

MINUTES OF MEETING OF EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL
28 September 2020
HELD VIRTUALLY USING ZOOM.APP
18.30

Chairman: Cllr James Mitchell (Chair)

Present: Councillors Mr P Hurst, Mr M Rand, Mrs S Cooper, Mr P Jarvis, Mr A Watson, Mrs K Titcomb, Mr G Dick, Mr M Hainge

In Attendance: Cllr Sanders, One Member of Public, Two Parishioners

Clerk: Amy White

Item 1: Apologies

74/20 Apologies received from Cllr Thacker who provided a report.

Item 2: Declarations of Interest

75/20 None.

Item 3: Minutes of last meeting

76/20 The minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2020 were verbally agreed, accepted as a true record and will be signed by the Chairman at the soonest opportunity (Covid restrictions).

Item 4: Matters Arising from 27 July 2020 Meeting

77/20

Item	Action	Owner
53/20	Clerk to update Councillor Roles and Responsibility Document. Actioned	Clerk
60/20	Cllr Sanders to send Cllr Rand details of who to contact at BDBC regarding policy checking. Actioned	Cllr Sanders
63/20	Cllr Dick to investigate number of parking spaces on leased land and whether EWPC could offer spaces to the Dr's surgery. Actioned - see Item 9	Cllr Dick
65/20	Clerk to withdraw FOI request to West Berks. Actioned	Clerk

Item 5: Co-option of Councillor to vacant position

78/20 Mr J Heritage was formally co-opted to the vacant position on the council. The Clerk has digitally received both his Acceptance of Office and Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.

Item 6: Planning

79/20 Cllr Titcomb gave a verbal update on the most recent planning meeting (28 September 2020) and associated planning applications. The minutes of planning meetings can be viewed on:

<http://www.eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk/community/east-woodhay-parish-council-12776/minutes1/>

It was felt worthy of mention that the most recent Sungrove application has not changed the view of EWPC, which is to object to the overall proposed development.

Item 7: Neighbourhood Plan

80/20 Please see Cllr Hurst's report at the end of the minutes. If the NP is to continue, the current Steering Group will require a larger, informed membership.

Action: Cllr Hurst and Cllr Sanders will discuss the current feedback received from BDBC and how it might be possible to move forward with the NP, in the light of the proposed Government White Paper on planning due at the end of the year.

Item 8: Amenities including footpaths

81/20 Please see the Amenities Sub Committee Minutes on the website:

<http://www.eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk/community/east-woodhay-parish-council-12776/local-spaces/>

- a) A Parishioner has informed the PC of their intention to replant a hedge at the back of their garden, which backs on to the Parish Field. EWPC has no issue with this.
- b) Metal detection: the Clerk has received a request from a metal detecting organisation to see if there is anything of interest to be found in the Parish Field. Councillors felt strongly on both sides of the argument whether to allow this. A concern was that this might lead to more requests from other organisations, and if something was found this could lead to the field being disrupted. On the other hand, the PC could permit a one-off detection in the possibility that it might uncover something of historical interest. Cllr Sanders advised to wait for the biodiversity audit (see Item 15 as well as Amenities Minutes) to then decide whether to grant a one-off metal detection.

Cllr Hurst specifically congratulated Peter Stanley on a very successful completion of the East Woodhay Village Hall S106 project; the hall looks great and EWPC looks forward to using it in the future.

Item 9: Finance Update

82/20 Please see Cllr Mitchell's report at the end of the minutes.

Item 9 a): Ongoing rental agreement on Trade Street

It was unanimously agreed to maintain the rental at the current amount of £600 per year. The investigation into car park spaces has found it is most sensible to keep the lease agreement as it currently stands.

