

# MINUTES OF SHERFIELD ENGLISH PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

Held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Parish Cllr Griffiths (in chair), R Noble, S Dovey, J Hoffman, Cllrs Bailey and Adams King, one member of the public and clerk to the council, Sue Holder.

**24/061 APOLOGIES:** Received from Cllrs G Noble, Billett and Cook.

**24/062 OPEN FORUM:** Nothing to report.

**24/063 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATION TO AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** None.

**24/064 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** Were unanimously agreed and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

**24/065 MATTERS ARISING:** It was reported that a retrospective planning application for the lake at Manor Farm has not yet been submitted.

**24/066 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT, by Cllr Bailey:** Nothing to report.

**24/067 COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT, by Cllr Adams King**

It was reported that Dunwood Fruit Farm and The Triangle have been removed from the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan for sand extraction.

The planning application for Bough House, land west of Sandhill Farm for a new dwelling has been refused as it is outside of planning policy.

The Enforcement Department have become involved at Dunwood Chipping Depot; the activities are being investigated, and to check that the size of the building is consistent with the permission originally given.

A mobile app will be made available to photograph and log potholes directly onto the Highways website.

The Borough Council are purchasing a Dragon Patcher to fill cracks in the roads, with a plan to tour the county next year filling all the cracks to prevent potholes forming.

The Chairman reported that the Romsey Advertiser had published an article following a successful planning appeal regarding Essences House, an application initially refused by Test Valley Borough Council. The Chairman wanted recording the following comment made by the Planning Inspector: 'the additional storey combined with the complete remodelling of the host property would represent an innovative and high-quality design that would accord with the guidance within the VDS'. The parish council have recently been in contact with the Test Valley Borough Council Planning department concerning the lack of regard for the VDS in making planning decisions, and Cllr Adams King replied that the Planning Inspectors comment was based on his personal view. The parish council suggested that this results in decisions being inconsistent if the VDS is only sometimes used in planning decisions.

Cllr Dovey asked if the County Council were assessing and monitoring Ash Die Back. Cllr Adams King responded that whilst there was an annual review of trees on Highways land, he was not aware of any specific monitoring for Ash Die Back.

Cllr R Noble reported water running across the road at Shootash which will be dangerous if freezes. Cllr Adams King responded that the water table is very high and the cost to divert the water would be substantial.

## **24/068 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

For consideration by the parish council at this meeting:

23/02656/FULLS Swinley House, Doctors Hill

Removal of existing fencing and gate and replace with brick wall and new timber gate.

The parish council acknowledge comments from members of the public on this application and resolved to make no comment.

23/01053/FULLS Hilltop Farm (amendment)

Continued seasonal change of use from agricultural and (formerly golf course) to tourism accommodation comprising x 2 overnight holiday let shepherds huts, x 3 ancillary huts (kitchen, break-out and replacement larger bathroom), two open front shelters, timber decking, formation of car park area, sewage treatment. Further proposals have been received which amend the application in the following way: -drawing reference BEN3502 G, titled 'Site Layout Plan'.

The parish council resolved that the amendment did not affect the original response submitted on this application however concern was raised regarding a comment from a member of the public suggesting the details on the application were inaccurate.

### Decisions received from TVBC

22/03303/FULLS Essenes Cottage. The appeal is allowed, and planning permission was granted.

23/02364/FULLS Broxmore Drove – Permission

23/02489/AGNS Glebe Farm – Prior approval no required.

## **24/069 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN (NDP):**

Cllr Hoffman reported that the committee were on track with the NDP. A survey of the latest version of the NDP will be online and available in a paper version soon.

## **24/070 LENGTHSMAN:**

It was reported that grips on the A27 from Bunny Lane to the Wiltshire border have now been cleared.

## **24/071 HIGHWAYS /MAINTENANCE ISSUES**

- The 40/50mph speed sign near the old layby, after the church has been reported as falling away from the road. (21690476)
- The grips need cleaning out along Branches Lane (21692449).

**24/072 VILLAGE HALL:** Nothing to report.

## **24/073 CORRESPONDENCE**

- NAK - Dunwood Fruit Farm not approved for sand extraction, noted.

- Houghton Parish Council, regarding pollution in the River Test, noted.
- Polling District and polling Place Review 2023, noted.
- Support for Climate and Ecology Bill, noted.
- Hampshire Tree Planting, noted.
- TVBC – ecology representative, noted.
- NALC – pay scales, approved by parish council.
- S106 balances, noted.
- TVBC – Community Asset Fund open for applications, noted.
- UG – Bus shelter, passed to Cllr Billett.
- TVBC – council tax calculations, noted.
- JH and JB– apologies for meeting, noted.

## **24/074 COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**SERP** – It was reported that the annual fireworks display was cancelled due to the wet weather and will be re-arranged; the fireworks are being stored back with the supplier. The fence at the playground has fallen over and following the annual safety inspection two pieces of equipment have deteriorated due to the wet conditions and one piece does not comply with current regulations. Furthermore, the toy boat has been condemned due to the pointy end. As the playground is also waterlogged the committee have decided to close the playground for the time being, pending repairs and replacement equipment. The SERP committee have requested that the parish council match fund £5500 raised from fund raising efforts to get the playground open again. Quotations for the drainage work have come in at £90,000 plus an additional £2000.00 per annum for maintenance. The committee have arranged to meet with TVBC to discuss funding options.

### **Church – (Sent by Cllr G Noble)**

Very good attendance for the remembrance service.

The clock light has been mended.

The bell tower louvres protective mesh work has been started, kindly funded by the school trust.

The Christmas coffee morning will be held on the 9th of December and the Carol service on the 17th of December at 6pm.

The position of House of Duty has been filled by Sarah Jane.

Next year the church celebrates its 120 years.

The next big project will be the gutters.

**Defibrillators** – It was reported that all units are serviceable and up to date, with new adult pads for the sports field unit.

## **24/075 FINANCE**

a) Bank Balance as at 01.11.23

£33,304.92

b) Received:

None

c) Request for funding: The parish council resolved to grant £5000.00 to SERP to assist financing the re-opening of the playground, on receipt of a set of accounts to verify the grant funding.

d) The parish council approved the NJC National Salary 2023/2024 Pay Scales for Clerks.

e) The parish council were provided with a draft budget for 2024/25 and resolved to increase the precept to £11,000 in line with inflation. It was noted that the precept has not been increased for 8 years.

e) Payments ratified at this meeting:

Clerk's expenses	£318.52
Defibrillator spares	£74.09®

**24/076 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Planning committee meeting 13<sup>th</sup> of December and full council meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The meeting closed at 08.58pm