

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting,

Wednesday 3rd April 2024 at 7.30pm East Knoyle Village Hall

Councillors Present - Sue Entwistle (Chair), Neil Southerden, Ann Ambrose, Ann White, Ian Tait, David Pickering, Rob McCarthy.

Clerk - Martin Brown.

Guest – Cllr Bridget Wayman

1. **Apologies for absence** – Hugo Middleton, Deb Bateman.
2. **Notices of Interest** – None
3. **Public Open Forum** – N/A
4. **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 6TH Marh 2024** – Proposed Cllr Southerden / Seconded Cllr Tait- Approved and Signed as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising** –
 - i. Highways Improvement Form initiated by Hays House – Nothing had been heard from Semley/Sedgehill PC so supporting comment from East Knoyle PC to be submitted by Clerk.
 - ii. Allotments ownership/water bill – ownership to be confirmed with Clouds Estate and transfer details to water company.
 - iii. Defibrillator and 1st Aid Training – deferred – awaiting update from Dr B Williamson.

Action – 1) Clerk to submit HI Form now. 2) Clerk to confirm ownership of allotments and transfer water bill details.
6. **Bridget Wayman’s Report**
 - i. Night Closure of A350 – dates reported, and Cllr Wayman confirmed she had posted details on EK WhatsApp Group.
 - ii. Cllr Wayman had visited/inspected and reviewed some of EK’s worst pot-holed roads with another county councillor. Reported that unfortunately there was unlikely to be any quick wins or improvements to the overall poor state of all Wiltshire’s roads and the budget constraints.
7. **Highways** – Update from Cllr McCarthy
 - i. Fly-tipping – 3 reported this month – 2 quickly cleared while 3rd was subject to delay due to investigation.
 - ii. In addition to the A350 road closures, it was noted that the A360 was also closed 24/7.
 - iii. Gully Crew – Cllr McCarthy had submitted the work sheet but had seen no sign of the crew/work being done on the designated dates.

Action – Cllr McCarthy to chase-up Wiltshire Council regarding Gully Crew works.
8. **Planning Applications:**
 - i. **PL/2024/02405 - The Old Rectory, East Knoyle, SP3 6AQ - New dormer window on previously approved garage extension** – Supported – Proposed Cllr Tait/Seconded Cllr McCarthy – 5 votes for with 2 abstentions.
 - ii. **PL/2024/02714 - The Old Rectory, East Knoyle, SP3 6AQ - New dormer window on previously approved garage extension - Listed building consent** - Supported – Proposed Cllr Tait/Seconded Cllr McCarthy – 5 votes for with 2 abstentions.

Note – Planning Applications and any comments submitted by East Knoyle Parish Council are available on the Wiltshire Council website – under Planning and Building Applications.
9. **Chair’s Report – Cllr Entwistle**
 - i. Confirmed that Cllr Brian Williamson had resigned and thanked him for his valuable help and knowledgeable advice to the PC, as well as wishing him all the best for his future endeavours.
 - ii. Thanks to - Cllr Ambrose for organising the visit of the Wiltshire Council Countryside Access Officer and for her work liaising with Clouds Estate recently; Cllr McCarthy for rapid response to fly-tipping and setting up the ‘just giving’ page for the KHG Playground Appeal; Cllr White for co-ordinating the donations for KHG Playground Appeal; Wren’s Shop Committee for donating Easter raffle proceeds to the Playground Appeal
 - iii. Celebrating Age (Wiltshire) – thanks to Mrs Jan Knight it seems that an event could be booked in the Village Hall on or around 26th June.

10. **Finance -**

- i. Cash Book reconciliation – Clerk – End of year accounts and bank statements presented. AGAR Certificate of Exemption approved. Remained in credit for the year despite many unexpected outlays.
- ii. Payments due for approval – Clerk – None, all previously approved.

