

## EBERNOE PARISH COUNCIL

The Ebernoe Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in Holy Trinity Church, Ebernoe.

Present: Councillor Mrs A. Tyrrell (Chairman), Councillor Miss F. Abraham, Councillor Mr. J. Harvey, Councillor Mrs. S. Kendall, Councillor Mrs S. Nyfield, Councillor Mr I. Parkinson and Councillor Mr P. Simmonds.

In attendance: Mrs J Duncton (County Councillor), Mr G. Evans (District Councillor), Mrs H. Scott (Parish Clerk),

**170 Apologies for absence received** – none.

**171 Election of Chairman** – Mrs Ann Tyrrell was unanimously re-elected. Proposed by Councillor J. Harvey and seconded by Councillor S. Nyfield.

**172 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 having previously been circulated, were approved and signed. Proposed by Councillor J Harvey and seconded by Councillor F. Abraham.

**173 Matters arising** – none

**174 Appointments to outside bodies** – none

**175 District Councillors Report** –

### Covid update

We are moving well towards lifting of further restrictions on May 17<sup>th</sup>. As part of this step, the Government will look to continue easing limits on seeing friends and family wherever possible, allowing people to decide on the appropriate level of risk for their circumstances. This means that most legal restrictions on meeting people outdoors will be lifted. Indoors the rule of 6 or two households will apply.

Most businesses in all but the highest risk sectors will be able to open. Indoor hospitality will also reopen, but customers will still have to order, eat and drink while seated. Other indoor locations will also open include indoor entertainment venues such as cinemas and children's play areas; the rest of the accommodation sector, including hotel, hostels and B&Bs; and indoor adult group sports and exercise classes

The Government also announced plans for residents to have access to Lateral Flow Test. In my teaching capacity I have been doing Lateral Flow tests twice weekly since January and can vouch for how quick and easy the process is.

There are multiple ways to get a lateral flow test, including:

- a home ordering service, which allows people to order lateral flow tests online to be delivered to their home.
- collection at participating pharmacies.
- collection at a local PCR test site during specific test collection time windows.
- assisted lateral flow test sites. For a full list of options, including how to order the tests,

please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

### Local Elections

As you are aware, the elections are taking place on Thursday 6 May. This year's elections have been especially complex due to the range of safety measures that had to be introduced and considered. However, CDC staff have gone above and beyond to make sure that everything is in place.

### Southern Water

Following the very useful meeting with Southern Water and OFWAT at last month's Overview and Scrutiny meeting (chaired by the Leader of the Opposition Adrian Moss) things are starting to move in the right direction with the many concerns that have been raised in the Loxwood Ward and across the district. Approximately 90 different questions were raised at this meeting.

Since that meeting I can report that the CEO, the Leader, the Cabinet Holder for Planning and the Director of Planning met with the Chief Executive of Southern Water for a follow up meeting to

discuss various issues that we have raised regarding water quality. The CEO will provide you with an update on this shortly which will be circulated when it arrives. One of the outcomes of this is that Southern Water are organising a water summit, which will take place at the end of May. The event will bring together a range of organisations, including Southern Water, the Environment Agency, Natural England, the World Wildlife Fund, the Harbour Conservancy and other environmental groups, to identify long term solutions for the water quality in both Chichester and Pagham Harbours. It is hoped that this will result in a set of agreed actions that all organisations can work towards. The CEO is organising further meeting with the Chief Executive of Southern Water to help shape the Summit.

### **Enabling Grant 2021**

The enabling grant has now been launched. We have already been receiving a good number of applications from a diverse range of businesses. You can access the guidance notes and application form at <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/enablinggrantscheme>

### **New Homes Bonus (Parish Allocations) Scheme 2021**

The Grants and Concessions Panel have recently approved the 'Indicative Allocation' for the above scheme, which has now been confirmed to all Parishes. The total fund for this year's scheme is £251,500, and 25 Parishes are eligible to apply (up from 23 last year). As with previous years, applications will need to be submitted by the end of July 2021 for consideration at a special meeting of the Grants and Concessions Panel in September 2021. Between now and then, officers will be in contact with eligible parishes to discuss potential projects, and offer advice and guidance before they apply.

### **Advice from Natural England – Update from Tony Whitty**

In recent months there has been a difficulty in officers successfully engaging with Natural England (NE) and an inconsistency in advice provided by NE in response to planning applications. Following a meeting between the Planning Portfolio Holder and the CEO of Natural England, Development Management officers were contacted by Rebecca Pearson from NE and have since had a productive meeting about moving forward with their advice and the working relationship between our two organisations. Rebecca has been tasked with leading on the nitrate issues and her contact and meeting was very welcome.

In summary:

- NE accepted that there are clearly issues with regard to consultation and that they were looking to form a better working relationship with CDC.
- The 'no comment' letter received for some applications is what NE call a 'No capacity' letter. NE explained that they send them as last resort, where resourcing issues mean that they are not able to respond to all consultations. CDC officers have suggested that in such cases it would be preferable to ask for an extension of time to the original consultation, if necessary (much as the Environment Agency do). It was also requested that should such letters be sent in future, that they make it clearer as to whether the issue lies with NE resourcing or a lack of information submitted with the application itself.
- Officers agreed to work together to investigate interim solutions to manage nitrates, until CDC has a strategic mitigation scheme/new local plan in place.
- NE receive multiple queries on the same issues from CDC officers and would like to provide a Frequently Asked Questions document to help officers and our customers. It was agreed this would be a good idea and we will provide key issues to include in the list.
- CDC Officers suggested a checklist be included in the local validation list to make it clearer exactly what information needs to be included within a Nitrates Statement (details of preferred mitigation, management etc.).