Item 9 b) The Clerk presented the following accounts for payment:

PAYMENTS- September 2020

Name/ Company	Invoice No	VAT No.	Amount Excl VAT	Vat	Total
Clerk Salary					£589.46
Clerk Expenses					£85.47
Litter Warden Salary					£377.84
Litter Warden Expenses					£35.00
HMRC PAYE Month 6					£148.07
The Mighty Oak (storm damage tree limb removal from Wellbrook House	384			£0.00	£150.00
John Priest Photo & Print (Neighbourhood Plan part production)				£0.00	£175.00
Cllr Mitchell Chairman's Allowance- Two Cocks Brewery- gift for Cllr Lambert					£34.00
Tivoli grass cutting services		GB287453171	£245.00	£49.00	£294.00
				Total VAT	
				£49.00	£1,888.84

These were digitally approved by Cllrs Mitchell and Hurst, witnessed via email by Cllr Rand.

Item 9 c) To decide on Clerk's salary inflationary increase.

The council unanimously agreed to the Clerk's salary inflationary increase, to be backdated to April 2020. See Finance Report at the end of the minutes.

Item 9 d): Alteration to AGAR Form

The Clerk and Chairman made an alteration to the submitted AGAR form (incorrect date and to split precept and 'other' grants received). This will be resubmitted to PKF Littlejohn.

Item 10: Utilities

66/20 Please see Cllr Jarvis' report at the end of the minutes.

Item 11: Highways

67/20 Please see Cllr Dick's report at the end of the minutes.

Item 11 b) Speed limits along Trade Street

Cllr Hainge raised the issue of speeding along Trade Street and other roads in WH. This is an ongoing problem and has been assessed previously by Cllr Hurst and a Speedwatch team. Cllr Hurst confirmed that liaison with police a few years ago led to support from the police of speed monitors along certain roads in WH.

Action: Cllrs Hurst and Dick to liaise re historic speedwatch results and speed monitors.

Item 12: Police Update

69/20 Please see Cllr Hurst's report at the end of the minutes.

Item 13: Members' Reports

71/20 Cllr Thacker provided a written report at the end of the minutes.

Cllr Sanders updated the council on the budgetary constraints at BDBC due to the impact of Covid-19.

Item 14: EWS Update

72/20 Please see Cllr Rand's report at the end of the minutes.

Item 15: Parishioner correspondence

An email from a Parishioner was sent to a councillor and it was felt appropriate to bring to full council for an agreed response. One question was posed around the use of the Parish Field and whether the public will be consulted on its future use.

EWPC response: The Parish Field was gifted to EWPC in 1957 by Eliot Cohen. Part of the Covenant (available to view, contact the Clerk) was that the field should only be used for agriculture and not be built on. In the spirit of this, whilst EWPC opened up the field to the public via a permissive path in 2016, it has maintained the use of the field as primarily agricultural. A permissive path ensures EWPC maintains control over the field's use and it can be closed if it should be necessary; it also limits public access to the path only, therefore no other use of the field (for example for picnics, dogs running off the lead, ball games etc) is permitted.

In October 2018 EWPC sought views from the public on improving the access with an all weather path; the overwhelming majority were in favour of this idea. Since then, LIF funding has been sought and granted, to put £9k of the probable £18k towards the cost of the new path.

On 30th September the Hampshire Biodiversity Team undertook an audit of the field, to assess its present level of biodiversity. Based on this audit the Biodiversity Team will give recommendations to the PC on how to improve the field's biodiversity. This recommendation will be published to the community. The community will be consulted to gain support to implement the recommendations. The results of the audit will be available towards the end of the year.

Another question sought the clarification of the Charities Field and whether it can or should be classified as an Asset of Community Value; this has also been the subject of confusion in the Spectrum magazine.

EWPC response: EWPC has no involvement in the Charities Field. It was never open to the public so it cannot be listed as an Asset of Community Value. For many years it was rented out to agricultural tenants. The only public access is to the public footpath that runs across it. The criteria used is, ***"An Asset of Community Value is defined as: A building or other land is an asset of community value if its main use has recently been or is presently used to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future."*** (<https://mycommunity.org.uk/what-are-assets-of-community-value-acv>).

The matter is considered closed.

The Clerk has been contacted regarding the possibility of investigating improvement in Broadband in the Parish. It was felt unnecessary to pursue this as there have been no other complaints received. One Parishioner stated that broadband speeds in East End were not always satisfactory and will research this and come back to EWPC.
The matter is considered closed.

Item 16: Items to carry forward to next meeting

73/20 Updated Policies: Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations, Standing Orders

The next meeting will be held virtually on Monday 26th October using Zoom. Please contact the Clerk for details of how to join the meeting.

Actions 26/10/20

Item	Action	Owner
80/20	Cllr Hurst and Cllr Sanders will discuss the current feedback received from BDBC and how it might be possible to move forward with the NP, in the light of the proposed Government White Paper on planning due at the end of the year.	Hurst & Sanders
	Cllrs Hurst and Dick to liaise re historic speedwatch results and speed monitors.	Hurst & Dick

Councillor Reports September 2020

Item 7: Neighbourhood plan update, Cllr Hurst

Background

At the start of last year the NP steering group was reconstituted, consisting of four volunteers, with input from a planning consultant. This team put together the first edit or the NP.

On completion, this version of the NP was sent to the BDBC Planning Team for comment. They responded with a significant amount of input requiring a large re-edit of the document. The steering group then spent many weeks last year re-editing the NP in line with the feedback and input from other NP teams. This was walked through with the PC earlier this year. The PC and the steering group regarded the document as the “draft” NP and we planned to go into public consultation once we had received appropriate feedback from BDBC, as their support is required before progressing.

The Covid pandemic then impacted and the team spent more time redesigning the document for on-line use, as more remote consultation was expected. This was submitted to BDBC. As

this was in line with the BDBC feedback the steering group did not expect significant change. Due to Covid BDBC took some time to review the document. They highlighted their review would be as per an Examiner.

Present Status

BDBC Planning have now given their feedback and the steering group has reviewed this in detail. The feedback is far more significant than the steering group were expecting. It challenges some of the policy positions and requires extensive changes to many of the policies. A spreadsheet of the feedback has been created and it is clear the document will need major re-editing before it can be moved to public consultation.

The steering group started work on this re-edit and realised this will take many weeks (elapsed time) of work to complete. This will be made significantly longer and more difficult as it will need to be progressed over Zoom rather than face-to-face. The steering group have also reviewed the impact on effort for consultation in the present pandemic, again this is significant.

After the review the present members of the steering group feel they do not wish or are not able to spend more of their voluntary time re-editing the document; they feel exhausted by the process. Therefore, they believe that to move the document forward requires new volunteers.

Any volunteer should recognise completion of the NP will require a significant amount of their time re-editing, discussing the updated policies with BDBC and moving into public consultation. This may also require consultancy effort, with associated spend, to help tackle some of the policy challenges. It should also be recognised to re-edit the document using Zoom is extremely challenging.

Following the re-edit, extensive public consultation (8 weeks) will still be required due to the elapsed time from the original community surveys. Performing the amount of public consultation required was always going to be a significant impact for the volunteers. It has become clear in planning the process that in the light of the pandemic the effort enquired is much larger, as it will need to be performed remotely, rather than face to face community meetings.

Potential Impact of New Government Legislation

The steering group believed there was significant value in concluding the NP. However, this is being questioned, in the light of the amount of work required to re-edit combined with the potential impact of new planning legislation.

The steering group have reviewed feedback on this legislation from Locality (Not for Profit Organisation supporting community planning). Locality believe the reforms may mean NPs will have a much more limited planning impact in the future (NB this is their view). They see three areas of impact:

- An NP would be likely restricted to design guidance to shape development (in our case this is primarily given by the Parish design document).

- NPs may not be able to influence or allocate sites for development (the government will now categorise areas for growth, renewal and protection).

- NPs may not be able to include development management policies (the majority of our NP).

If the above is the case the steering group reluctantly feel it is difficult to justify spending large amounts of volunteers time, further funds on consultants and materials and public time in consultation, to complete the NP at present.

Recommendation:

- new volunteers are required to complete the re-edit of the NP and public consultation.

- we should wait until the clarity of the impact of new legislation on NPs is understood before continuing. This is in the light of the large effort required for completion, especially in the present pandemic (large effort required to re-edit, potential further spend and the need to perform a longer public consultation).

- the planned 8 week public consultation will still need to be carried out on any future updated draft NP.

Item9: Finance Report, Cllr Mitchell

EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE TEAM UPDATE 2020/21 Presented to EWPC 28th September 2020

1. SUMMARY

- Bank Accounts £63,360 (Current £23,360, Redwoods £40k)

a. INCOME STATEMENT

- £30,083 100% of precept received
- £4,534 Litter warden grant received
- £489 VAT reclaimed

b. EXPENSE STATEMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (following list not conclusive)

- Normal monthly expenses
- £1,476 Insurance premium (same as last year)
- £1,250 CCTV
- £1,020 Hedge cutting and ditch management
- £607 HALC Affiliation
- £500 Grant to St Thomas Church
- £324 Footpaths – materials and labour for 3x Hollington FP gates

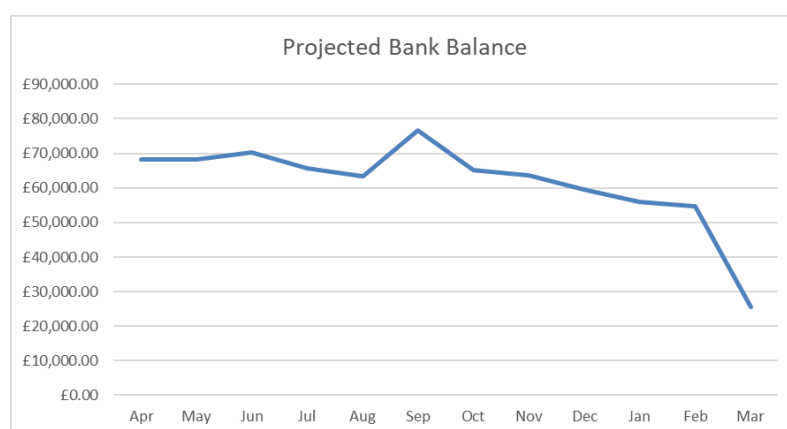
- £240 Audit fees
- £150 WH recreation ground bridge removal
- £108 Boardwalk repair

c. CAPITAL STATEMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Ring Fenced S106 from 2019/20 for spend on Orchard £9,837

2. CASHFLOW PROJECTION

Including £9K for Footpath and £9k for Orchard



CLERKS SALARY CHANGE YEAR 2020/21

Proposal to raise Clerks salary in line with Government rates for 2020/21

Proposal to Move from £754.53 pcm to £774.81 pcm 2.69% increase

Total additional cost to EWPC pa = £243.30

	SCP 16 to Apr 20	SCP 16 to Apr 2021	% Rise	Notes
52 weeks	£23,369.00	£24,012.00	2.75%	
weekly	£449.40	£461.77	2.75%	
hourly	£12.15	£12.48	2.75%	
14 hours	£170.04	£174.72	2.75%	
Annual Salary	£8,842.32	£9,085.62	2.75%	
Home Office Allowance	£212.00	£212.00	0.00%	£104 home allowance, £108 phone/broadband allowance
Total Package	£9,054.32	£9,297.62	2.69%	
Take home Salary pm 52 x 14 hrs x £12.48/12	£736.86	£757.14	2.75%	
Phone/Broadband per month	17.67	£17.67		
Total per month	£754.53	£774.81	2.69%	

3. FISCAL YEAR TO DATE TRANSACTIONS BY MONTH

EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL															
Receipts and Payments - 2020/21															
RECEIPTS	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Precept	£ 15,041.50					£ 15,041.50							£ 30,083.00	£ 30,082.86	100%
Double Taxation													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Litter Warden Grant		£ 4,534.40											£ 4,534.40	£ 4,534.40	100%
Rental Income													£ -	£ 601.00	0%
CTS Grant													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
S106 Monies													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Other	£ 2,012.00				£ 101.75								£ 2,113.75	£ -	#DIV/0!
VAT Recovered	£ 489.09												£ 489.09	£ -	#DIV/0!
Bank Interest													£ -	-	#VALUE!
	£ 17,542.59	£ 4,534.40	£ -	£ -	£ 101.75	£ 15,041.50	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 37,220.24	£ 35,218	106%
PAYMENTS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Clerk's salary	£ 753.53	£ 377.27	£ 680.19	£ 589.46	£ 589.46	£ 589.46							£ 3,579.37	£ 9,114.03	39%
Clerk's expenses	£ 11.99			£ 17.67	£ 17.67	£ 85.47							£ 132.80	£ 274.86	48%
Litter Warden Salary	£ 339.30	£ 391.41	£ 377.84	£ 377.84	£ 377.84	£ 377.84							£ 2,242.07	£ 4,185.60	54%
Litter Warden Exps	£ 60.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00							£ 235.00	£ 750.00	31%
Admin (inc Courses)													£ -	£ 800.00	0%
Insurance	£ 1,318.15												£ 1,318.15	£ 1,350.00	98%
Audit		£ 240.00											£ 240.00	£ 450.00	53%
Subscriptions		£ 607.31											£ 607.31	£ 695.64	87%
Grass Cutting						£ 245.00							£ 245.00	£ 1,224.00	20%
Misc Maintenance			£ 150.00			£ 150.00							£ 300.00	£ 2,200.00	14%
Annual Maint Agmnt			£ 1,020.00										£ 1,020.00	£ 2,886.60	35%
Footpaths	£ 324.00	£ 242.00	£ 108.00										£ 674.00	£ 4,000.00	17%
Highways													£ -	£ 1,000.00	0%
CCTV			£ 1,250.00										£ 1,250.00	£ 1,978.80	63%
Grants & Sec 137				£ 500.00									£ 500.00	£ 1,500.00	33%
Chairmans Allowance			£ 34.00										£ 34.00	£ 250.00	14%
Neighbourhood Plan						£ 175.00							£ 175.00	£ 2,500.00	7%
VAT	£ 223.97	£ 131.21	£ 484.00			£ 49.00							£ 888.18	£ 1,387.03	64%
PAYE	£ 4.11	£ 390.37	£ 67.59	£ 148.07	£ 148.07	£ 148.07							£ 906.28	£ 400.00	227%
Grant Refund													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Other	-£ 32.79												-£ 32.79	£ -	#DIV/0!
	£ 3,002.26	£ 2,414.57	£ 4,206.62	£ 1,668.04	£ 1,168.04	£ 1,854.84	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 14,314.37	£ 36,947	39%
Printed : 28/09/2020															

4. Forecast for remainder of Financial Year

3 months. No meaningful forecast yet.

