



Easebourne Parish Council

Community & Environment Committee

Minutes of Meeting held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 13th April 2022 in Easebourne Park, Wheelbarrow Castle, Easebourne

Present: A Keeling (AK), I Milne (IM), M Noble (MN), E Roberts Grimsby (ERG), 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: None

3 Declarations of Interest: None

4 Minutes and actions of meeting (9th February 2022):

AK is currently storing two salt bins for the parish for which appropriate locations are to be identified. This was discussed and it was agreed that they should be positioned on Kings Drive.

Action: IM to identify locations and seek permission from Cowdray Estate to install the salt bins. AT will then inform West Sussex County Council of the location for filling as part of their winter maintenance regime.

Carry-over Action: MN to email County Councillor Tom Richardson to gain his views on speed reduction initiatives (employing Speed Indicator Devices to link with pedestrian crossing lights which turn red if a vehicle has exceeded the speed limit).

It was agreed to include a 'Climate Change' item on future agendas to allow ERG to report on the initiative established with other neighbouring parish councils (Lodsworth, Heyshott) by District Councillor Francis Hobbs.

Action: SH to add 'Climate Change' as an item on future agendas of the Committee.

The minutes of the meeting on 9th February 2022 were agreed and signed as a correct record of the meeting.

6 Verbal/Written Panel/Project Group Reports

a) Communications (Volunteers and Staffing):

MN reported that planning for the Queen's Jubilee event on Saturday 4th June 2022 which is being led by the Midhurst Town Council (MTC) Events Officer was progressing well. SH explained that MTC Councillors had suggested a joint information point to be staffed by both MTC and Parish EPC Councillors should be set-up at the event. MN further reported and expressed disappointment that the application for funding from Chichester District Council (CDC) for half the cost of the gas-lit beacon (the other half to be funded by MTC) had been turned down as

MTC had received funding, and CDC wanted to ensure the maximum number of events had a funding allocation.

IM suggested that Friends of Easebourne Parish may be able to support the Jubilee event as marshals.

Action: IM to seek support from FREP for Jubilee event.

MN confirmed that the Annual Parish Meeting hosted by the Parish Council will be held on 25th May 2022. It was agreed that a power point presentation on a loop would be shown, illustrating the work that had been completed by the Parish Council over the last year. Information points for Easebourne Park (including Carbon Corner and 'The Cabin'), the Parish Design Statement, and the 'Planters and Pointers' project, would also be staffed by Councillors and questions and responses recorded for the minutes of the meeting.

Actions: IM to produce a Power Point Presentation for the Annual Parish Meeting and SH to organise light refreshments.

MN reported that the consultation process for the Parish Design Statement was currently taking place and it was agreed that a page in Midhurst Local publication would be purchased by the Parish Council which would provide the South Downs National Park poster regarding the consultation, and methods by which residents could respond to the process.

Action: SH and MN to provide the printed information for Midhurst Local.

b) Easebourne Park:

IM reported that he was currently awaiting an estimate the cost of utility (water, sewage, electricity) connection from Empire Contractors Ltd (WSCC recommended contractor) to the Easebourne CE Primary School for 'The Cabin', and a final revised quotation from building contractor Artisans of Wood. Once IM had full details of the wood requirements, he would submit the details to Cowdray Estate which has indicated it would be able to donate most or all of the wood for the project. IM reported that it was now unlikely that 'The Cabin', would be completed in time for the 'Picnic in the Park' event in early September.

IM reported that the recently planted daffodils had provided a good display and further bulbs would be planted in readiness for next spring.

The failing of the sedum roof on The Roundhouse was discussed and the measures that could be taken to install an irrigation system if it was replaced. Alternatively, a different roof covering could be installed.

Action: IM to further investigate the most appropriate course of the action regarding the replacement of the sedum roof.

AT expressed concerns regarding the missing drainage grills in the park's public car, having recently witnessed a child being thrown from a scooter.

Action: SH to write to the Easebourne CE Primary School headteacher regarding the replacement of the grills.

c) Emergencies & Winter Planning: Nothing to report other than previously discussed at item 4 above.

d) Footpaths:

ERG reported that as part of the Climate Change initiative (see item 4 above) she would be taking forward smaller projects that would support and encourage walking and cycling, planting of further trees and installation of composters. This was in line with initiatives being considered by the other parishes. ERG also reported that she would meeting with the Midhurst Area Cycle group to discuss their requirements (cycle racks and cycle way improvements) and that Cowdray Estate were in support, but funds were required. ERG further cited that she would be meeting with the Friends of Rother Valley' group.

***Post meeting:** an email had been received from the WSCC Access Ranger regarding the planned inspection of the public rights of way, and SH has emailed all Councillors seeking report of any awareness of current maintenance issues.*

e) Highways Panel:

AT reported that following his communication with Hyde Housing and their ownership of the banked land each side of the carriageway on the A286 Dodsley Lane, leading up to the junctions with Wheelbarrow Castle and Hollist Lane, extensive tree surgery work had been completed. AT suggested that bramble cutting and the sowing of grass seed on these banks should now be undertaken.

Action: MN to speak to the Midhurst Green Volunteers and IM to speak to FREP regarding a potential joint project to complete bramble cutting and grass seed sowing on the Dodsley Lane banks.

AT reported that he had submitted a request to WSCC seeking permission to install a new direction sign of a reduced overall size (in comparison to current sign) and font size which would not include 'Haywards Heath', on an oak post at the end of Wheelbarrow Castle at the junction with A286 Dodsley Lane and, is currently awaiting a response from the Traffic Officer.

SH reported that the MTC Assistant Clerk had further submitted a request to the company which water planters and baskets in Midhurst to include the seven planters in Easebourne. This may meet with a more favourable response, than the previous separate request to water the Easebourne Planters.

Action: SH to seek an update from the MTC Assistant Clerk regarding the request to water the Easebourne planters.

7 Proposals to full Council: None, but the minutes of the meeting will be provided at the next meeting of the full Council on 4th May 2022.

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

9 Date of Next Meeting: 7.00pm, Wednesday 8th June 2022

Meeting closed at 8.01pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chairman