



East Ilsley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Planning Meeting

Monday 15th August 2022, 7pm, at The Swan Pub, East Ilsley

(no access to the school due to summer holidays)

Minute Ref: 005/150822/PCM

Members Present: Cllr. Mike Pembroke, Cllr. Stephen Meadows, Cllr. Mark Browne, Cllr. Dominic Robertson

Members Absent: Cllr. Andrew Sharp, Cllr. Nick Watkins

Officers Present: Fenella Woods (Clerk & RFO)

In Attendance: 3 Member of Public

Meeting Start Time: 19.05pm

Meeting End Time: 20.05pm

-
- 056/22 Cllr. Pembroke welcomed all to this planning meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr. Sharp and Cllr. Watkins and were **approved** by all members present. Quorum was **achieved**.
- 057/22 There were no declarations of interest received, nor any requests for dispensation.
- 058/22 There were no questions from any members of the public regarding items on the agenda, nor any representations made.
- 059/22 The minutes of the full council meeting on 12th July 2022 were read and approved as an accurate record. Cllr. Pembroke signed a copy for the file.
- 060/22 There were no matters arising from the minutes dated 12th July 2022. The Clerk advised that all actions generated has been completed and the new litter bins for the playground were being delivered this week. Cllr. Robertson advised that the dog waste bin on the footpath along Abingdon Lane was overflowing and the Clerk confirmed this will be logged on the portal for action by West Berkshire Council. No comments or communications had been received regarding Pen Meadow since the last meeting.
- 061a/22 Planning application ref: 22/01689/HOUSE for Orchard House to convert the existing garage to a game's room / study was discussed. The plans were reviewed and the home owner was in attendance to answer any questions. All members voted **in favour** to support the application. The Clerk will complete the Parish Observation Sheet and submit to the planning department.

Initial:

061b/22 An appeal has been lodged by Hutchison (UK) Networks against the **refusal** decision made by West Berkshire Council for planning application ref: 21/03111/TELE56. This was for the installation of a 16m high 5G mast on Fidlers Lane by the A34 bridge and dates back to January 2021. East Ilsley Parish Council also rejected the plans on the grounds that there are higher location points within the immediate area providing better connectivity than in the valley of the village.

Below is a summary of the points discussed:

- The mast position is located by a Maxted owned field, the boundary lines are not easy to interpret, but it would need to be positioned outside of the Maxted boundary which would mean placing it nearer the carriageway so it is on public land.
- The proposed location is one of the main entrances to the village of East Ilsley which is no ideal in a rural location leading to a conservation zone.
- The idea of increasing connectivity / broadband speeds to the village is appealing, especially with the shift to home working since the pandemic and the availability of streaming platforms and services. With Gigaclear not able to reach East Ilsley this may be the only way to improve the broadband service.
- It was not clear in the proposal or the appeal which network would be utilising this mast. It was speculated that Hutchinson would 'sell cells' to different networks and allow the sharing of the capabilities of the mast but this has not been confirmed.
- After discussion, it was determined that the area near Oak Brothers (up Ball Pit Lane) would be a more suitable place as it is slightly higher, away from private land (Maxted), and not in the sightline of a highway. It is not clear whether this area has been looked at by Hutchison, or whether there were reasons why this could not be the case.

All Councillors present **agreed** that the mast *could* provide better connectivity to the village, however, the location of the mast is still an issue and we would like to be convinced this is the best location. It should also only be placed on confirmed public land and not interfere with any private land. It was **agreed** that a letter would be drafted by the Clerk and shared with the Councillors prior to sending back to West Berkshire Council. The deadline for comments is 7th September 2022.

062/22 All Councillors present **agreed** to the purchase of the new gate and associated hardware for Prestwell Field using money from the Entry Level Stewardship we have in an ear marked reserve. It was **agreed** that the cost of installing the gate would also be paid from the EMR and Cllr. Robertson would seek a quotation from Ian Jeremy for the work. Mr Jeremy would also check over the quote for the wood and hardware to ensure we have all we need. This will be ratified at the September meeting.

063/22 The Clerk informed the Council of the following:

- Work is progressing on preparing all the evidence needed to enter the Local Council Award Scheme at foundation level. Some amendments have been made to the website to allow for additional transparency (finance items) and evidence is being gathered about consultations and training. The Clerk hopes to be in a good position by September to ratify the application to NALC (National Association of Local Councils).
- PKF Littlejohn (the external auditors) had a query over a variance in Box 4 of the AGAR. The Clerk has submitted supporting evidence and we await the outcome.
- The Clerk is seeking a quote from BHIB for the annual insurance to compare it with Gallagher & Co. At present it is looking like a saving of £300 but additional evidence

Initial:

is required due to the zip wire and pond which the Clerk is working on. This will be ready for ratification at the September meeting.

- An HGV / articulated lorry parked overnight in the layby on High Street causing a problem with residents and their parking. After consulting with West Berkshire Council (Gareth Dowding, Traffic & Road Safety) it was made clear that there were no existing bylaws held in East Ilsley which prohibit the overnight stay of HGVs in the village on unrestricted parking areas. If we wanted to look into creating a restriction a review of parking and a public consultation would be needed and could take up to eighteen months to complete. All Councillors present **agreed** not to pursue this unless it became a regular issue.
- The Clerk is working with Vicky Trentham and Paul Hendry in the Countryside Team to look at planting one male and one female black poplar tree by the pond as they need a water source. It is hoped that these would propagate together and secure the future of these trees. They used to be a staple of the British countryside but are now very rare.
- GreenFest Update - there are no electric minibuses available so we will promote a walking / cycling route between East Ilsley and HN in the next issue of the EIC.

064/22 There were no further questions or comments from members of the public present.

With there being no further business, Cllr. Pembroke thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 20.05pm.

Actions from the Meeting:			
	Description	Assigned to	Completed
1	Log overflowing dog waster bin	Clerk	✓
2	Complete Parish Observation Sheet for Orchard House	Clerk	✓
3	Draft a letter regarding the 5G mast for submission by 7 th September	Clerk	✓
4	Work with Cllr. Robertson on checking the quote for the gate replacement and securing an install quote	Clerk / DR	

Signed:

Date:

Initial: