

MINUTES OF EAST PENNARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Thursday, 3rd September 2020 at 7.30pm in the Church

The Chairman announced that social distancing rules would apply because of the coronavirus pandemic.

- Present** Adrian Pearse (Chairman), Paul Heal, Roger Cock, Martin Dearden, Sophie Farrell, Hilary Tripp (Clerk), and sixteen members of the public.
- 1. Apologies** None
- 2. Minutes:** After an amendment requested by Sophie Farrell, the minutes of the meeting on 7th July were signed by the Chairman as being a true record on the proposition of Martin Dearden and seconded by Paul Heal. After amendments requested by Sophie Farrell, the minutes of the meeting on 13th August were signed by the Chairman as being a true record on the proposition of Martin Dearden and seconded by Roger Cock.
- 3. Matters Arising** **Road adjoining Carpenters' Yard:** No progress.
Flagstones by church: No progress.
Signposts: No progress.
Broadband Provision: On agenda
Lower Easton Farm: Nothing heard
Signs on road, etc., at Huxham: The Chairman thought the people involved had had letters from Highways: he will follow this up.
- 4. Financial Report** The internal audit had been successfully completed with Martin Mogg who raised 2 points, the first being that a hard copy of the churchyard maintenance invoice was required, and the second that the system of dating cheques needed to be modified so that the date of writing the cheque was entered rather than the date on the bank statement.
- 5. Planning Applications** Home Farm Office, Kennel Lane (Voneus)
Installation of pole to support dish antenna
Approval with Conditions

No new applications
- 6. Yew Tree Farm Plans – Chris Langdon** The Chairman outlined how this discussion would proceed. Chris Langdon, representing Paul and Tracey Reakes of Yew Tree Farm, would start, followed by the residents of Hembridge, followed by the general public.
Chris Langdon, outlined briefly 3 options which were being considered.
 1. Reinvesting in more pigs for a growing and fattening unit.
 2. Change of use of some of the existing buildings to industrial/storage units.
 3. Dwellings – they already have permission for 4, but now would like 7 dwellings.

Hembridge residents had written a statement of concern about these possible developments, increased traffic on the very small road being a major concern. As the residents were a group with no single spokesperson, individuals spoke about their concerns and how communication with the Reakes had broken down.

The Chairman suggested a site visit, which would have to be at the invitation of the applicant, which could be followed by a discussion with Hembridge residents, and then a further visit once plans had been submitted. Sophie

Farrell suggested that a request be made for a Planning Officer to be present at the site visit.

7. Broadband Provision

Voneus is intending to provide some provision over the parish but not until after Christmas. Nothing is known about other providers.

8. Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee is to hold a meeting on 26th September to approve the annual accounts. The Open Day has been cancelled but the Christmas Coffee Morning may go ahead.

9. Parish Plan

Sophie Farrell had been doing research and pointed out how specific things need to be, citing a case, Harvey vs. Mendip, where a proposal to build six houses was turned down because the number specified on the local housing needs register was for only five.

10. Website Proposal

Hilary Tripp has been working on this. A domain name has been bought and registered – eastpennardparishcouncil.co.uk. More work needs to be done particularly on the accessibility statement. Hilary Tripp requested that she be permitted to write cheques for the cost of the domain name and for up to 3 hours of tuition from Claire Downes. Roger Cock proposed and Adrian Pearse seconded that this be permitted. A request was made for photos of councillors and of East Pennard to put on the website.

11. Correspondence

- A number of letters of complaint had been received from parishioners about noise from the Somerset Shooting Ground (in Pilton parish). These had been passed on to the Environmental Health Department at Mendip District Council, who had responded by sending out forms for the complainants to fill in recording times and dates of shoots. The matter will be taken further when these are completed. The Chairman had contacted Pilton Parish Council, where the noise is not considered to be a problem. Pilton PC has been informed of the complaints. The question was raised as to whether the correct permission/licences were in place for the shooting.
- Bernard Kingston had raised the issue of the new access being built from Batch Farm into Hembridge Lane, which was not on the plans. Currently Hembridge Lane is not registered as a bridleway, although the application is in, so probably nothing can be done.
- Roger Cock raised the issue of excess water on the A37 causing a danger because of lack of visibility or from aquaplaning. The Chairman will write to Highways about this.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 26th November 2020 at 7.30pm.**
The meeting ended at 8.25pm.