

EBERNOE PARISH COUNCIL

The Ebernoe Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 16th March 2021 via Zoom.

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

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

159. Apologies for absence received – None

160. Welcome – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

161. Notes from the meeting held electronically on 7th December 2020 having previously been circulated, were approved unanimously and will be forwarded to the chairman for signature.

162. Matters arising – none

163. Broadband – The Clerk reported back on current issues around broadband delivery, see Clerks Report. Councillor Nyfield expressed concern about other areas in Ebernoe will no foreseeable access to broadband. There is a small scheme being considered in Balls Cross but there is no information on either BT or Openreach websites regarding any works in Ebernoe. Councillor Evans agreed to contact Ifold representative who is also working on a scheme and details will be forwarded to the clerk.

164. Chairman's Report – Gatwick Airport – the chairman congratulated Councillor Nyfield on the clarity of her recent report on night flights at Gatwick and suggested that the report be published in the May edition of the Northchapel and Ebernoe news. Councillor Nyfield agreed to this. Councillor Harvey suggested parishioners should be encouraged to write to Grant Shapps, Transport Minister and Andrew Griffiths MP. Councillor Nyfield confirmed that she would take the lead and advise councillors on further consultations.

On 31st May a 'do on the green' is proposed to open up and get the community going again after the pandemic. Kate Chetworth and Bruce Kenyon are taking the lead. Horn Fair will be taking place again this year.

165 County Councillor's Report –

I think I said last time that it wasn't the plan and had never been the plan to close Household Waste and Re-Cycling sites and this is so. There are however 3 sites that are very busy and causing congestion on main roads etc. These 3 sites are 2 along the coast and one in Horsham are going to have a trial period of booking times to visit. The Police are very concerned about the road situation going into the HWRS and we are trying this system which is used in other Counties including Surrey. It works very well there.

There is a consultation taking place with regard to our Children and Family Centre buildings. These have all been closed for 18 months now and those who make use of the buildings have been very happy with the Social Workers visiting them at home. Keeping buildings open for little purpose if the Service can be provided in a different way and with costs rising all the time we have to look at different ways of providing the Service and as said for the last 18 months home visits have been the way.

We have not closed any of our Libraries but they do have to be used differently and the first big Library to become a complete Hub for all County Services is Worthing and this has just opened recently. It is successful and of course we are looking at other Libraries to convert with other Services whilst remaining as Libraries.

Our Childrens Services Commissioner John Coughlin is encouraging in his comments with regard to the progress being made in our Childrens Services. He has told the D of E that we are progressing so well we should not be considered for moving our Children & Young People Service into a Trust and they have agreed with the proviso that they will check non our progress in one year. The West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service which had some issues when inspected by HMI has successfully accomplished everything they had to correct and the committee set up to study their progress has been disbanded as they are happy that WSFR is completely fit for purpose.

It has, of course, been a very busy time at County especially with elections coming on the 6th May. These will be an enormous task with not only County Council elections but Police & Crime Commissioner, various Districts & Boroughs who couldn't hold elections last year and some of them have elections for 1/3rds each of 3 years and one year free and on top of that there are some Parish & Town Council by elections and last but not least referendum for some Neighbourhood Plans. All this with restrictions in place. There will be many more doing Postal voting and the forms for this can be obtained from the Electoral Office at CDC or easier still print them from the web site yourself.

We can only hope for fine weather on the day because of course restrictions will apply in Polling Stations and there could be some queuing outside and keep the distance.

There are still delays with the Chichester Local Plan revision. This is mainly but not solely caused by the issues they have on the Peninsula with the A27, slip roads and development generally. I don't see a quick fix with this.

At every opportunity we do mention that there is life north of the Downs and could they consider the difficulties with our waste water treatment works etc. I say this knowing that the Plan doesn't affect Ebernoe as you are in the National Park which has its Plan but of course so much of this Ward is outside of the National Park.

166. District Councillor's Report

Covid 19 Update

Good progress in the Covid-19 vaccination continues to be made. Since concerns raised by residents at the start of the year an effective weekly dialogue continues between CDC and NHS Sussex with improved communication channels. It appears that those within the 40 years bracket will start to get their vaccinations by the end of March. If there are any concerns or questions with the vaccination rollout please do raise these with me.

With regards to moving towards the end of lockdown CDC will provide updates on each stage of the road map as the Government announce the ending of the lockdown.

Council Tax

Cabinet recommended an annual budget spending plan for 2021-22 to the March Council meeting (2nd March) that sets a band D council tax of £170.81 (a £5.00 increase) which was approved

Holding Southern Water to account update

You will remember that last year my group brought forward a successful motion for the CEO of CDC to write to Southern Water and OFWAT regarding water capacity issues. A holding letter was received prior to the Christmas and a fuller response was received on Friday 26th February. The responses have been circulated to all Parish Councils and I am happy to take any comments back to CDC

The Local Plan and Revised Development Scheme

These were discussed at the roll-over full council meeting on Friday 12th March. After much debate members voted in favour of a one year delay (March 2022) with the anticipated full adoption of the local plan set to March 2023. However, my group presented two amendments which members voted in favour of.

These were:

For the council to acknowledge the wide spread public concern and regret regarding all further delays and ask residents to understand that the delay is due to an impossible timetable imposed by central government and the tardiness and equivocation of the statutory bodies including West Sussex County Council, Southern Water, The Environment Agency and natural England. That in July a critical Council report would be presented to Council, where a full debate could take place in public on the next stage of the Local Plan. This is to ensure that residents are kept fully abreast of developments regarding the local plan.

Update on Covid Grants. The Covid Recovery Grants scheme was launched on the 20 August 2020 and they have now closed the grant as CDC have fulfilled the full grant amount. CDC have received a total of 92 applications for the large business grant. A total of 67 applications have been

successful which totals a grant amount of £279,946.18 and an equivalent amount of investment by the business community. Of these 67 applications, 22 of the businesses have completed their projects and have been paid. There are four applications that have successfully passed through the first two stages of checking and will be going to panel. The grant amount for this if all successful will be £16,018.67. CDC have received a total of 155 applications for the small business grant. A total of 116 businesses have already received their small grant which totals to £100,435.74. CDC have three applications ready to be signed off totalling a grant amount of £2,733.27.

Lagoon 3

A multi-agency meeting took place on 23rd February (including fire services) and a follow up meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 20th April with key officers from CDC, the cabinet member, district councillors and parish councillors. Councillor Harvey expressed concern re the public right of way paths which are still closed. *Councillor Evans advised current owner has potential purchaser for the lagoon. The enforcement notice expires on 18th May 2021 so it is hope it will be resolved by the, Councillor Nyfield asked that new owner be reminded of the legal obligation re the rights of way.*

Loxwood Claypit

I continue to attend meetings with the local campaign group in order to be kept informed of developments with this planning application as and when it goes in. The Stop the Clay pit group have also launched Sussex Spring Watch which will run from 15th March – Early May with “an exciting and varied programme of events for everyone in our community that loves nature”.

Kicking off with a Arts Competition. More details are available on their website

www.stoptheclaypit.org

Kirdford Planning Application (Townfield)

Application for a 70-home development was submitted last week. I am liaising with the Parish Council on this and fielding enquiries from concerned residents. *Councillor Harvey expressed concern as application could have effect on Ebernoe residents regarding increased traffic and pollution levels, this was supported by all councillors and Chairman asked Councillor Evans what Ebernoe parish council could do to support Kirdford residents. It was agreed that Councillor Harvey would take the lead and Council Evans agree to contact two councillors in Kirdford who are leading on this matter and put them in touch with Councillor Harvey.*

Full Council Meeting Next Cabinet meeting is Tuesday 6th April

Next Full Council meeting is Tuesday 18th May (Annual Meeting)

Surgery

As always please contact me with any issue, feedback, problem or question and I will do my best to help: gbevans@chichester.gov.uk / 07958 918056. Although I have not been able to resume normal Saturday surgeries yet, I am available to meet and visit residents (whilst observing social distance measures) or for online meetings or surgeries upon request. I look forward to hearing from you!

167. - Local Government Association – Model Code of Conduct 2020 – Councillors formally adopted the Model Code of Conduct – proposer Councillor Kendall, seconded by Councillor Simmonds and agreed unanimously.

168. Financial Report - Financial Report

Present bank balances:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Current Account | £ 1395.42 |
| Deposit Account | £ 3696.90 |

Expenditure to be approved

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Annual Donations | |
| Petworth Nursing Home | £ 150.00 |

Please note requests for donations have been received from citizens advice Arun and Chichester,

4sight and Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex. Councillors approved financial report and grant to Petworth Nursing Home but rejected grants requests from 4 sight;citizens advice Arun and Chichester and Air Ambulance Kent, Surrey and Sussex. Proposer Councillor Harvey seconded by Councillor Nyfield and agreed unanimously.

