**Englishcombe Parish Council**

Serving Barrow, Englishcombe, Haycombe, Inglesbatch, Kilkenny, Nailwell & Padleigh

**Minutes** of the Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th June at 7.30pm at the OldSchoolhouse, Englishcombe

Councillors In Attendance: Robert Law Chairman, Brian Huggett, Will Pow, Brian Scurlock and Annie Watson. Jack Roach, Clerk

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| 1. | **Apologies for absence**  Anne Corlett, Cllr Neil Butters |
| 2. | **Declarations of interest and dispensations**  None |
| 3 | **Parishioners Matters:** Correspondence  None |
| 4.1  4.2 | **Approval of May Meeting’s Minutes VOTE**  **Approved**  **Items not covered by the agenda**  None |
| 5 | **PLANNING** Results, correspondence and consideration  **21/02813/FUL Parcel 6600 Fosseway Englishcombe** Bath, Bath And North East Somerset, Proposal: Reprofiling of land for the purposes of agricultural improvement and provision of beehives  Planning Portal Reference: PP-09867182 Application Received: 15/06/2021  Application Status: Pending Consideration. EPC believes the owner should complete existing reprofiling of spoil mounds, before extending works to adjacent fields. EPC supports the views of Combe Hay Parish Council outlined in the comments area on the BANES website regarding this development.  **Sulis Down Housing:**EPC does not believe that further planned development should go ahead on sites to the east of the present building site for 170 dwellings. See previous comments by EPC about excessive traffic in Englishcombe parish roads due to this development, once completed.**Correspondence and consideration: Land below Inglescombe Farm, Haycombe Lane 21/04890/FUL**  Cllr McCabe: an enforcement officer, in a decision made last year, ruled that the barn is much enlarged beyond the original footprint of the existing barn(fallen into disuse),. The officer did not accept the history of the building or site, or previous consultations with the owners. RL spoke to Isabel Daone about the background to the Parish council’s support for the development of the barn and site, and would welcome a planning officer’s visit to the land and the barn. |
| 6.1  6.2  6.3  6.4  6.5 | **FINANCIAL REPORT**  Balance of funds in main EPC account is **£12,417.61**, the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is **£3,188.98**, the Millstream & Wheelwright’s fund balance is **£2,607.24**  **Payments for approval**  Clerks salary and expenses for May : Payment of £338 (via s/o) and £26 extra hours/expenses via cheque  Sweepers Fee for May: Payment of £229.78 via s/o  Chairman’s expenses £51.00 via cheque **VOTE**  **Approved**  **Progress with banking arrangements with NatWest**  This has nearly been completed, RL will visit NatWest branch in Bath to finalise transition from HSBC  **Zurich insurance premium potential reduction:**  Has been renewed with the amount that reflects the omission of cover for the Englishcombe Times. Insurance will cover Councillors’ legal liability in the course of their duties, however.  **AGAR Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2021/22**  The Annual Internal Audit Report has been completed and signed by S J Pollard, Auditing Solutions Ltd and was presented to the Council for inspection and approval, and signed off by the Chairman and the Clerk.  **VOTE: Approved** |
| 7.1  7.2 | **HIGHWAY, RIGHTS OF WAY AND ALLIED MATTERS**  Innox Field – EPC will identify which routes are currently overgrown, then consider what funds are available to EPC to potentially employ a worker to maintain the PROW, as was previously the case. EPC has received a number of complaints about the state of footpaths, particularly across Innox field. The footpath BA11/8 (along Rectory Farm lane to Englishcombe Road, leading past old vicarage, pig farm, fern cottage, rose cottage, chapel house and the chapel) is particularly overgrown. Cllr McCabe notes that nearby path BA11/3 is also becoming impassable. EPC views that the responsibility of the upkeep of these fields lies is the current owner(s)  **Action:** Clerk will notify Tim Hanes at BANES of the situation with the walkways, requesting that they be maintained  **Community Speed Watch Update**  This is currently ongoing. RL notes that authorities are less likely to act without strong objective evidence.(use of the mobile app itself might do so). BH advises those undertaking the CSA not to take part in this exercise alone, due to potential confrontation with members of the public. |
| 8. | **CIL expenditure report: Parish notice board and paving, defibrillator etc**  Planned uses for CIL money include the refurbishment of ‘Englishcombe’ signage and noticeboard, two defibrillators for the village WH volunteered to produced a report on the options available to EPC for the procurement of the defibs, including cost and installation. The Executors of the late Jenny Walker’s estate have to approve expenditure of the £1500 set aside for such. EPC would like to thank WH for the research that he and Winifred Huggett had done so far.  **Parish Notice Board:** RL explained that the refurbishment of the Notice board would not require the removal of the supporting posts.  **Action:** RL will inquire as to the costs involved of renovation of the board. The Clerk will verify the expiration date for the use of the CIL funds. |
| 9. | **Conservation area and AONB reports**  Issue ongoing, BH to update 2012 Englishcombe Conservation Area report |
| 10. | **Neighbourhood Plan 2014-2034 (update)**  BH: Unclear whether any action would be taken were EPC to produce a new Neighbourhood Plan. MM recommends the council look into the Neighbour Plan, and consider changes in future meetings. BH suggests EPC put up the plan onto the website.  **Action:** Clerk will send the NP out for councillors to consider, any potential changes or updates to be discussed in future meetings. Neighbourhood Plan will be uploaded onto new site. |
| 10. | **Millstream / Orchard / Wheelwright’s report**  BH confirms Millstream is good condition and maintenance continues. |
| 11. | **Parish website progress**  Clerk: Website is currently under construction and good progress has been made. Site is nearing completion. Councillor AC and Clerk continue to populate the site with relevant info BH: suggests finding images of the area to use on the site.  Clerk will be in contact with AC about the site to offer an update to EPC about the timing of introduction. |
| 12. | **Reports: Clerk / District Councillors / Chairman**  Clerk: Following advice from auditor Mr S Pollard, clerk suggests Millstream will need to remain a separate account from the main EPC account, and could potentially be transferred to NatWest independent from the main account. **Action: to ensure this happens. Clerk & Chairman**  Councillor Matthew McCab: Number of challenges currently facing BANES and local authorities, ‘WECA Mayor Dan Norris’ has written to Secretary of State for the Environment to disband the **Spatial Development Strategy (**SDS), which is a an unpopular position in BANES. MM notes that the bus routes throughout the region are currently in a poor state. They are currently running at 75% capacity of pre-covid levels. MM notes that rising fuel costs, and the imminent renewal of contracts have caused much uncertainty; this compounds existing problems facing local/rural bus services. |
| 13. | **Dates: Next EPC Meeting with take place: Monday July 18th 2022 at 7.30pm at the Schoolhouse** |