



## Easebourne Parish Council

### Community & Environment Committee Minutes of Meeting held at 7.02pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022 in Easebourne Primary School, Wheelbarrow Castle, Easebourne

**Present:** I Milne (IM), M Noble (MN), A Thomas (AT)

**In attendance:** Parish Clerk S Hurr (SH)

- 1 Public Question Time:** No members of the public were present.
- 2 Apologies and Reasons for Absence:** Apologies received from Cllr A Keeling (AK) and Cllr E Roberts Grimsey (ERG) due to personal reasons.
- 3 Declarations of Interest:** None
- 4 Minutes of meeting:** No minutes, as this was the first meeting of this new committee.
- 5 Confirm Membership of Committee:** The following Councillors will form the membership of this new committee: Astrid Keeling, Ian Milne, Mike Noble, Elaine Roberts Grimsey, and Andy Thomas
- 6 Verbal/Written Panel/Project Group Reports:**

- a) Communications (Volunteers and Staffing):** MN explained that the Parish Council had received an application from a prospective Councillor, who will attend the March meeting of the Parish Council.

MN reported that the turnout of volunteers for Midhurst Green Volunteers Events is still limited, but AT suggested that we need to ensure Easebourne residents are aware of when events are taking place. IM also confirmed that the Friends of Easebourne Parish group has offered use of any of their tools to the Midhurst Green Volunteers.

MN further reported that the current website host and support, had retired, three quotations had been obtained for a replacement, and Request for Funding Form (circulated within the meeting) would be presented at the next meeting of the Finance Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022 and a provider chosen.

MN explained that the next article for the United Magazine was due and should include information regarding the King Edward VII planning applications (it was agreed that only major applications or those of significant public interest would be included within magazine article submissions).

**Action:** IM to draft a United Magazine article.

MN reported that preparations were underway for a joint Queen's Jubilee celebration event with Midhurst Town Council and Cowdray Estate to take place at the ruins.

- b) Easebourne Park:** IM reported a list of preferred contractors, from officers at West Sussex County Council (WSCC) for water and sewage connection was awaited, for the proposed Public Convenience and Kiosk. IM confirmed that the Parish Council would source its own electrical contractor, and also look to have a permanent connection for The Roundhouse from the proposed building. IM had met with the builders; Artisans of Wood and they had viewed the plans and drawings for the proposed building. IM had taken the opportunity to seek advice regarding The Roundhouse (constructed by Artisans of Wood) sedum roof, which had suffered significantly from sun damage on the south side with much of the planting now dead and brown. IM had requested that Artisans of Wood, consider providing a resolution. Further discussion took place regarding the issue with the sedum roof, in relation to the problem of the pitch of the roof, and necessity for an irrigation system.

**Action:** IM to undertake further investigative work regarding resolving the issue of the failed sedum roof on The Roundhouse.

- c) Emergencies & Winter Planning:** AT reported that Cllr A Keeling was storing two salt bins and following discussion it was concluded that one could be placed on Kings Drive and the other Henley. AT would then ensure these were on the WSCC list for replenishment of salt.

- d) Footpaths:** Nothing to report at this time.

- e) Highways Panel:** MN reported that a solution was were required for watering the planters and ERG would work on this further to secure a contractor.

**Action:** ERG to identify and secure a contractor for watering the planters.

MN explained that ERG would also be completing further work regarding the pointers/signage project. AT confirmed that the aim was to introduce highway compliant/approved signage, but which was more sympathetic in appearance to the location and rural nature of the parish. AT suggested that in order to progress this project, a single prototype sign could be created and fixed to an oak post, to test the design for practicalities and WSCC acceptance. Further work could also be undertaken with WSCC to identify which locations required direction from the parish, which could lead to a reduction in place names and therefore smaller and less intrusive signage.

**Action:** AT to obtain a quotation for a prototype sign to be manufactured.

MN reported that the Midhurst Green Volunteers were giving consideration (with Midhurst Town Council) to creating a WSCC Community Highways Partnership. This would permit scope to undertake an increased range of tasks, for example those which required temporary traffic lights.

MN suggested consideration of the installation of 'Speed Indicator Devices' showing smiley and sad face imagery to encourage drivers to maintain the speed limits (such signs are in operation in the nearby parish of Rogate). MN further explained that these can be linked to pedestrian crossing lights which turn red if the speed limit has been broken, as a method of reinforcing the necessity to adhere to speed limits.

**Action:** MN to email County Councillor Tom Richardson to gain his views on these speed reduction initiatives.

AT further reported the issues with surface water and drainage on the A286. AT explained that he had requested drainage maps from WSCC, as he believed that there was likely to be a blockage within a pipe which was reducing the effectiveness of drainage system.

**7 Proposals to full Council:** None, but the minutes of the meeting will be provided at the next meeting of the full Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2022.

**8 Matters of Report (information only, not for decision):** None

**9 Date of Next Meeting:** 7.00pm, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman