

MINUTES OF EAST PENNARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 18th January 2024 at 7.30pm

Present	Adrian Pearse (Chairman), Roger Cock, Paul Heal, Martin Dearden, Martin Llewellyn, Hilary Tripp (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.
1. Apologies	None
2. Minutes of Last Meeting:	The minutes of the meeting on 26 th October 2023 were approved as being a true record on the proposition of Martin Dearden and seconded by Martin Llewellyn. They were then signed by the Chairman.
3. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cockmill Lane junction ditch – The Chairman had written to County Roads and on being told that the work would not be completed until 2025/6 had written again pointing out that, when flooded, the ditch area is not distinguishable from the road and the road edge is crumbling so an emergency repair may be required sooner. The site will be monitored. There was some discussion about whether EPPC should ask for a donation from GFL or if to do the work themselves. Roger Cock was asked to draw up a quote for this.• Flagstones – Highways have apologised for a communication error here and have asked for the work to be done as soon as possible.• Planning i) Batch Farm 2023/1689/FUL Approval ii) Vale View 2023/1973/FUL Approval
4. Financial Report	Only one cheque had been written since the last meeting, for Hall hire. Anticipated expenses before the next meeting include a donation towards churchyard maintenance and the clerk's salary. There was a discussion about the precept. Martin Llewellyn proposed that the precept should be raised to £3500 and this was seconded by Roger Cock. Two more cheques were signed.
5. Planning Applications	<p>i) 4, Somerleaze Cottages 2024/0030/HSE <i>2 storey side extension</i></p> <p>There was some discussion about the size of the extension and the layout before a decision was reached.</p> <p>Decision: Leave to the Planning Officer</p> <p>ii) Stone Cottage</p> <p>A member of the public had informed the chairman that an extension was being built at this cottage. No planning permission had been applied for but it may be that this is a permitted development.</p>
6. Footpaths	Kerry Dodd thanked Martin Dearden for the walk around his land after someone had made a complaint about the footpath; they couldn't see a problem, though thought that possibly a sign might be helpful. Kerry had also gone for a walk with Glyn Edwards, the footpath warden, down Huckeymead Lane to investigate the footpath there after a report had

come in on the interactive map. Glyn Edwards had also confirmed that landowners are responsible for making sure that stiles and gates on their land were in good order, as they could otherwise be liable for any injuries caused by defective stiles. Kerry is informed if there is a problem reported via the interactive map and she then notifies the landowner. If nothing is done Kerry would then go to the council. She pointed out that landowners can claim back 25% of the cost of the stiles.

Kerry had also been told that Mendip Ramblers were coming on 30th January to work on the footpath around the former pig farm.

7. Shooting Ground

Pilton Parish Council is not interested in taking the issue of the noise problem further. Paul Heal asked if the Shooting Ground (SG) still causes a problem in the village; the answer was a resounding yes. Although the SG does not need planning permission as it runs for 28 days only, it does need to comply with noise regulations. The noise is constant, yet MDC only counted the actual length of the bangs and not the gap between them. The shooting must not take place within a kilometre of houses without the agreement of the house owners yet none had been consulted. It was agreed that a formal complaint be made from EPPC; Paul will write this and liaise with Claire Sully who is prepared to help.

8. Glastonbury Festival

No post-Festival debriefing meeting was held after the Festival last year. As part of their licence application GFL promise consultation with the villages. It is hoped that a spring meeting will ensue.

9. Village Hall

The Oldies tea party for the over 70s in the village had gone really well. A talk by Allen Cotton on local farming will take place on 29th February.

10. Correspondence

The clerk had written to the Ditchet clerk expressing support for putting flashing speed sign indicators to help control the speed of traffic at Wraxall Hill. Her response queried what EPPC had in mind, and the costs, siting, grants etc. The clerk had looked into grants, but after much discussion it was agreed that county should be responsible for this and Claire Sully needed to be consulted on the best way forward. Martin Llewellyn said there was a website which gave figures for accidents and it would be good to have this information to give to Claire Sully.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next parish council meeting will be held on **Thursday 28th March 2024 at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm.