her successor in the new year.

- In the course of investigating what might be done about fencing the pond, as proposed by the Estate, it had become apparent that Hampshire Highways (HH) were responsible for maintenance of half of the green and half of the pond. HH had suggested that if anything was to be done they would require the Estate to take out a licence to cover it. HH had proposed that they install and maintain a fence themselves. However, the style of fence proposed would not meet the Estate's requirements. HH and the Estate were to liaise and contact the Parish Council as and when they had developed a plan.



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### 9. Coronation

Following on from the enjoyable events organised to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, Councillors considered whether anything might be organised to celebrate the Coronation, the Coronation being on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> May and the extra bank holiday on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May. It was agreed to find out whether the Estate was planning anything. **ACTION: SN**

### 10. Planning

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

### 11. Highways

- It was noted that the Council's responses to the consultation regarding 20mph speed limits as discussed at the last meeting had been submitted by the Clerk but that SN had yet to write to Highways concerning 'lessons to be learned' from experience with roadworks on the A32. **ACTION: SN**

- CR provided an update regarding data from the Speed Indicator Device (SID) gathered in the period 7/10-4/12. **Station Road eastbound (uphill)** SID just east of the Church – the average speed recorded was 25-26mph, the 85% percentile was just over 31 mph and the maximum speed recorded was 50mph at 8.20am on 10<sup>th</sup> October. On the **A32 southbound** the average speed was 37.5mph, the 85% percentile was just over 44mph and the maximum recorded was someone going 75mph at 00.35 in the morning. Station Road westbound SID near the pond – the average was about 26mph, the 85% percentile 32mph and the maximum was 60mph at 3.30pm one day. It was highlighted that 30mph was, in fact, too fast, on this narrow blind bend. It was possible that the SID was causing people to slow down; the statistics did not indicate significantly high average speeds or support the case for a 20mph limit.

Councillors thanked Peter Finch for managing the SID and collecting the data.

**Q: Was there any data for the A32 northbound?**

A: Not this time.

**Q: Might we consider traffic calming chicanes like in Greatham?**

A: This style of arrangement was not an option as it would restrict the farm vehicles.

- It was noted that that EHDC had successfully applied for a grant and had been awarded £15,000 to improve road safety in the village. Councillors had met with Ian Janes of HH, walked through the village and identified a number of ideas, refer Attachment 2.

**Q: Did we know what the various ideas would cost?**

A: No; the options would be developed and costed by HH.

**Q: Could we fund things ourselves, too?**

A: Yes, we could use Parish Council funds or grants.

RO advised that next year the County Council hoped to extend the range of initiatives that could be undertaken as Community Funded Initiatives (CFI). Also he would be happy to help by chasing HH and, although he was no longer responsible for Highways, they were within 'Universal Services' so he should be able to exert some pressure: it was thanks to working with East Tisted that he understood why 20mph limits were needed on village roads.

*8.05pm RO, CL and 2 Villagers left the meeting*

### 12. Responsible Financial Officer

12.1 Councillors received and approved for signature by the Chairman the latest Statement of Financial Transactions and the bank reconciliations since the last meeting.

12.2 Members received and approved for the Chairman to sign the Budget Monitoring Report for 2022/23 to date.

12.3 Councillors agreed the following subscriptions, grants and payments:

- £350 to the PCC for upkeep of the church yard



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- £100 to the Village Hall Management Committee for use of the Hall 22/23 (5 meetings of 2 hours @ £10 per hour)
  - £366 to the Defib Shop for a new battery for the defibrillator
  - £225 to B Davey, for mowing, July – Sept + winter pond works
- 12.4 Councillors noted that commencement of the switch to Unity Trust Bank and action to register ownership of the village hall with the Land Registry were postponed until the new Clerk was in post.
- 12.5 Councillors reviewed the draft budget and precept request for 2023/24. The initial proposal was that the precept be increased by 5% but, after discussion, it was agreed to request an increase of 12% in order to cover inflation and make a contribution to the costs of employing a Clerk. The budget and precept agreed is detailed in Attachment 3.

**13. Date of the next meeting**

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm.

*Helen Evison*

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer  
18<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Agreed as a true and correct record.

Signature....., Chairman    Date.....