

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
ELLESBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 20th JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM
IN ELLESBOROUGH PARISH HALL**

Present: Councillors:
D Panikkar (Chairman) R Alexander
A White M McGrail
D Hayes D Hares

Parish Clerk: R Norris

Action

Item 1.1 Apologies. No apologies had been received and all Councillors were present. However, before the meeting could get underway, the power and lights in the meeting room failed and as a result, the meeting moved to the dining room of the Russell Arms.

Item 1.2 Open Forum. Mr R Nicholson was in attendance to discuss a planning application, as was Mr D Jacobs. Mr G Brunt attended to listen to the HS2 presentation and Mr V Loo, Mr M Cheshire and Mr R Calvert from Fusion were present to give the meeting the latest information on the solution to the Terrick Roundabout problem.

Item 1.3 Declarations of Interest. The chairman and the Clerk declared an interest in the planning application that was to be discussed and agreed to withdraw at that point of the meeting.

Item 1.4 Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2019 were unanimously approved and duly signed.

Item 1.5 Road Safety Issues. A parishioner has expressed concerns about road safety at the crossroads, particularly at the times when school children are about. Councillor Alexander explained that in the past, various improvements have been looked and all have been rejected either because of cost or because they were impracticable. These have included street lighting, changing the road layout and installing traffic calming measures. However, the meeting agreed that efforts should be made to improve safety at the crossroads. The Clerk is to raise the problem with the traffic department of Thames Valley police to see if they can increase their presence at the junction and enforce the stop sign at the southern end of Chalkshire Road. Additional positions for the Speedwatch equipment would also help. Again, the Clerk is to investigate and also reply to the parishioner.

RN

Item 1.6 Recreational Facilities. The Chairman reported that there were still problems with the parking of cars in Chalkshire Road when Risborough Rangers (RR) were using the football pitch. However, RR were revising their instructions on the placing of the no parking cones to their teams officials and looking at a long term solution of putting down matting in the playing field so that vehicles may park on the field itself. The Local Area Technician had advised that it would be very difficult and expensive too try and get road markings to restrict parking. The Chairman

showed the meeting pictures of 2 items of equipment that could replace the broken climbing pole in the playground. The meeting agreed that the best one would be the tractor. The Chairman will place an order with the company.

DP

Item 1.7 Finance. The Clerk informed the meeting that the savings and current account balances as per the reconciliation statements were £35,527.56 and £21,619.57 respectively. Councillor Alexander asked if the bank statements could be produced as well in the future to ensure that the figures are correct. The Clerk responded that when the checks are introduced prior to each meeting there will be no chance of any financial impropriety. However, at the moment, the software that is used for the Parishes accounts, has so many checks within it that it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible for the reconciliation statements to be tampered with. The Clerk hopes to have the financial procedures finished for approval at the next meeting. The following payments made since the last meeting were approved:

Dunsmore VHA (Hall Hire 16 Sep 19)	800177	£10.00
Sign Wizard (Speedwatch Signs)	800178	£560.00
T Alexander (Remembrance Day)	800179	£30.00

Payments made:

None

Item 1.8 HS2. Vernon Loo introduced Matt Cheshire and Richard Calvert from Fusion who talked about their proposals for improving Terrick roundabout and the approach to it along Nash Lee Lane. They explained about having had to carry out non-intrusive surveys and working within the highway boundary. The solution, which had been presented to Ellesborough before, should not result in any loss of parking for Terrick cottages residents and should take no longer than 20 working days to complete. However, it may take longer as the considerations of road users, peak traffic times, and residents have to be taken into account and there may be some parking restrictions whilst the work is carried out. Councillors questioned rigorously the number of additional and type of vehicle movements, but Fusion couldn't provide any answers as the local traffic plan has still to be completed. Richard Calvert agreed to provide these to the Clerk as soon as they are available. If the work goes ahead then the earliest it will start is after Easter. Furthermore, if the work is approved then Fusion propose to have a meeting with the local community to explain their programme of works. However, Bucks CC have yet to give their approval to the plan. On the other hand, the Parish Council considered that there has been little or no change to the plans that they had already strongly rejected because they will not solve the problems at Terrick and moreover, the parish would have to suffer from the disruption that the works would cause. Councillors were concerned that they hadn't been informed that the plans had been passed to Bucks CC for approval, particularly as Bucks CC are very aware of Ellesborough's opinion of the proposed works. The Chairman will contact Bucks CC to express Ellesborough's concern about the lack of communication with us.

