

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
ELLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 AT 7.30PM  
IN ELLESBOROUGH PARISH HALL**

Present: Councillors:  
D Panikkar (Chairman) R Alexander  
D Hayes M Glover  
A White  
  
Parish Clerk: R Norris

**Action**

**Item 1.1 Apologies.** Apologies had been received from Councillors McGrail and Hares.

**Item 1.2 Open Forum.** Mr David Jacobs from St John Homes briefed the meeting on the planning application for the land adjoining Meadowbrook. He explained that the proposed development of the previously developed site would result in reductions of 43% in building footprint, 57% in hardstanding and 25% in building volume as well as a theoretical reduction in vehicle movements. The proposed buildings have been designed to give the appearance of a farmhouse, a brick and flint barn and a forge providing 4 dwellings with a mix of 3, 4 and 5 bed housing. To date he stated that the reaction from neighbouring properties has been positive and he hoped for the support of the Council. Councillors were concerned about the increase in traffic that would result from the development bearing in mind that vehicles would have to enter a main road with a 40 mph limit. Although calculations may have resulted in a theoretical reduction in traffic, Councillors felt that WDC should look carefully at the actual problem. Also Councillors wished WDC to confirm that the application meets the requirements of Ellesborough's Village Design Statement. The clerk will send a copy to Mr Jacobs.

**RN**

**Item 1.3 Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of personal or prejudicial interest from the Councillors present at the meeting for items on the agenda.

**Item 1.4 Minutes.** The minutes of the Meeting held on 20 November 2018 were unanimously approved and duly signed.

**Item 1.5 Road Safety Issues.** The Clerk is to take action to see if Ellesborough can obtain Average Speed Cameras and also have use of the mobile speed measuring equipment.

**RN**

**Item 1.6 Recreational Facilities.** Councillor Panikkar reported that there were no current problems with equipment but that we still required Risborough Rangers to re-install a goal on the playing field. Councillor Alexander reminded the meeting that

although the humps had been removed from the playing field, the self seeded tree remained. The Clerk will liaise with Councillor Hares to have it removed.

**RN, DH**

**Item 1.7 Finance.** The meeting noted that the current and savings accounts balances were £18,168.88 and £35,368.07 respectively. The following payments were approved:

JW Mowing Services (Grass Cutting Sep 18)	800140	£278.04
Ellesborough Parish Magazine (Donation)	800141	£600.00

The following payments were made:

BMKALC (Chairmanship Course)	800142	£38.32
Rex Norris (Hedge Cutting)	800143	£216.00
The Princes Centre (Donation)	800144	£300.00

**Item 1.8 Web Site.** Councillor White had incorporated into the website the changes agreed at the last meeting and he had also removed the links to other unrelated sites. The Clerk will check that all the documents are up to date and add the Village Design Statement. Regarding the future and how the site should be managed, the Clerk is to look for the original agreement to see how the site was originally established.

**RN**

**Item 1.9 Planning.** Councillor McGrail had provided some notes and apart from the application referred to in Item 1 there were no applications that required comment.

**Item 1.10 Affordable Housing.** Councillor Alexander reported that progress was being made and Hastoe are continuing their discussions with the land owner. However, Hastoe have now informed us of major changes in their development team which will result in the project being delayed. After some discussion the meeting agreed that the Clerk is to write to Hastoe expressing our concern over the delay and asking for us to be given priority and timescales for the project. He is also to contact WDC and see if they are able to give us details of alternative rural housing providers.

**RN**

**Item 1.11 Clerk's Report.** The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from NHS England which places Ellesborough in a Rural Controlled Locality. This means that parishioners are allowed to collect their prescriptions from the doctor's surgery and not have to go to a dispensing chemist. Also, he had received the documentation for the extension of the devolved grass cutting agreement for a further year. The meeting agreed that this should be signed and returned. Following on from the last meeting, Howe and Co (fish and chip van) have been in touch and are working on a plan which hopefully will include Ellesborough in one of their rounds. The Clerk is to keep Councillors updated and ensure that any planned visits are well advertised including possibly arranging for a banner to be displayed.

**RN**

**Item 1.12 Dunsmore.** Councillor White reported that the internet speed in Dunsmore was now good and that no further action is necessary. It may improve

further if BT extend the fibre link further towards Dunsmore.

**Item 1.13 Provision of K6 Kiosk for the Defibrillator.** The Clerk reported that he had been in touch with the company and they had told him that the new date for installation is the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2019. This date may be moved forward if it can be arranged.

**Item 1.14 Review of the Pay and Conditions of Service for the Clerk.** The Clerk left the room whilst this item was discussed. The meeting agreed an increase of 3% for the Clerk's salary from £5250.00 to £5407.50 per year.

**Item 1.15 Precept.** The Clerk had circulated information about the Council's reserves and previous precepts and following some discussion the Council agreed to once again reduce the precept by approximately 5% to £18,000.00. The Clerk is to notify WDC of this figure.

**RN**

**Item 1.16 Matters of Report.** Councillor Alexander asked if any progress had been made with the Armed Forces Covenant and the Open Spaces Society with regards to the pond and the common at Dunsmore and the parish hall. The Clerk replied that due to other work taking priority he had been unable to progress these items. However, he will be doing so in the next couple of weeks. The Armed forces Covenant requires us to link with a nearby military unit and as RAF Halton is scheduled for closure the meeting agreed that the Clerk should approach HQ Strike Command at High Wycombe. Councillor Alexander also raised the question of the introduction of the Unitary Authority and what effect it might have on Ellesborough. The Clerk is to contact David Carroll and Clive Harriss to see if they would come to the next meeting and brief us on the introduction of the new authority.

The Chairman asked Councillor Glover to pass on her thanks to the Parish Hall Committee for agreeing to waive the charges for use of the hall by the Parish Council. Councillor Glover informed the meeting that the annual village party will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2019 and the Silver Band Carol Concert, which was very well attended last year, will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2019. Advertising for the Village Party will include an advert in the village magazine, an email to the parish email list and a banner. He further informed the meeting that the Hall Committee is investigating a significant refurbishment and redecoration of the premises to try and make it more attractive for private functions and hence increase the income for the hall.

Finally, Councillor White raised the problem of parking at the hall on Tuesday evenings and asked if the meetings could be held on an alternative day. Councillor Glover will investigate and see if a better day can be chosen.

**RN. MG**

**Item 1.17 Next Meeting.** The next Parish Council Meeting will be on 19 March 2019 at 7.30pm in Ellesborough Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.18hrs.

Signed

Councillor Debra Panikkar  
Chairman  
Ellesborough Parish Council