### **Local Matters**

**Northchapel** - On Saturday I volunteered at the Northchapel Village fundraiser Breakfast helping to serve tea, coffees and breakfast food. This event was in aid of raising money for a wheelchair inclusive roundabout for the play park. They were blessed with good weather and raised in the region of £700

**Loxwood** – I maintain my regular meetings with the Stoptheclaypit group. The application has not get gone into WSCC so there are no further updates regarding this.

**Wisborough Green** – You will be aware of an application having gone in for 25 houses. This has received a high number of objections and has now been red carded so will likely go to committee if officers are minded to approve. I requested that the assigned officer do a site visit which Jane Thatcher has agree to. If you would like to view this application you can here

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=QPASOZERML00>

**Wisborough Green Market** - I would like to invite you to visit the Wisborough Green Market making its post-lockdown return on Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> (this time around the Pond). I will be volunteering on that day as well so would be lovely to see you. This was rained off so next market will be held in June.

**Kirdford** – An application for a 75 home development has gone in. At last check there were in excess of 160 objections and as this has also been red carded it will go to planning committee if the assigned officer is likely to approve. Details for this application can be found here

<https://publicaccess.chichester.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=QOMPYKERM5S00&activeTab=summary>

**Get in touch!** [gbevans@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:gbevans@chichester.gov.uk) / 07958 918 056

**176 County Councillors Report** - Training is currently a high priority as there are over 30 new councillors following the recent elections. I am on a number of committees including planning on rights of way and South Downs national park. Both Gareth and I are focused on working on behalf of residents and the community.

**Lagoon3** – Legal notice expired on May24th 2021 and the County Council will have to consider what further action to take in consultation with the Environment Agency. An Emergency plan may need to be in place. The current owner wishes to test the contents of the lagoon to see if it can be spread on the land however if this is not possible the contents will need to be tankered out – an expensive option but may be the only one. The right of way path is still closed.

### **177 Financial Report -**

The 'lighter touch' audit regime is in place for Smaller Authorities where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less, that meet the qualifying criteria, and that wish to certify themselves as exempt from a limited assurance review and therefore complete The Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020 -21 Part 2 –

**178a.** The accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021(audited and signed off by Internal Auditor) were examined and approved unanimously after being proposed by Councillor I. Parkinson and seconded by Councillor S. Kendall.

**178b.** Certificate of Exemption – proposed by Mr J. Harvey and seconded by Mr. P. Simmonds and agreed unanimously and duly signed.

The Clerk went through the Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – 2021

**178c.** The Annual Governance Statement, previously circulated, proposed by Councillor F. Abraham and seconded by Councillor S. Nyfield

**178d.** The Accounting Statement

proposed by Councillor J. Harvey and seconded by Councillor F. Abraham, agreed unanimously and approved by all parish councillors present.

### **179. Present bank balances:**

#### **Present bank balances:**

Current Account	£ 1226.42
Deposit Account	£ 4699.99

#### **Expenditure to be approved**

WSALC	Annual Subscription	£ 70.36
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Zurich	Annual Insurance Premium	£ 257.60
Helen Scott	SimpleSite – website annual fee	£ 111.95
Don Simpson	Internal Auditor – accounts audit 2020-21	£ 60.00

#### **Income received**

CDC Precept (April - September Payment) 16.04.21 £ 1003.00

**180 Memorial Seat** – request received from Mrs. J. Rosser re installation of memorial seat in memory of her parents Betty and Gerald Rambridge on the Green. General discussion held with some concern around opening the floodgates for further requests and the local connection of the family involved. The Clerk requested to find out further information regarding the family connections to this area.

#### **181 Planning Update**

SDNP/20/05011/FUL – Bittlesfield, Balls Cross – Demolition of 1 No. existing dwelling, garage and outbuildings, replaced with 1 No. detached dwelling and 1 No. Detached garage/storage including access, driveway/parking and amenity space.

SDNP/20/05531/HOUS and 05532/LIS – Upfolds, Balls Cross – ground floor extension to enlarge utility room, first fl. extension to enlarge bedroom (master bedroom), first floor extension to provide additional bedroom.

SDNP/20/05206/HOUS – Redhill Farm, London Road – proposal for a two storey side extension to the dwelling with the relocation of the front door and porch.

EN/21/00217/PLD- other DEV – Brook Cottage, Balls Cross – Insertion of 2 x roof lights to rear roof plane - **Permit**

SDNP/21/01135/OHL – Ebernoe Common – Replace a series of rutter poles with H-Poles along the Fernhurst to Fiveoaks high voltage power line. **CDC decision – raise no objection 9/4/21**

EN/21/00453/FUL – Brook Cottage, Balls Cross – New Access to the highway and associated driveway/parking area.

SDNP/21/01513/HOUS – 2 Upfolds Corner, Balls Cross – Single storey side/rear extension.

#### **182 Correspondence**

**The Green British Spring Clean** – this will take place between May 28<sup>th</sup> – June 13<sup>th</sup> 2021.

Councillor P. Simmonds said that Yasmin would take part in the litter pick.

All correspondence has been previously circulated via e mail.

The parish website is fully operational and can be accessed via [www.ebernoeparish.co.uk](http://www.ebernoeparish.co.uk).

**183 Any other matters from councillors present** – Councillor S, Nyfield advised satellite dish works well for broadband access but is expensive option. Councillor I Parkinson offered unused barbecue for raffle prize.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

**Date of next meeting**

**24<sup>st</sup> August 2021**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm