



East Tisted Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Village of East Tisted held on Thursday 6th May 2021 at 7.30pm using ZOOM

Present: Phil Cutts (Councillor & Chairman)
Helen Evison (Councillor, Clerk & RFO)
Peter Finch (Councillor)
Sandra Nichols (Councillor)
Colin Rule (Councillor & Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator)
Five Villagers

By invitation: Charles Louisson (District Councillor)

Apologies: Russell Oppenheimer (County Councillor)

1. Welcome

PC welcomed all. Apologies were received from Russell Oppenheimer and Peter Kelly. PC said that he wished to thank Helen Evison for acting as Clerk and RFO on a voluntary basis, allowing the Parish Council's limited income to be used for projects within the village, rather than to pay a Clerk. He also wished to thank Peter Finch for managing, moving and capturing the data from the speed indicator, Julian Evison for checking the defibrillator and Arthur Scott for his engagement and assistance.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

It was noted that, due to Covid-related restrictions, there had been no Annual Parish Meeting in 2020. Since then, legislation allowing Annual Parish Meetings be held virtually had been enacted but this expired tomorrow. Consequently, this meeting, originally planned for later in May, had been brought forward. The minutes of the last meeting held on 15th May 2019 were agreed as an accurate record to be signed by the Chairman.

3. Recent and Ongoing Activities of the Parish Council – Part I

PC explained that in 2019 the Parish Council had been canvassing villagers for issues. The main issue that emerged was **highways and traffic** so the Council convened a Highways Working Party. This group started work by carrying out a condition survey of the local roads, signs and markings and strengthening the relationship with Hampshire County Council Highways department. Significant progress had been made; repairs had been addressed, Station Road 'top dressed' and relationships with HCC improved. The Council decided to get a portable speed indicator device (SID) and investigated sharing one with another village. This approach was unsuccessful so, with the help of a District Councillor's Grant, the Council purchased their own.

PC invited PF to give a further update on the activities of the Working Party.

PF advised that they had put proposals to HCC for using the SID, for additional posts for the SID, decluttering of signage at the junction of Station Rd with the A32 and replacement/extension of the verge marking bollards along the A32. This was taking sometime but HCC were planning to complete this 'by midsummer'. He had also raised the issue about lorries parking in the unofficial layby by the bungalows on the A32 and would follow-up with HCC.

Another option being considered was a 'poster campaign', organised by the Parish Council but with the consent of Highways, using specially made temporary signs, for



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example, ones reminding drivers that they share a stretch of road with pedestrians. Signs like these were in use in Medstead; it was understood that these were made locally and cost £162 including VAT each.

Q: How effective were signs like this?

A: In Medstead they had had positive comments from villagers.

Q: What did the signs say?

A: Something like 'Remember you share this road with people'.

PF said that he would provide an update regarding traffic volumes and speeds at the next Parish Council meeting.

Q: Might it be possible to extend the 40mph limit on the A32 north as far as the lodge by Gaze Burvill?

A: This was discussed in the past but not allowed due to the low density of housing. However, it was agreed to ask again.

ACTION: PF

As he had advised that he would be unable to stay for the whole meeting, PC now invited Kevin Watts to give an update regarding investigations about the possibility of improving **broadband** speeds, particularly their recent meeting with Grayshott Gigabit (GG). GG were promoting a scheme in which they would apply for a government grant and install fibre (probably overground) to individual houses. However, they needed a significant number of households to sign up in order to make this viable. The initial figure mentioned was 150 but later this was reduced to '60 or 70'. There was discussion regarding the track-record of GG and whether such a scheme would limit householders' choice of broadband provider.

It was noted that BT was moving away from copper towards a VOIP telephony system; it was understood that Open Reach were planning to turn copper off from 2025. Also, it was probable that TV transmission would switch to broadband.

CL explained that the government support schemes for rural broadband were changing; he thought that areas with poor broadband might be designated as priority areas; he was trying to find out more from his MP and from the Head of HCC's broadband programme. It may be that more government support would be available from the end of 2022/start of 2023.

There was discussion regarding the provision of fibre broadband in Colemore and various locations on the Rotherfield Estate. It was understood that these installations had been privately financed. Arthur Scott may be able to provide more information. After much discussion it was agreed, as a first step, to set up a working party (PC, PF and KW with help from CL, if available) to find out how many villagers would be interested in better broadband, whether people understood that copper was going and whether they understood that good broadband was likely to be needed for television. The working party could also look more closely at the offer made by Grayshott Gigabit and try to find out more about plans for future government support.