EAST WOODHAY PARISH COUNCIL														FORECAST	
Receipts and Payments - 2020/21															
RECEIPTS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Precept	£ 15,041.50					£ 15,041.50							£ 30,083.00	£ 30,082.86	100%
Double Taxation													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Litter Warden Grant		£ 4,534.40											£ 4,534.40	£ 4,534.40	100%
Rental Income								£ 1.00					£ 1.00	£ 601.00	0%
CTS Grant													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
S106 Monies													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Other Grants	£ 2,012.00				£ 101.75								£ 2,113.75	£ -	#DIV/0!
VAT Recovered	£ 489.09												£ 489.09	£ -	#DIV/0!
Bank Interest													£ -	-	#VALUE!
	£ 17,542.59	£ 4,534.40	£ -	£ -	£ 101.75	£ 15,041.50	£ -	£ 1.00	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 37,221.24	£ 35,218	106%
PAYMENTS	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total	BUDGET	% of Budget
Clerk's salary	£ 753.53	£ 377.27	£ 680.19	£ 589.46	£ 589.46	£ 589.46	£ 753.53	£ 753.53	£ 753.53	£ 753.53	£ 753.53	£ 753.53	£ 8,100.55	£ 9,114.03	89%
Clerk's expenses	£ 11.99			£ 17.67	£ 17.67	£ 85.47							£ 132.80	£ 274.86	48%
Litter Warden Salary	£ 339.30	£ 391.41	£ 377.84	£ 377.84	£ 377.84	£ 377.84	£ 391.41	£ 391.41	£ 391.41	£ 391.41	£ 391.41	£ 391.41	£ 4,590.53	£ 4,185.03	111%
Litter Warden Exps	£ 60.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 35.00	£ 445.00	£ 750.00	59%
Admin (inc Courses)							£ 800.00						£ 800.00	£ 800.00	100%
Insurance	£ 1,318.15												£ 1,318.15	£ 1,350.00	98%
Audit		£ 240.00											£ 240.00	£ 450.00	53%
Subscriptions		£ 607.31											£ 607.31	£ 695.64	87%
Grass Cutting						£ 245.00	£ 1,224.00						£ 1,469.00	£ 1,224.00	120%
Misc Maintenance			£ 150.00			£ 150.00	£ 2,200.00			£ 2,000.00			£ 4,500.00	£ 2,200.00	205%
Annual Maint Agmnt			£ 1,020.00				£ 2,886.00						£ 3,906.00	£ 2,886.60	135%
Footpaths	£ 324.00	£ 242.00	£ 108.00									£ 9,200.00	£ 9,874.00	£ 4,000.00	247%
Highways							£ 1,000.00						£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	100%
CCTV			£ 1,250.00				£ 1,978.00						£ 3,228.00	£ 1,978.80	163%
Donations & Sec 137				£ 500.00				£ 400.00		£ 500.00			£ 1,400.00	£ 1,500.00	93%
Chairmans Allowance			£ 34.00						£ 250.00				£ 284.00	£ 250.00	114%
Neighbourhood Plan						£ 175.00			£ 2,500.00				£ 2,675.00	£ 2,500.00	107%
VAT	£ 223.97	£ 131.21	£ 484.00			£ 49.00							£ 888.18	£ 1,387.03	64%
PAYE	£ 4.11	£ 390.37	£ 67.59	£ 148.07	£ 148.07	£ 148.07	£ 186.30	£ 7.50	£ 9.16	£ 9.16	£ 9.16	£ 11.76	£ 1,139.32	£ 400.00	285%
Grant Refund													£ -	£ -	#DIV/0!
Other	-£ 32.79												£ 9,804.21	£ 9,804.21	100%
	£ 3,002.26	£ 2,414.57	£ 4,206.62	£ 1,668.04	£ 1,168.04	£ 1,854.84	£ 11,454.24	£ 1,587.44	£ 3,939.10	£ 3,689.10	£ 1,189.10	£ 20,228.70	£ 56,402.05	£ 46,718	121%
Printed : 28/09/2020															

Item 10: Utilities Report, Cllr Jarvis

I am unaware of any problems arising in the last 2 months with water supply or drainage and we have had no power interruptions for a while.

I am having power problems of a sub-critical nature which may be more widespread but I have yet to check with neighbours. At peak demand times, generally around 6:30pm my supply voltage drops and the lights dim. Measurements have shown the voltage drops to as low as 201 volts which is well outside statutory rules for supplies. I am having an ongoing dialogue with SSE on this matter.

Item 11: Highways Report, Cllr Dick

Highway Maintenance Reports

Having now had a an opportunity to get to know more about our local highways, and to have cycled many of them, I am aware of the many potholes and road shoulder degradations in need of attention, but also of the number that are already marked for repair work, or have been resolved by full re-surfacing (e.g. East End – East Woodhay).

