

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE** OF EVERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT CHARLES KINGSLEY'S SCHOOL ON **TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2024** WHICH COMMENCED AT 7.41PM

PRESENT: Cllr S Miller (Chairman) (SM)
Cllr E Dixon (ED)
Cllr P Todd (PT)
Cllr J Barnett (JB)

ALSO PRESENT: Two members of the public and Ms J Street (Clerk)

Abbreviations:

HDC – Hart District Council
HCC – Hampshire County Council
EPC – Eversley Parish Council

ACTION

- 42 Apologies for absence
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S Hughes.
- 43 Declarations of Interest
None were declared.
- 44 Minutes of the last meeting
The minutes of the meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held on **Tuesday 9th July 2024** had previously been circulated to all Councillors.
RESOLVED
That the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman. **SM**
- 45 Public Participation
Fitness Trail – A member of the public thanked the Council for installing the fitness trail at Chequers Green. A significant number of people of all ages are utilising it, which is fantastic to hear.
Chequers Green - Another member of public wanted to know why an area at Chequers Green was being left uncut, was it for a wildflower meadow. It's simply that there are several large mole hills in the area which has prevented the contractor to get his equipment in to cut the grass there. The resident asked whether it could be maintained as a wildflower area so the Payback Team will be asked to strim and rake the area so it can be maintained as such going forward.
- 46 Hedges and Ditches
Hollybush Lane – The hedges along Hollybush Lane are encroaching onto the road making it difficult to walk or drive along. The Clerk will check that the landowners and HCC, on their respective sides of the road, are planning trim them back after bird nesting is complete.
Reading Road – The trees are overhanging the pavement beside the Centre Green play area. The Clerk will request the landowner to cut back.
Chequers Lane – The hedges are encroaching here again. The Clerk will chase HCC and landowners again to try and get it cut back.
The Fielders – The pavement here again is overgrown. The Clerk has already contacted the landowner who confirmed that the hedges will be cut back after bird nesting season has finished.

- 47 Christmas
DEFERRED
It was felt that a celebration event like that held last year would be ideal. Cllr's Barnett and Hughes will lead on arranging the celebrations.
- 48 Up Green
The quotation details were previously circulated to all Councillors.
RESOLVED
The quotation for £1,500 for the ditches to be re-dug around Up Green was accepted.
- 49 Cross Green
RESOLVED
It was agreed that the area needs some work taking place as some areas are overgrown. This area is due to be tidied up in September / October by Eversley's contractor. The Clerk will chase for a date and request that the works again done in the Springtime. The Payback Team will be asked to do any interim management.
- 50 Fencing at Cross Green
The manufacturers guidelines were previously circulated to all Councillors.
DEFERRED
It was felt that quotations should be received for maintaining the fencing to the manufacturer's guidelines. The Clerk will request some quotes.
- 51 Pond weed
The quotation details were previously circulated to all Councillors.
RESOLVED
The quotation for £175 + VAT to remove all the weed that has been cleared from the pond was accepted.
- 52 Willow Tree
The quotation details were previously circulated to all Councillors.
RESOLVED
The willow tree is located outside of Eversley Parish. The relevant landowner and authority will be written to requesting them to cut it back.
- 53 Webbs Corner
DEFERRED
It was noted with sadness that the residents around this area have not been looking after it as was agreed. Cllr's Barnett and Hughes will try to contact residents to find out whether there are volunteers to look after it.
- 54 Tree Survey
DEFERRED
It was felt that the works to fell the dead trees should commence first so the best locations for the new trees as requested by HDC could be chosen.
- 55 Countryside Grants
DEFERRED
The news of these grants being available was welcomed and several projects were put forward for discussion. Further work is required before one project could be chosen to be put forward.
- 56 Pond Volunteer Day
It was noted that the next Pond Volunteer Day was to take place on Sunday 15th September 2024.

57 Coronation Plaque

RESOLVED

The Council would like to extend it's thanks to the Yateley Men's Shed for their beautiful work on the Coronation plaque. It was agreed to present it to the Village Hall Trustees who will display it in the Village Hall where many can see it and protecting it from the weather.

58 Planning Applications

To decide a consultee written response on the Planning applications as follows:

1) 24/01712/FUL 47 Kingsley Road, Eversley

Demolition of existing garage and erection of a 3-bedroom detached dwelling.