11. **Common Lands – Cllr Ambrose**

- i. Management of Windmill grassland – raking and removing the newly mown grass proved to be much harder and much longer than expected. It was very physical work that could prove increasingly difficult to carry out again. In addition, the invasive gorse is very widespread. Both these issues raise serious questions as to how this area can be effectively managed in future.
- ii. Cllr Ambrose attended the Wiltshire Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) meeting. A key point was incorporating and recommending ‘nature’ elements in planning application comments – e.g. ‘swift bricks’.
- iii. Increasing numbers of ‘memorials’ appearing by the Windmill trees which include unperishable items such as plastic vases.

Actions – 1) Cllr Ambrose to contact Cranborne Chase for possible assistance with managing the Windmill site. 2) Cllr Ambrose to investigate introducing other ‘nature’ related suggestions for planning applications, 3) Clerk to include note re ‘memorials’ at Windmill in next EKN – non-perishable will be removed.

12. **Village Hall Update – Cllr Pickering reported from the recent VH Cttee Meeting as follows –**

- i. New Floor for main hall is now due to be installed June 2024
- ii. Refurbished notice board is now in place outside the Hall.

13. **Post Office & Village Shop – Cllr Tait reported –**

- i. New porch/roof extension now finished.
- ii. New veg boxes due to be installed 17/18 April.
- iii. Possible ‘coffee shop’ is being investigated,
- iv. Possible donations to the Village Hall and KHG Playground Appeal to be discussed at next committee meeting.

14. **New Parish Councillor – Only one application by a qualifying resident had been received by the deadline. The application was considered and a vote to co-opt a new councillor was proposed by Cllr Tait/ seconded by Cllr Ambrose and unanimously approved. Mr Garry Staunton will be invited to join EKPC for the May meeting.**

Action – Clerk to invite new councillor and organise paperwork, etc.

15. **Vacancy for Parish Councillor – Clerk reported that the Notice of Vacancy had been displayed as required. When the Notice expires on 15th April it should be possible to advertise the vacancy, unless an election is requested by residents. There is already an interest from a resident for a role.**

Action – Clerk to post advert after 15 April, subject to WC elections approval.

16. **KHG/Playground –**

- i. Review plans for maintenance and improvement – Remain as last month. Subject to weather conditions and monies raised by the Appeal, work will start imminently.
- ii. Fund raising for maintenance and improvements – The KHG Playground Appeal was advertised in the EKN and as a result a number of donations have already been received. Cllr White is acting as donation co-ordinator, Clerk/RFO is administering funds and sending out receipts. Cllr McCarthy has set up a ‘Just Giving’ page and tested it – it is operational.
- iii. Zip Wire – in order to ensure that this meets RoSPA recommendations a full expert inspection and service is needed. After reviewing quotes, it was decided to use a fairly local contractor. Proposed Cllr Ambrose/Seconded Cllr Pickering. Approved – 6 votes for/ 1 against.

Action - Clerk to contact zip wire contractor for inspection/service

17. **Defibrillator –**

- i. Clerk confirmed that EK is no longer subscribe g to the VETS system.
- ii. Handover of administration deferred again.

Actions – Clerk/Cllr Williamson to meet to hand over administration

18. **Correspondence Received – None**

19. **Plans for Parish Assembly – Clerk outlined new plans for this meeting. Unfortunately there is now a presentation in St Mary’s Church at 7pm on the same day. However, the Assembly has to take place as already advertised. Clerk has arranged a new date for the director of Cranborne Chase to give her presentation for all residents – this will be 17th July at 6pm before the PC meeting.**

Action – 1) All Councillors to prepare presentations 2) Clerk to advertise changes to the arrangements – cancelling the pre-assembly Cranbourne Chase presentation.

20. **Urgent Items** – none submitted

21. **Date of the next meeting – Wednesday 1st May 2024 @ 7.30pm East Knoyle Village Hall, preceded by the Parish Assembly @ 7pm**

Meeting Closed at 9.05pm

Signed as a true Record*Sue Entwistle* Chair

Date1st May 2024.....

Martin Brown, Clerk to the Council
Oak Dell, The Green, East Knoyle, SP3 6BN
clerkeastknoylepc@gmail.com