Whilst the excellent log created by Cllr Murdoch details those reported personally by him, and for which a reference number exists enabling activity tracking, there is seemingly no clear way to search any additional independent reports submitted within the Parish. I have therefore asked HCC for a way to determine which cases may already have been reported individually by members of the public in a similar fashion to (e.g.)planning applications via B&D. This might enable a more complete overview of parish road repair activity and avoid duplication of effort on the part of HCC Highways. Currently, without knowing the reference number given by HCC to the person reporting the case, there is no means to search the database for relevant updates.

WH Doctor Surgery Parking

Summary response from HCC Highways as at 21.09.2020 to progress enquiry:

“It is very timely as we have made significant progress with regards collating data and general information. We have had back the commissioned tree survey to see how the trees in both areas and schemes may be affected. We have also made some land inquiries and an ecological assessment. And although, I currently can’t release everything to you as yet, as a few more enquiries are required with regards the ecology report. You can rest assured we are continuing to work on the project.”

As the final project outline is still awaited the Surgery management has not yet been consulted for their contributory input. They possibly have more important matters on their mind at this time.

S106 Budget Trade Street / Tile Barn Row

HCC has been asked to confirm outline budgets for thee two project as being in line with S106 money available. Response as at 21.09.2020:

*“With reference the costings and budgets it currently would seem adequate but this is subject to our last enquires.
Sorry not to disclose more at the moment but a few more weeks should see us with a better picture.”*

Greenways/ Tile Barn Row – Parking

I am not aware of any further reports/complaints on this matter.

Item 12: Police and traffic report, Cllr Hurst

PCSO

Still no contact with the new PCSO, Emma Page. This has been escalated to the local Inspector and will continue to chase.

Traffic

There is still an ongoing parking issue in Greenways, Woolton Hill. The same number of vehicles have continued to park by the Greenways junction. However, no further complaints have been received.

Item 13: County Councillor Tom Thacker's report

Covid

I was approached by Secretary of St Martin's Guild, concerning a small planned event in October, asking what specific Covid advice Hampshire County Council provides for such events?

At the time, I correctly advised that Hampshire County Council does not provide any specific Covid advice about holding public events, other than referring enquiries to the government's own website.

I learnt today that on Friday, the HCC Director for Public Health had issued a direction to ban a particular public event in the New Forest.

I have told the Secretary of this and I have emailed the Director asking what actions are required, if any, for East Woodhay's event to go ahead and I will get back to the Secretary of St Martin's Guild, when I have his response.

Trade Street parking project

I have today spoken with the Delivery Manager for this project. HCC has been surveying the area and designs are drawn up.

- An ecology desktop survey has been conducted, some questions remain, as there is a possibility of newts and bats living in the area;
- a full site visit is required to establish this and this will likely be conducted in the next two weeks;
- there are also potential engineering issues with building parking on the verge opposite the Doctor's surgery, as the ditch would need to be built over. Once the final ecology report is in and assuming there are no issues there, covering the ditch will need to be agreed with Hampshire Highways' asset management team.

Residents should be ready for the possibility that any existence of newts or bats might lead to prolonged resolution, whilst mitigation is explored.

If either the ecology or engineering issues cannot be overcome, other alternatives may need to be looked at.

Schools

I attended a briefing on schools in Basingstoke borough today.

St Martins is reported as doing very well. St Thomas' and WHJS are completing the process of federating as the Woolton Hill Schools Trust. The new governor board is due to meet in the next two weeks, to begin the process of recruiting a new Headteacher, who will head both schools.

Item 14: EWS Update: Cllr Rand

- 'Rule of 6' summary provided by Clive Sanders and shared via email to those who have requested newsletter updates and also via website / Facebook.
- Further updates will be provided especially if circumstances / guidelines change via www.wooltonhill.com. 'Weekly' Newsletters will likely only be resurrected if we enter a more restrictive 'lockdown' situation.
- Neighbourcare is now taking clients to medical appointments again and also delivering Prescriptions / Shopping.
- East Woodhay Society are looking for nominations for local charities to raise money for in 2021.