

EVENLODE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 26-07-2022 AT 6p.m. VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Meg Adamson; Tim & Judy Proger, Rosie Northampton; David and Jane Watson and John Holmes.

Councillors present: Chris Johnston; Wendy Dancer, Jan Lesser. Clerk : Jan Lesser

Ward Councillor: David Cunningham

OPEN MEETING: John Holmes raised the question of the number of dead ash trees lining the roads around the village. The Clerk will re-send the email to everyone about their responsibility for 'boundary trees' and potential insurance claims for damage/danger resulting from landowners not felling or cutting back.

Meg Adamson and David Watson raised the issue of the gypsies. Wide ranging discussion regarding the land known as The Oaks and gypsies who until Saturday had been camped there for about a month, and possible ways to prevent access. The discussion carried forward to the formal business of the PC at item 4 on the Agenda (see below).

MINUTES:

1. Apologies for absence received from Jamie Mackie
2. Minutes of last meeting signed as accurate record
3. Balance at bank is £9787-63 with a cheque for a way leave in £2-40 yet to be credited
4. **The Oaks:** the Clerk recited all the communications she had with local community police officer; the Neighbourhood Policing Inspector; the landowner, CDC and GCC. The police recommend a Poacher Barrier at the entrance to the field to prevent access & have told the landowner; the Clerk had spoken to George Reynolds who is prepared to dump a load of hardcore at the entrance; discussion generally as the likelihood that trespassers would manage to get in to the field even with hard core in the way – they'd just remove it; the desirability of creating a ditch behind any barrier (whether a poachers barrier or a large tree trunk or hard core) bunding the spoil and then placing the 'barrier' behind the spoil. **Finally it was resolved that:** (a)Clerk would get landowner's written permission for access to the field to be prevented by digging a ditch at the entrance in the field as well as a ditch just behind the hedgerow and bund the spoil and place hardcore behind the bund. (b)Clerk will alert Kevin Lea of CDC that this action is with permission is is not fly tipping. (c)Clerk will inform police of action taken.
5. It was unanimously resolved that the Parish Council apply for membership of CPRE as a source of advice on planning and rural affairs affecting the village.
6. Chris gave an update on the Flood meeting he had attended recently and the contact he made there: he is the village Flood Warden; Helen Richards of GCC has visited and given the following recommendations regarding the sporadic but inconvenient floods at the bottom of the Green:-
it is not the PC responsibility to pay for ditch and gully and drain clearing – that's for GCC Highways, and landowners' responsibility where overflow emanates from overflowing ditches etc. Our GCC Councillor is our route to requiring Highways to do the work. If the PC embarks upon works then it raises both expectations that it will always be responsible as well as raising the precept.

With regards to planning and development in the parish, there was discussion about the feeling that central and local government do not take local concerns seriously. David explained that - as a non-principal settlement because of absence of facilities - Evenlode can ask for a Housing Needs Assessment which would become a point of reference for planning officers. He will send the clerk the details.'

7. JOHN HOLMES was by unanimous vote, co-opted as a Parish Councillor.

8. David Cunningham our Ward Councillor gave a report about - : Community Funding for projects being available; information about the Planning process is available by following a link on CDC website; how the Local Plan forms the baseline for all CDC planning decisions with other local plans; information about assistance to Ukranian refugees is on CDC website, and the school summer holiday food and events plan from CDC – information on its website.

The Report from Mark Mackenzie-Cherrigton the GCC Councillor is attached to these Minutes.

9. A O B. the ridge and furrows works by Mr Gaden in the field opposite Sybil's Farm on the Broadwell Road have been reported to DeFRA, and CDC Planning Enforcement has opened a file on this activity under CDC reference 22/00187/OTHER.

Thames Water has been notified of unlawful water extraction & escaping water outside driveway to Northfield Farm, and it informed the Clerk that it will be mended within 5 weeks.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7-15p.m.