

**ETCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Etchingham Parish Council**  
**held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019**  
**at 7.30pm at the Parker Hall, Parsonage Croft, Etchingham**

**Members Present:** Cllrs Mr John Barnes, Mrs M Barnes, Mr S Barrow, Mr R Beeney, Mr C Boylett and Ms Roma Turner.

**Also present:** Ms P Barton – Clerk to the Council, District Cllr Kirby-Green, also members of the public.

**The Chairman explained that the Parish Council meeting was a meeting held in public but not a Public Meeting. Any person present wishing to speak about any item on the agenda should do so under agenda item 6 'Public Time'. There would not be any other opportunity for the public to speak at the meeting.**

**1981. Apologies for Absence:**

There were apologies for absence from Cllr D Lambert and Mr Paul Stott, which were accepted.

**1982. Minutes of the previous meetings:**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting.

**1983. Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr. J Barnes declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 13, Etchingham School and Community Development as the Chairman of ETSR.

Cllr. M. Barnes declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 13, Etchingham School and Community Development as a member of the Parochial Church Council and reminded Council that she is a member of the RDC Planning Committee.

Cllr. S Barrow declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 8 (a) Planning : RR/2019/1847/P only

**1984. Etchingham Parish Council – Dispensations**


The Clerk confirmed that no written requests for dispensations had been received.

**1985. Chairman's Announcements:**

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Beeney to his first full council meeting. He also reminded everyone that the Big Etchingham Weekend took place that coming weekend.

**1986. Public Time:**

- a) ESCC County Cllr John Barnes reported that the Government 'spending round' had been reasonably welcome news always bearing in mind that these are one-off payments. New funding arrangements are to be clarified this December including, hopefully, more freedom to raise tax.
- b) District Cllr Kirby-Green reported that the consultation on CPE continues. Discussion is on-going regarding changes to the conduct of RDC Planning Committee meetings. RDC has approval to build 14 social housing units. It is hoped this is the beginning of a long over-due building programme.
- c) The ETSR grand summer draw tickets are still on sale, the draw will take place on 7<sup>th</sup> September. Advance notice was given about the Charles Moore talk on his new book, to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> October.
- d) As Mr Dan Lach was not present, Cllr J Barnes informed the meeting that Mr Lach would be lodging his formal objection to both the planning application and the manner of its execution for the works at Nortrade. EPC to resolve its response under agenda item 8(a).  
Queries were raised regarding Highways information about pothole work locally and the actuality. County Cllr J Barnes replied that this work would be done, as appropriate, but the timetable meant work nearest Etchingham was still a way off in the schedule.  
Mr Phillip Hinde asked about progress on the recently received preliminary Engineering Survey on Road Safety. It was agreed that due to his specialist knowledge he would be invited to speak during agenda item 7 (c) ib
- e) No members of council will be excluded from the meeting so no further reports or comments.

  
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**1987. Parish Matters:**

**a) Village Amenities:**

- i) The shop leases progress satisfactorily.
- ii) The oak at 1 The Orchard: while RDC has 'no objection' to this tree being felled it **was Resolved to progress retrenchment pruning and not felling** if possible. Advice to be sought by Clerk from the insurance Loss Adjustors.  
The full survey from the tree inspection having now been received and circulated **it was Resolved that Cllr Beeney and the Clerk** should prepare a report for Council scheduling works and suggesting possible contractors.
- iii) The village sign is proving difficult to remove completely from its base. A site visit with the contractor **to be held to decide a new suitable position very close to existing should this be the better option**  
There were no other matters to consider.

**b) Children and Young People:**

- i) There will be a report next month to follow the start of the new term.
- ii) The full report on ERGT fundraising, having been circulated prior to the meeting was taken as read and approved. The full report is on file.
- iii) The first meeting of the Playground Working Party having been held a progress report was given, in Cllr Lambert's absence, by the Clerk. A village survey, distributed by the Post Office, will be circulated to ensure that the village (a) actually wants the playgrounds renovated and (b) to get ideas about desirable equipment from those in favour. The next meeting of the Working Party will be held after the deadline date (27<sup>th</sup> September) for the return of the survey forms (meeting date 7<sup>th</sup> October).
- iv) There were no other matters to consider.

**c) Highways, Footpaths and Community Safety:**

- i) a) There had been no SLR meeting nor any other issue to report.  
b) The preliminary independent Engineering Report having been received and circulated **it was Resolved that a Safety Working Party be set up to take forward.** A suitable date to be found for the first meeting, to include Cllr J Barnes, Cllr R Beeney, Mr Phillip Hinde and the Clerk.
- ii) Cllr Boylett's full Speedwatch report, having been previously circulated, was taken as read and approved. The full Report is on file.
- iii) The overgrown footpath in the vicinity of Borders Lane has been dealt with thanks to Cllr Barrow. Cllr Turner is placing further 'Pick it Up' notices to remind dog walkers of their responsibility along the most frequently used footpaths.
- iv) The CPE consultation currently available is almost exclusively concerned with the main urban areas. There were no other matters to consider.

**d) Environment and Other issues:**

- i) The increase of Himalayan Balsam, particularly in Church Lane/Hill was noted and will be reported to ESCC Highways, including the additional issue of establishing ownership of the strip of land between the Highways 1 metre from the road edge and the fenced boundary line of the landowner/farmer. There were no issues to consider.

**1988. Planning:**

**Cllr Mary Barnes reminded Council that she is a member of Rother District Council Planning Committee and Cllr Barrow that he has a personal interest in RR/2019/1847/P so would not take part in the relevant section of the agenda.**

- a) RR/2019/1796/P – Hillside Farmhouse, Sheepstreet Lane - Replacement building to be used as 2no. holiday lets and/or overspill accommodation for family/friends of occupiers of Hillside Farmhouse, together with new vehicular access. **It was resolved to Object by a majority as the entrance was considered to be on a dangerous stretch of the lane.**  
RR/2019/1847/P - Court Lodge Farm, Etchingham Road, Burwash - Application seeking retrospective planning permission for animal Incinerator. **It was resolved to Object through the Director of Transport and Environment at ESCC on the grounds of possible pollution and nuisance to neighbouring properties. It was also noted that approval would set a poor precedent.**

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RR/2019/1887/P - Formerly Bracon Place, High Street, (Nortrade) - Installation of 2no. compressor units at the rear of the existing structure (retrospective). Proposed construction of an attenuating building around compressor units. **It was resolved to maintain the Objection already in place, although attenuation of the noise nuisance is obviously welcome, due to the current application being pursued on grounds of omission of relevant information resulting in conflicting statements creating confusion thereby making it impossible to come to a sound judgement. Further that the District Councillor be asked to consider 'calling in' this application.**

- b) The proposed development of the Hawkhurst Golf Club, to comprise over 400 homes, supporting services and a new road, was discussed. **It was Resolved to support the Hawkhurst Parish Council in objecting to this unsuitable overdevelopment in an AONB generally and specifically on the impact to Etchingham residents registered with a GP in Hawkhurst and the increase of traffic through the Flimwell junction on the A21.**

There were no other planning matters to consider.

**1989. Finance:**

- a) **a) 1st Quarter Accounts 2018/1.**

The Clerk presented the 1st Quarter Accounts for 2017/18. It was **resolved that the** accounts be approved as presented.

- b) **Authorisation of payments** – the Clerk presented to Council accounts for payment.

It was **RESOLVED that the following payments be approved and that the cheques together with copies of the relevant invoice be signed by two councillors to comply with Financial Regulations and best practice.**

<b>Statement of Payments for August 2019</b>		
<b>Payments August</b>		<b>PAID</b>
K McKay	Emergency tree felling Burgh Wood	600.00
P Barton	Salary & expenses - Aug 2019	896.00
SSALC Limited	4 x Good Councillor Guides 2018 (latest)	19.20
SLCC	Ann membership fee for Clerk	156.00
Appleby Petfield Ltd	Reapplication for consent to works on Sports Field	180.00
Curley Consultants	Full tree Report & Report oak in Church Ln	3,530.00
The ETSR	Half Yearly contribution to office costs	500.00
RALC	Annual Subscription	30.00
Surrey Hills Solicitors	Services re shop lease/s - correspondence/advice	720.00
Surrey Hills Solicitors	Drafting lease and correspondence	•
Hitachi Capital Invoice Finance	JAKK for work to replace village sign	1,600.00
Crane Designs Ltd	NP Mthly charge for hosting site DD 6/8/19	15.00
Crane Designs Ltd	EPC Mthly charge for hosting site DD 12/8/19	15.00
PWLB	1/2 yrly loan repayment	6724.44
Focus Group	DD 27/08/19 Office Phone to 31/07/2019	26.51
	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£15,012.15</b>

**1990. Etchingham Proposed Cricket Field Development:**

Now the permission for works to the Cricket Field has been received the Clerk to meet with the surveyor and contractor to establish parameters of possible changes to specification to reduce costs.

*SAB 17/10/19*

- 1991. Etchingam Neighbourhood Plan**  
Re-drafting of the Reg 14 Consultation documents continues.
- 1992. Public Realm Working Party**  
There was nothing to report.
- 1993. Etchingam School and Community Development**  
**Cllr. J Barnes declared a personal interest as Chairman of ETSR.**  
**Cllr. M Barnes declared a personal interest as a member of the Parochial Church Council.**  
Cllr John Barnes reported that there was nothing to report this month.
- 1994. To receive Reports from Members and Representatives and pass such resolutions as may be necessary:-**
- a) There had been no meetings of SALC so there was no report however Cllr Mary Barnes was appointed unanimously to be the EPC second representative to SALC.
  - b) There had been no meetings of RALC so there was no report
  - c) There were no other meetings or conferences attended.
- 1995. Correspondence**  
It was confirmed that the date for the On-Site training session for all councillors being run by SSALC, the Chief Executive, Trevor Leggo and the Legal Advisor, Ian Davison who will run the evening course is confirmed as Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November.  
As all other correspondence had been distributed by e-mail upon receipt there were no further items to discuss.
- 1996. Etchingam Parish Council – Notification to members of Council decisions:**  
There were no notifications.
- 1997. Agenda items for the next meeting**  
As noted through the above minutes, to include parking and, when space/time allows routine review and resolution of necessary updates to Council Policies including the communications process of EPC to residents.

Signed.....  


Date.....  
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