EPC Consultee Comment: EPC objects to another large house within an overdeveloped area of the village, when our need is for smaller more affordable housing. EPC is also concerned over the current parking pressures within Kingsley Road, that is resulting in many parking on and blocking pavements, and the addition that this type of development would add to this burden.

2) 23/02644/HCC Eversley Haulage Park, Brickhouse Hill

Variation to condition 4 of planning permission (hours of working)

EPC Consultee Comment: EPC has received two additional documents. The first is titled 'Planning Statement' (PS) and is prepared by Tetra Tech on behalf of R. Collard Ltd. The second is titled 'Additional Information from the Applicants 5 September 2024', but there is no indication of who has prepared it or what its purpose is. It appears to be a review of the first document but uses selective details to completely misrepresent the proposal. It is assumed that this is some type of covering note which should never have been published as an application document.

EPC objects to the application because the amendment that is specifically requested is not that which the additional Planning Statement (PS) purports to support.

The proposed development is that condition 4 of 15/00921/HCC is updated with the wording changes suggested in PS para. 4.1.2. This suggests two separate alterations:

First, the removal of "the wording relating to public holidays". The effect of this is stated in PS para. 4.2.1 as "The operations that would take place on Public Holidays would be the same as those already approved." However, this is not those already approved for Public Holidays, but those already approved for any other working day of the week. This is more clearly stated at PS para.5.3.2 which refers to the change to operations being "to allow working on Public Holidays"; in PS para. 6.0.2 as the "approval for the existing operations to take place on Public Holidays"; and, at PS para. 6.0.5 which states that "it is not considered that the proposal would cause an unacceptable impact on amenity from public holiday working." Local residents would have hoped for a complete and unbiased assessment of the impact, which EPC considers would be adverse and considerable on the quiet appreciation of the open countryside by residents and those visiting the local woodlands on a Public Holiday and in the evenings (see letter from Mr Ian A Kempson dated 15th August 2024 and all documents from HDC Environmental Health).

Second, the suggested amendment refers to additional HGV movements to be allowed outside the hours currently permitted of "six two-way daily HGV movements that are permitted to enter the site during the following times: (which are stated)". The PS paras. 4.3.5 and 4.3.6 misrepresents the impact of the requested alteration on each day as "3 in and 3 out". This is factually incorrect. For each of the additional 6 lorries permitted to enter the site there would be a second journey permitted out of the site – hence 2-way movements. This is an additional 12 HGV movements a day, 6 in and 6 out. Therefore, all the information contained in the impact

assessment is based on half of the number of movements requested, so is of no help in considering the proposal.

Furthermore, it is stated at PS para. 1.1.3 that “the HGV movements would deliver residual waste to a heat and power station that requires a 24-hour feedstock.” The unstated inference is that these lorries would return empty. However, PS para. 5.3.2 states that the proposed alteration to the condition would “allow a limited number of material deliveries into the site on hours outside those currently permitted” and PS para. 6.0.7 states “the acceptance of waste on public holidays will allow additional material to be recycled for re-use.” Therefore, the proposed wording is actually a request to allow six movements of full lorries to go to Slough together with six movements of full lorries delivering recyclables to the site, every day of the year except Sundays, all of which will be outside the hours currently permitted.

EPC objects to permission being granted to any of these “exceptional” HGV movements, because there would be no practical way in which the Minerals and Waste Authority could either monitor these movements or enforce compliance with the requested condition.

EPC objects to the disturbance caused by these additional movements, both on the peace and quiet of the residents and because of the impact on many residents of the additional HGV movements, at least half of which will be directed to drive through Eversley Village, along The Street and through the Tally Ho Road junction, which Wokingham Borough Council accepts is already having to cope with traffic volumes beyond its theoretical capacity.

EPC would further object to a permanent change to the planning condition, rather than a temporary one related to the timespan of the contract to provide feedstock to the heat and power station in Slough.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:51PM

Chairman.....Date.....

Forward Plan

Date	Meeting	Draft Items
1 st October 2024	Full Council Meeting	
8 th October 2024	Open Spaces Committee Meeting	
5 th November 2024	Full Council Meeting	