

ETTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL		
Park View, Honington, Shipston on Stour CV36 5AA Tel: 07918 636841 Email: EPC.Clerk@yahoo.com		
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 13TH, 2024		
Present: Councillors D Clarke, R. Smith (Chair), R. Whitfield, G. Lambert D. Hughes, I. Houghton .		
Attending: Clerk Jane Carter. Cllr Izzi Seccombe. Cllr T. Harvey. 3 members of the public		
240313/1	Apologies for absence or not present : Apologies received and accepted Cllr Charles Melville-Wright.	
240313/2	Declaration of Pecuniary Interests: - None	
240313/3	Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 14 th February 2024 were approved and signed as true record.	
240313/4	Public Forum: A resident expressed concern at the siting of the new Youth Area play equipment and said he had been unaware this was happening. He felt there should have been better communication with residents backing onto the playing field. He asked if construction drawings were available showing the position of the various items of equipment. The Clerk would send these. The Chairman said that the plans had been well publicised using the usual PC channels but noted the concerns about communication in the future. A resident asked about blocked drains in the parish. Highways would typically clear drains twice a year. He also asked if a gate should not be placed at the Banbury Road entrance to the playing field as this was busy junction. He also raised the state of the fence around the football pitch. Both items would be added to the next agenda for discussion.	Clerk
240313/5	Warwickshire County Council: Cllr Izzi Seccombe updated the council on the activity of WCC. The issues with flooding at Halford traffic island were under investigation but would be dealt with as a matter of urgency. The development of the Coventry Airport site would see business rates coming to Warwickshire. Stratford Council: a report from Cllr Harvey had been circulated. SDC had been reported as being having one of the highest housing supplies in the country with 14.5 years forecast.	
240313/6	Community Centre Update: Spend on improvements to the heating were continuing. The community centre management group had requested the annual Parish Council donation could be paid towards the heating costs. The amount of £1900 had been budgeted as a donation to the Community Centre and that this be paid across. This was unanimously agreed. It had also been suggested that a water fountain be added to the construction for the outside toilet. The clerk confirmed this had already been included.	Clerk
240313/7	Planning and Highways Matters: I. Highways matters: the Chairman and had discussions with Highways regarding the installation of 'Smiley Face' speed awareness signs but it was not the policy of WCC to accept these. Other options would be looked at. The issue of overgrown hedges blocking access to the road sweeper and refuse collection was discussed. A letter could be sent to residents to by Warwickshire County Council to encourage them to maintain their boundary hedges. II. Planning: A planning application had been received on the day of the meeting for the development of four properties on land off Short Lane. A request for	Clerk

	an extension to discuss the matter at the April meeting had been refused by SDC. It was agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting to discuss the application on Monday March 25 th . Clerk would confirm the meeting room.	Clerk
240313/8	<p>Finance Report</p> <p>The finance report had been circulated: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Payments and receipts as circulated were approved. Invoices were noted and initialled by the Chairman ii. Bank reconciliation: current account: this was approved iii. Bank reconciliation: reserves accounts: this was approved iv. To note quarterly budget report: this was noted. v. To approve the closure of the NSI Reserves account and transfer of funds to general reserves for the Youth Project: this was approved vi. To approve the transfer of funds from the CCLA reserves account to general reserves for the Youth project: this was approved 	Clerk Clerk
240313/9	Clerk's and Correspondence Report – The defibrillator had been installed at The Chequers. The clerk was arranging its commission with Ettington First Responders.	Clerk
240313/10	Communications: the Clerk had circulated an updated social media Policy. This was discussed. It was proposed that the Parish Council would create a dedicated Facebook page under the control of the Clerk and one councillor. Comments would be turned off and residents requested to use usual channels if they had questions or comments. Councillors voted in favour with Cllr Hughes voting against. It was agreed to adopt the updated social media policy. Cllrs Smith and Houghton would oversee communications, with implementation by the Clerk	Clerk/Cllrs Smith and Houghton
240313/11	Annual insurance: this had been circulated. The Clerk said that it would need to be updated following completion of the playground, but the existing insurance cover would continue as is until then. Councillors approved to renew and then review once the playground project had been completed	Clerk
240313/12	Youth area and playground project: The Minor Works Contract had been circulated to the Working Group and approved. It would be signed by the Chairman.	Clerk
240313/13	MUGA Update: A proposal to charge for the use of the MUGA once a booking system and lighting had been installed was discussed. Cllr Houghton proposed the council investigate the use of a push button timer and payment machine for operation of the lights like other playing fields. Following discussion, it was agreed that the use of the MUGA and lighting be left free for an initial period so that the booking system and lighting costs could be reviewed. The clerk would revisit the booking system to ensure it would work with the new website. Cllr Smith would investigate remote lighting options	Clerk/Cllr Smith
240313/14	Dates of future meetings: an extraordinary meeting would be held on Monday March 25 th , 2024. The next full parish council meeting would be Wednesday April 10 th , 2024. The meeting was closed at 9.32 p.m.	

Approved By _____

Date _____