

Minutes of the Eggington Parish Council
Meeting No. 189 – held on Wednesday, 3rd April 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman: Rob Jefferis
Councillors: John Westbury, Peter Moore, Richard Gorton, John Symonds
Cllr Mark Versallion (arrived later)

CLERK: Rebecca Downie

Parishioners attending: Mrs C. Jefferis, Mr B. Morren

Public Statements: None were made.

1. **To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr Peter Ellyard had previously indicated he'd be unable to attend.
2. **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations:** None made
3. **Ward Councillors report:** Cllr Versallion reported that although CBC had increased the number of staff in the Enforcement and Community Safety team, they were still experiencing difficulties with regard to Enforcement issues on the Gypsy & Traveller sites. At a recent meeting held at Tilsworth Golf club, there had been disagreement regarding CBC's ability to enforce breaches of conditions. However it was pointed out that whilst any conditions are being appealed CBC is unable to bring about enforcement. He added that there had been a number of bonfires within the Tilsworth site where repeated CBC intervention has failed. However, there is hope that, following recent legal argument, convictions and fines for such breaches of conditions could be issued up to the amount of £2,000 in future. CBC's Local Plan hearing is set to begin 21st May 2019 at Priory House, Chicksands, and was expected to last some 5 weeks, but Day 12 (where G&T issues are mentioned) should cover Green belt and population density issues, Wind farm policy, etc. Some Parish Council and Focus groups had indicated the lack of proper provision for G&T sites in the plan, with Stanbridge and Tilsworth particularly animated about this matter. With some 43,000 homes expected to be built within the next 10 years, there is concern regarding the provision of official G&T sites in the submitted Local Plan. Councillors then expressed their concern at the state of the roads around the village, pointing out that repeated indications of maintenance for Mill Road had not happened. Cllr Versallion offered to contact Beds Highways regarding this. Cllr Westbury added that Bedfordshire Highways had indicated that Parish Walkabouts were due to begin shortly, and that he'd proffered dates in response to their requests. It was also noted that Anglian Water had advised that work on 'relining the sewer' through the village would continue for another 16 weeks.
4. **To confirm Minutes of Meeting 189:** these were proposed and seconded.
5. **Matters arising:** it was noted that the hedge in front of Woodbine Cottage had been cut back 'to a certain degree'. Cllr Westbury advised that he'd been in contact with Anglian Water Customer Services, and that they have agreed to contact the Parish Council when the current work is completed to ensure that the Parish is satisfied that affected areas have been restored to their original condition.
6. **Financial Report:** Cllr Westbury reported the Council's current Financial position as:

Community Account	£ 1,453.01
Bus. Saver Account	£12,297.62
Total	£13,750.63

This was the final Year-end statement which required sign-off by the Chairman and Clerk as being ready for the Council's annual Audit.
7. **Planning and Development:** the application for Claridges Farm had not yet been approved although it was believed that minor changes had been made but those revisions had not been made public. The application made for Rosedale had been withdrawn, although a revised application was expected to be submitted.
8. **Updates from Cllrs on Village Matters:** following a brief discussion it was resolved that a new wooden climbing frame should be purchased from Costco (at a cost of £4,460.00 + VAT) which would be erected in the Recreation ground. Cllr Westbury commented that the owners of 10, Orchard Estate had verbally offered to donate a defibrillator to the village, and it was agreed by all that this would be a good offer to accept. Cllr Moore sought authority to obtain appropriate locks for the new Speedwatch equipment: this was agreed, and that he would submit an Invoice which would enable him to be repaid. Cllr Jefferis reported that he'd received an e-mail regarding the 69% increase in the Parish Precept, and that he'd provided a satisfactory explanation to the individual.

Cllr Jefferis thanked all members of the Parish Council for their contribution to the Council over the past 4 years, as it would be a newly elected Council beginning at the next meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8:55 p.m.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday, 15th May 2019 following the Annual Parish Meeting, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in Eggington Village Hall.

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed: (Chairman) Date: 15th May 2019