Income to be received

CDC Precept (April - September Payment) 16.04.21 £ 1001.00

Broadband – The Openreach gigabit broadband voucher scheme has been superseded by BT who are currently installing fibre broadband to Colhook Common and Streels Lane. No formal communication received from BT and no date currently available for completion of scheme.

BT Telephone Kiosks – the Balls Cross box has been removed but no further information has been received from BT in relation to the adoption of the Ebernoe K6 box .

Census 2021 – Census Day 21st March 2021

Code of Conduct – Model member code of conduct has been adopted by the Standards Committee at CDC and parish councillors are asked to formally adopt the model code of conduct.

West Sussex Association of Local Councils LTD (WSALC) – currently part of SSALC (Surrey and East Sussex) WSALC undertook an independent review as to whether to remain part of SSALC or break away from current structure – at their AGM on 25th February it was agree to cease negotiation with Hampshire County Council and to work with East Sussex to form a new organisation. The process over the last 9 months has been quite chaotic leading to a number of resignations and deselections at the AGM in February 2021.

Accessibility Statement – website accessibility – there is a legal requirement to make websites accessibility to all. This can be expensive and impose a disproportionate burden on smaller councils, Should a council identify that this would be the case for their council, an accessibility statement stating this can be made. I would recommend this as feasibility studies can cost upwards of £1600 – almost our total precept income!. I have an opening paragraph on the parish website advising anyone unable to access the website to contact me,

CAGNE (Aviation Town & Parish Council Forum) – Councillor Mrs Sue Nyfield attended the last meeting.

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/20/05098/DCOND – Sparkes Farm - Discharge of conditions 3,4,6,9&10 of permission

SDNP/19/05959/CND.. - split decision – one element not discharged.

SDNP/20/05277/HOUS and 05278/LIS – Wassell Mill- replacement of glazing – **approved**

08/08/21

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

SDNP/20/05734/TPO – Ebernoe Common, Ebernoe – felling of 6 no. Ash trees, 25 no Sycamore trees and 1 no. Birch tree (within G72), 4 no. Ash trees (within G74), 11 no. Ash trees (within G75), 5 no. Ash trees (within G77), 11 no Ash trees (within G78), 10 no, Ash trees (within G88), 35 no. Ash trees (within G93), 17 no. Ash trees (within G94), 20 no. Ash trees (within G101), 3 no, Ash trees (with G102),6 no. Ash trees within (G103), 5 no. Ash trees (within G105), 1 no. Willow tree and 3 no.Ash trees (within G107) 12 no.Ash trees (within G108), 1 no.Ash tree (within G116), 6 no. Ash trees (quoted as T276, T287, T288, T333 (x2), T334), 2 no, Birch trees(quoted as 4371 and 4390, 1 no. dead Oak tree (4376) and 8 no. Oak trees (at point b). Remove limb over track on 1 no, Willow tree (4374), coppice 8 no. Hazel trees, 1 no. Willow tree (at point A) and 1 no. Willow tree

(at point B). Halo (a general reduction around the clumps of trees) on 20 no. Oak trees (at points C-F). Felling and pruning works on 226 trees (157 Ash trees, 29 no. oak trees, 25 Sycamore trees, 8 no. hazel trees, 4 no, Willow trees and 3 no. Birch trees) within Woodland, W1 subject to EN/79/00581/TPO – **application withdrawn 06/03/2021.**

SDNP/21/01135/OHL – Ebernoe Common – Replace a series of rutter poles with H-Poles along the Fernhurst to Fiveoaks high voltage power line. *Discussion took place regarding this application and Chairman advised that Sussex Wildlife are now included in the planning consultation process – majority of councillors did not consider that the application considered fully the ecological value of the triple SSI nor did it make the case for the use of H poles rather than replacing with the lower rutter poles.*

EN/21/00453/FUL – Brook Cottage, Balls Cross – New Access to the highway and associated driveway/parking area. - *Discussion took place regarding this application with the recommendation for approval subject to approval by Highways.*

Correspondence

All correspondence has been previously circulated via e mail.

Parish Website

The parish website is fully operational and can be accessed via www.ebernoeparish.co.uk.

169. Any other matters from councillors and parishioners present –

The Chairman advised Councillor Simmonds that council was missing Yasmin Simmonds from meetings.

Councillor Simmonds complimented Councillor Harvey on hedging works

Councillor Parkinson advised that potholes in Balls Cross had been completed on 16th March but he was unimpressed by the quality of the repairs.

He also advised that he would be moving to Devon early next year and would be stepping down in due course.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

Date of next meeting

25th May 2021

The meeting closed at 8.30pm