

EVENLODE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 12-11-2024 in the village hall

Present:

Tim Proger, Angie Hunt; Catherine Latham; Brad Hooker; Caroline Beale.
Councillor David Cunningham CDC & Councillor Mark Mackenzie-Charrington GCC

Parish Councillors:

Chris Johnston; Wendy Dancer; Jamie Mackie , John Holmes & Jan Lesser
Clerk Jan Lesser

In the open meeting Tim said that the Coal Charity had purchased a replacement bench for Green Lane which he would install in due course. No other matters were raised, so the formal PC meeting commenced.

1. Apologies from Rosie Northampton.
2. The minutes of the last meeting were signed by the chairman as an accurate record.
3. The balance at the bank stands at £11,614 with the payment of £636 to Robert Sampson Forestry to be presented. We await invoices from Gary who installed the new drain cover outside 2 Orchard View Cottages, and Lawns2Mow for the final invoice. Authority to pay these invoices was given by the councillors.
4. The figures on which the budget as far as was known had been based for the next financial year had been circulated to the councillors. The Evenlode PC expenses hardly vary from year to year. The balance at the bank is sufficient to pay £2000 towards the works to the bridleway as well as paying the invoices at item 3 above and still leave a significant balance which is more than enough to pay the standard annual payments. The Councillors resolved to seek a 2% increase on the current year's precept bid which would amount to a total bid of £3186.00 .
5. Bridleway. The funding has now been secured for the works if the cost remains as quoted of £8500 +vat. This is £2000 from GCC Councillor Mark M-C; £2000 from Evenlode PC and the balance from Evenlode Investment's regeneration fund, for which the councillors recorded their thanks. Mark M-C apologised that Rhodri Grey of GCC Highways had not followed through on stating how much Highways would give towards the works; that Bob Skillern is trying to sort out all of Rhodri's loose ends and that Mark M-C had suggested to Bob that in view of the 2 year delay to carrying out agreed works (especially to drain outside 1 Orchard View Cottages) GCC now makes a contribution to the funds required. (Also see Mark's written report circulated with these Minutes). Clerk to write to Bob Skillern. Jamie Mackie will make contact with BA Hull to (1) ascertain if quote remains the same, and (2) to ascertain a start date for the works. The PC resolved to pay a deposit out of parish funds if required to secure a start date.
6. The Clerk outlined the requirements of the new Website accessibility Regulations v 2.2 (details of which had previously been circulated to the PC) that all parish councils should move to the new government design for websites for all levels of local government and adopt a gov.uk email domain in order to enable all those who are less than able in any way to access information about any particular parish and its council in a nationally conforming design. There is an exemption for 'disproportionate burden' and the PC resolved that compliance with the regulations would be a disproportionate burden on Evenlode PC for the following reasons: (a)Evenlode PC has virtually no visits to its website since its inception; (b) that Evenlode PC is responsible for no facilities at all other than a village green and three pieces of play equipment; (c)that it is a tiny village with a very small precept; (d)that any query about its minutes and PC business and meetings can most easily be resolved by asking the clerk who is a village resident - as is made clear on the website as it currently is set out, (e) footpaths or bridleways are clearly marked at their locations as well as on OS maps. The PC unanimously resolved that taken all together these 5 points mean that no one with any query will be disadvantaged by the lack of compliance. The Clerk is to create a statement to this effect to be displayed on our current website (which has always directed any queries to her in any event).
7. Councillor David Cunningham told the meeting that until the results of the consultation on changes to the NPPF were made known to local government – possibly next February – CDC was not in a position to know what the total housing requirement would be and so its amendments to its local plan and its next local plan were currently on hold. The number of new homes might be as many as 5000 for Moreton or some of this number might be spread between Moreton and Kemble (which also has transport links). So far as infrastructure is concerned, GCC is more obviously

involved especially vis-a-vis roads. So far as flooding and sewage is concerned, the local MP is holding meetings and has not reduced his commitment to try to sort this out – however sewage is a Thames Water matter and nothing has changed in that regard. (See also David's report circulated with these Minutes).

8. The trees on the village green had their canopies lifted; the tree surgeon noted that 2 chestnut trees outside the back gate of Green Farm are rotten and should be removed and that some overgrowth to the oak tree outside 1 Ridgways should be removed – the PC will consider this; the drain cover outside 2 Orchard View Cottages had been replaced and the drain cleaned out; the Green Lane replacement bench was in hand.

There being no other business, the meeting concluded at 7p.m.