It was agreed that PC would arrange a meeting of the working party. **ACTION: PC**

8.30pm KW left the meeting

4. Report from District Councillor Charles Louisson

CL reported that throughout the pandemic the first priority for EHDC had been to keep services running and to provide financial support, totalling £30million, largely from central government, to businesses and disadvantaged families.

They had also been busy with 'Planning for the Future', the government's proposed changes to the national planning system. They had successfully resisted proposals to increase the number of new houses to be built each year, limiting this to 500 p.a. in East Hants and 100 in the South Downs National Park.



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The Planning Department had been extremely busy with applications for extensions, garden offices and the like as people switched to working from home.

The switch to NORSE as the waste service provider had been completed and there were fewer complaints.

There were new sports and leisure facilities in Whitehill and Bordon.

EHDC had updated their strategy and were focusing on four themes until 2024:

- A fit for purpose council
- A safer, healthier and more active East Hampshire
- A thriving local economy with infrastructure to support ambition
- An environmentally aware and cleaner East Hampshire.

The Council strove to be efficient. The increase in the precept had been limited to 2%.

They were providing £4 million in grants, including £1 million for supporting communities projects. They were spending £1 million to make Council services more readily accessible and £250k on climate change reduction measures.

PC thanked CL.

5. Report from County Councillor Russell Oppenheimer

It was agreed that the latest report available from RO would be circulated with the minutes. Refer Attachment 1.

6. Recent and Ongoing Activities of the Parish Council – Part 2

PC advised that, in addition to highways and broadband other issues addressed by the Parish Council included:

- launch of a new village website, offering local businesses the chance to advertise.
- organising a workshop with SE Water providing the opportunity for them to present their plans for improving the reliability of the water supply by installation of a new pump house in Farrington.
- liaising with Gaze Burvill about noise from a new motor. Thanks to Simon of Gaze Burvill for sorting this out.

Another on-going issue was traffic noise, particularly motorbike noise, along the A32. PF had discovered that there was a planning application for 4 containers to be added to the Loomies' site near the Meon Hut. PF advised that no noise impact assessment had been made and that there had been many objections from local residents while all letters of support were from people who lived more than 20 miles away. It was agreed to prepare and lodge an objection on behalf of East Tisted Parish Council.

ACTION: PF

It was also agreed to draw this application to the attention of villagers by circulating a link and posting the link on the Parish Council Notice board.

ACTION: CL & HE

Considering other matters:

- PC thanked Sioux Mingaye & Peter Finch for their active involvement in litter picking.
- It was noted that, although supposedly available for adoption, the 'phone kiosk was still functioning and had recently been rewired. PF volunteered to try to contact Open Reach to request that the box be repainted.
- It was understood that Rotherfield planned to fence the pond. The Parish Council were concerned that this would be unsightly. It was expected that a sample of the fencing would be installed shortly.
- It was also understood that Rotherfield were considering plans for development of the pond area. It was agreed that PC would contact Arthur Scott for an update.

ACTION: PC



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7. Topics/questions from villagers

7.1 Mark Bizley expressed concern that the bus shelter was being used as a public convenience. It was agreed that anyone observing this should remonstrate with the offender and (pretend) to take a photo with their 'phone.

7.2 Sioux Mingaye said that it would be nice to build community spirit in the village and expressed the view that villagers would appreciate an Estate newsletter. She reported that she had written to Arthur Scott with this idea and her other suggestions. It was agreed that she would forward these to the Clerk for consideration by the Parish Council. **ACTION: SM (Clerk)**

7.3 Simon Burvill explained that Gaze Burvill would like to hold an Open Day, inviting all villagers. This would probably be in July. This proposal was enthusiastically received. It was agreed that Simon would send details to Colin Rule for circulation once plans were confirmed. **ACTION: SB & CR**

SB was also a trustee of 'Woodland heritage' and was participating in a 10k run on a route that went through the village on 4th June. Other runners, and walkers, were welcome. It was agreed that he would provide further information for circulation. **ACTION: SB & CR**

Simon also highlighted vacancies at Gaze Burvill. For details, please refer the Gaze Burvill website.

8. Date of the next Annual Village Meeting

Thursday 26th May was proposed as provisional date for the 2022 meeting. In the meantime, all were welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings, the next one being planned for 6.30pm on Thursday 19th August 2021 in the Village Hall.

PC thanked all Councillors, Villagers and other visitors. There being no other business he closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Helen Evison
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
May 2021

Agreed as a true and correct record.

Signature....., Chairman Date.....