DP

Item 1.9 Planning. Councillor McGrail briefed the meeting on the applications that had been actioned since the last meeting and apart from the one for 86 Chalkshire Road, none of them merited any action from the Council. Mr Nicholson briefed the meeting about this application and on his concerns which he had already sent to Wycombe District Council (WDC). His main points of concern were that the application was for land which falls within the AONB and the Green Belt and as such conflicts with the protection provided by them. He also considered that the application would change the character of the village and that the proposed buildings would be in front of the building line for that part of Chalkshire Road. Also, the application would have a detrimental effect on the view of the area from Coombe Hill. Mr D Jacobs informed the meeting that he had written to all the neighbours regarding the application and had met with those that had asked him to do so. He pointed out that the application was for previously developed land and that the development would open up the site improving visibility as the proposed house were smaller in both footprint and cubic capacity than the current buildings and moreover, the amount of hardstanding would be considerably reduced. The view from the road would be improved with the current 6 ft high fence being replaced by a hedge and the intention would be to enhance the AONB by using suitable bricks with flint infill. Mr R Norris (the applicant) countered some of Mr Nicholson's statements, but then withdrew from the meeting to allow the Council to consider its position. As the Chairman had already submitted comments to WDC supporting the application, she also withdrew. Then the remaining members of the Council discussed the application reviewing both the positive and negative features of the development. The application was put to the vote with 3 Councillors voting against, 2 voting for and one abstaining. The Council concluded that a formal objection to the application is to be loaded onto the WDC site. The objection was based around three areas; the development sits well in front of the building line along Chalkshire Road, concern around the height of the buildings at the front of the development, and finally the general urbanisation.

Item 1.10 Affordable Housing. Isobel Wright of Hastoe, had informed the Clerk that some more detailed plans had been passed to the Planning Dept of WDC and that they are now waiting for a date for the pre-app meeting. Once that meeting has taken place and they know that the planners are supportive, they will progress with the survey work, public consultation and planning submission. There are still some legal matters to sort out with regards to the land but she is hopeful that they will soon be resolved.

Item 1.11 Clerks report and Correspondence, Circulars and Consultation Documents. The Clerk reported that he had been informed that the cover for the well in the closed churchyard was in a dangerous condition and needed replacing. The Councillors agreed that the Clerk should progress obtaining a replacement. The editor of the Parish Magazine had asked if the Council was planning any event for Friday the 8th of May to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. After a short discussion, the Chairman agreed to investigate.

DP

Item 1.12 Provision of K6 Kiosk for the Defibrillator. The Clerk had tried to contact the supplier to see when the Kiosk is coming but so far hasn't had a reply. He will continue to follow this up. (Clerk's Note: The supplier has responded to the email sent to him and is going to provide

a new date)

RN

Item 1.13 Dunsmore. Councillor White told the meeting that action was ongoing for the Dunsmore church wall and the defibrillator. With regards to the residents of Well Cottage parking on the Common, he had seen the letter drafted by the Clerk but thought that it was perhaps too harsh. However, having read the letter, the remainder of the Councillors thought it quite suitable. The Clerk will send the letter to Mr Charles and Mr Weller.

RN

Item 1.14 Precept. Following reductions for some years the precept for 2019/2020 had been set at £18,000.00. After some brief discussion it was proposed an unanimously agreed that the precept should be reduced again and for 2020/2021 should be set at £17,000.00. The Clerk is to advise WDC of this figure.

RN

Item 1.15 Litter. Councillors considered an email that had been received about the amount of litter on the A4010 Risborough Road towards Kimble. The Councillors considered the various proposals that had been put forward but rejected the erection of signs. However, the use of the Community Service personnel may help to reduce the amount of litter present. The Clerk is to contact the Clerk to Kimble Parish Council to see what action they take to clear litter and also TfB to see if it their responsibility to clear litter particularly as the speed limit along the road there is above 30mph.

RN

Item 1.16 Matters of Report. Councillor White asked the Clerk to check the web site for agendas and minutes and to forward any missing ones to him for them to be uploaded. Councillor Glover thanked the Chairman for her attendance at the Carol Concert, which although it had a reduced attendance from last year, was still a very good event. The refurbishment of the Parish Hall continues with the next parts of the programme being the reorganising of the toilets and the insulation of the ceiling. A short discussion about the date for the Village Party resulted in the 27th of June being chosen.

All

Item 1.17 Next Meeting. The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Monday 23 March 2020 at 7.30pm in Ellesborough Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 22.53 hrs.

Signed

Councillor Debra Panikkar
Chairman
Ellesborough Parish Council