

MINUTES OF EAST PENNARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Thursday, 16th January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

- Present** Adrian Pearse (Chairman), Paul Heal, Roger Cock, Martin Dearden, Sophie Farrell, Hilary Tripp (Clerk), John Greenhalgh (District Councillor) and twelve members of the public.
- 1. Apologies** None
- 2. Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting on 24th October 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:** Following on from the last meeting the chairman had written to County Roads; the reply stated that a visual inspection had shown a partial blockage which might benefit from jetting and that this would be arranged.
- Flagstones by church:** It was hoped these would be replaced in the spring.
- Audrey Dyson retirement:** The Parish Council had received £90 as a retirement gift for Audrey Dyson, which the Chairman presented her last week. Mrs. Dyson said that if anyone from the council or the village would like to call in for a chat, they would be most welcome.
- Signposts:** Little Pennard signpost not yet started.
- Highways letter Huxham:** A letter had been received from County Highways regarding the increasing presence of apparatus, signage and objects being erected or placed in the highway verge and requesting to know if the Parish Council was involved. A further letter was received stating that this request was no longer relevant and that anyone with any queries in relation to highway matters at Huxham should make contact with them.
- 4. Festival Proposals – The Poplars** Adrian Pearse declared an interest and left the building, so Martin Dearden chaired this item. Glastonbury Festival had earlier held a meeting in the village hall in which they explained plans for the Poplars, a potential site for 650 campervans which will be on Mr. Pearse's land at Hill Farm. Martin Dearden thought that the plan would not cause too much disruption to the village and noted that GF were trying to find a solution to traffic issues at Huxham and Parbrook. There was some discussion with some concerns that the festival was getting too big. It was agreed that the matter should be left to the planners.
- 5. Financial Report** There had basically been no change; 2 cheques had been written (£37.50 for village hall hire and £15 which had been donated to Audrey Dyson arising from equivalent receipts for this purpose). Regarding the precept, Paul Heal proposed that the precept should remain at £2,300 and this was seconded by Roger Cock and carried.
- 6. Planning Applications**
- Sunnyside Cottage, Parbrook**
Barn conversion to include single storey extension and new porch.
Recommend approval. Sophie Farrell added a comment to say there were some local concerns about traffic issues.
- Rose Cottage, Hembridge**
Application for a certificate of lawful existing development for use of a building as a single dwelling house Class C3.
Leave to Planning Officer

Higher Withial Bungalow

Certificate of lawfulness for an existing (C3) dwellinghouse.

It was noted that this had never been enforced as an agricultural tied cottage.

Leave to Planning Officer

Bell House, Parbrook

Nothing more heard.

East Pennard Village Hall (Trustees of Village Hall)

Nothing more heard, despite parish decision having been sent back 31/10/19.

John Greenhalgh agreed to investigate.

Yew Tree Farm

No planning had been received for this but a notice had been put up about plans to convert the agricultural into residential buildings.

7. Mark Seager presentation

Mark Seager presented his proposal for a broiler breeder unit for 36,000 hens at Lower Easton Farm; he aimed to put in an application for this before the end of the month. He explained that the farm had been in his family for 100 years and this would keep the place as a farm. He required no subsidies and aimed to be carbon zero by 2040. The Chairman expressed concern about how it might affect the nearest neighbour at Elbow Corner. Mark Seager will meet with her to discuss his proposal.

8. Broadband Provision

A statement from Naomi Giaretta was read by the Chairman. There had been a good public meeting with Truespeed, who aim to give a speed of 200Mbps via fibre optic cables. 70% of the population in an area would need to be signed up. Their forms have a lifetime of 6 months, during which time Truespeed will not have done the work, but it is important to sign up so that one's property can be included. Many have signed up with another provider, Voneus, which beams it out from Wells Cathedral, and needs line of sight, which will thus exclude some. Naomi is continuing to talk to Openreach too, which will bring it across the Fosseyway as a fibre optic cable.

Sophie Farrell said that from 20th March everyone will have the legal right to a broadband speed of 10Mbps. Applications will go to BT. A grant of £3,400/house will be made, but if it costs more, then the householder would pay. BT will have 1 month to reply as to how this will happen and they should deliver within 12 months, with a maximum time of 2 years. Sophie Farrell will continue to look into this.

9. Village Hall

Anthea Derby said that on 28th January there was to be a talk in the village hall on Somerset maps. Anna Gifford was selling tickets.

10. Parish Plan

Sophie Farrell talked about her ideas for a Parish Plan. She suggested that the since the local plan could not contradict Mendip's plans, it could look for what is missing, i.e. agricultural development or traffic. Roger Cock queried the need for traffic to be included as Mendip already does this and know much more about it. Sophie Farrell is to go to a meeting about local plans and will report back. John Greenhalgh said that the Mendip Local Plan is currently being rewritten and there are also discussions going on in West Bradley and Parbrook about representation— where this might be is not Mendip's decision.

11. Correspondence

- A letter was received signed by 7 residents of the gardens asking for a no

through road sign to be put up on the road to the church. Delivery vans go down, find it difficult to reverse out and so far 3 cars have been hit. The Chairman will take the matter to Highways.

- Everyone had received a notice about unifying the 5 district councils.
- General correspondence distributed.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, 30th April 2020 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.