

**ETCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Etchingam Parish Council**  
**held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020**  
**at 7.30pm under strict Covid-19 regulations**

**Members Present:** Cllrs, J Barnes (in the Chair), Mrs M Barnes, Mr S Barrow Mr R Beeney, Mr C Boylett and Ms R Turner.

**Also present:** District Cllr Eleanor Kirby-Green, Ms P Barton – Clerk to the Council and 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.**

**2132. Apologies for Absence:**

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

**2133. Minutes of the previous meetings:**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020 having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a correct record of that meeting.

**2134. Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr. J Barnes declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 12, Village Community Halls as a Trustee of ETSR and that he is now appointed first substitution should a member of RDC Planning Committee be absent.  
Cllr. M. Barnes declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 12, Village Community Halls as a member of the Parochial Church Council and reminded Council that she is a member of the RDC Planning Committee.

**2135. Etchingam Parish Council – Dispensations**

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

**2136. Chairman’s Announcements:**

The Chairman had no announcements to make.

**2137. Public Time:**

- a) There will be a large financial deficit and while reserves will cover the current shortfall the outcome of the next financial year will be very dependent upon promised Government support which is still awaited.  
Thanks were given to E-Bulletin for the excellent work in circulating all the information regarding Covid-19 in such timely fashion.
- b)
  - i. CPE begins in Rother at the end of September. Its impact, at least in the early stages, is not expected to greatly effect Etchingam as the only remaining RDC car park is of small size although vital to residents.
  - ii. RDC has formed a Housing Company with a remit to build houses, not just social housing. Cllr John Barnes has been appointed a Director. It is hoped that the design of these new builds will better suit their locations than has always been the case recently.
  - iii. The NHS is to bring in a new ‘111’ system.
- c) None.
- d) As no members were to be excluded this right was not exercised.

**2138. Parish Matters:**

- a) **Village Amenities:**
  - i) ***It was Resolved that the ‘rent holiday’ for the tenant of The Old Stores continue for at least another month, to be reviewed thereafter.*** In addition the Clerk informed council that remedial work required urgently to a high level leaking window had been resolved.
  - ii) For Queen’s Garden and Viper ***it was Resolved that the monthly inspection reports be approved.*** It was noted that urgent repairs required on one of the swings had been completed by the handyman.
  - iii) ***It was Resolved that the Autumn Clean Day be scheduled following the first frost.***
  - iv) There were no other matters to consider.

- b) **Children and Young People:**
  - i) Cllr Turner reported that her volunteer rota at the school has not begun yet so there will be a report next month.
  - ii) Cllr Boylett presented the report on ERGT fundraising for the playground which had been previously circulated and is on file. The report was approved and accepted.
  - iii) In Cllr Lambert's absence the Clerk reported that work has begun on an application for a Community Grant and that the PWLB options are being revisited.
  - iv) There were no other matters to consider.
- c) **Highways, Footpaths and Community Safety:**
  - i) ESCC Highways have yet to suggest dates for the next SLR meeting. RALC will be advised of an interest without commitment on the Black CAT device as a shared facility.
  - ii) Cllr Boylett's Speedwatch reports were presented to the meeting, having been previously circulated and they are on file. The reports were approved and accepted. This year's Project Edward had been a success and confirmed that drivers are returning to levels of speeding from pre-Covid lockdown. Also reported is the good news that 2 new volunteers have been recruited and are beginning their training.
  - iii) Nothing to report.
  - iv) The latest information from the local police team having been distributed there was just the report of the theft of a plant stand with money box from a property in Burgh Hill was has been reported, the item was found – without the contents of the money box – in adjacent woodland to add. There were no other matters to consider.
- d) **Environment and Other issues:**  
There were no matters to consider.

**2139. Planning:**

**Cllr Mary Barnes reminded Council that she is a member of Rother District Council Planning Committee and Cllr John Barnes reminded Council that he is now listed as a substitute member of Rother District Council Planning Committee should there be an absentee.**

- a) RR/2020/1415/P - Lyndhurst – land adjacent to, High Street (aka Bracon's car park). ***It was Resolved to neither object nor support this.*** Reference OWPC25681 refers.  
  
RR/2020/1604/P – 8 Parsonage Croft. ***It was Resolved that there would be no objection to this application.*** Reference OWPC25680 refers.
- b) Following the NALC request for input on proposed Changes to Planning Law ***it was Resolved to delegate the response to Cllrs J Barnes, D Lambert and R Beeney as resolved under: the algorithm is unfit for purpose and AONB areas require a very different approach: the issue of transparency: the whole issue of zones needs to be revisited.***
- c) There were no other matters to consider.

**2140. Finance**

- a) The 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr Accounts (1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020) having been previously circulated ***it was Resolved that the Accounts be approved as presented.***

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

<b>Payments for September</b>			
P Barton	Salary & Expenses April 2020 (missed in error)		755.83
P Barton	Salary & Expenses September 2020		921.57
L Worton	Salary & Expenses August 2020		101.10
BACT	Grants for 2019-2020 & 2020-2021		200.00
Sutcliffe Play Ltd	Special bolts & fixing tool (Viper unit)		35.74
WEL Medical Ltd	New battery for Defib in Mkt Squ		197.94
ETSR	Contrib to running costs Sept - Feb		500.00
Crane Designs Ltd	NP Mthly charge for hosting site DD 04/09/2020		15.00
Crane Designs Ltd	EPC Mthly charge for hosting site DD 04/09/2020		15.00
Focus Group	DD 25/09/2020 Office Phone to 28/08/2020		22.94

It was **RESOLVED** that the payments for September 2020 be approved and that proof of the BACs payments together with copies of the relevant invoices be signed by two councillors to comply with Financial Regulations and best practice as soon as possible.

**2141. The Emma Beene Award for Outstanding Service to the Parish of Etchingham**

Cllr Lambert continues work on the draft Terms of Reference and Cllr Boylett on facilitating the creation of a new web page for the Council website. The Clerk circulated an example of an award ‘trophy’ and will investigate whether it can be suitably mounted on a plinth to enable plaques to ongoing winners to be displayed.

**2142. Etchingham Neighbourhood Plan**

The Clerk, as Acting Secretary to the NP Steering Committee, reported that there was no change to status since last month.

**2143. Village Community Halls**

**Cllrs J & M Barnes reminded the meeting of their personal interest in ETSR.**

In his absence Mr Paul Stott had submitted a report that had been circulated and was accepted with thanks.

**2144. To receive Reports from Members and Representatives and pass such resolutions as may be necessary:-**

- a) SSALC – Cllr J Barnes had been unable to join the latest Zoom meeting due to connection difficulties.
- b) RALC – no meetings.
- c) There were no other meetings or Conferences attended by the Members or the Clerk.

**2145. Correspondence**

All correspondence having been distributed by e-mail upon receipt there were no further items to discuss.

**2146. Etchingham Parish Council – Notification to members of Council decisions:**

There were no notifications.

**2147. Agenda items for the next meeting to be held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm**

As noted through the above minutes.

Signed.....

Date.....

**2148. The meeting continued in Closed Session.**