

MINUTES OF **FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF EVERSLEY PARISH COUNCIL** HELD AT CHARLES KINGSLEY SCHOOL
AT 7.31pm ON **TUESDAY 1ST JULY 2025**

PRESENT: Cllr S Dickens (SD) (Chairman)
Cllr S Kendrick (SK)
Cllr S Stephens (SS)
Cllr E Dixon (ED)
Cllr P Todd (PT)
Cllr E Batup (EB)

ALSO PRESENT: Dr A Crampton (HDCllr), Tim Davies (HCCllr), 19 Members of the Public, and J. Street (Clerk)

Abbreviations:

HDC – Hart District Council

HCC – Hampshire County Council

EPC – Eversley Parish Council

ACTIONS

43 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr S Miller and Cllr S Hughes for personal reasons.

44 Declarations of Interest

Cllr E Dixon declared a personal interest in items 48 and 49.

45 Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Eversley Parish Council held on **Tuesday 17th June 2025** had been previously circulated to all Councillors.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

SD

46 Public Questions and Comments

Planning pre-applications – In the past EPC has commented on planning pre-applications but are not now, why? EPC's current planning statement is that it takes each planning application on its merit.

Hollybush Farm – The main entrance to the proposed site is now off the Reading Road when it used to be off onto Hollybush Lane, why is that? Is it because of the Rural Exception Site? Unfortunately EPC cannot answer this. Perhaps it might be best to ask this to the Cemex agents at their exhibition on the 5th July 2025 at the Village Hall.

Warbrook Lane – Can EPC confirm what is happening with regards to the filled in ditches along Warbrook Lane? EPC is still following this up with HCC and awaiting their response.

Up Green – Who is responsible for the common land at the top of Up Green? It is maintained by EPC on behalf of the community.

Marsh Lane – There is a passive pathway at Marsh Lane/ Up Green that has become inaccessible. EPC will ask HCC Highways to cut back.

Firgrove Lane – There is a strip of common land along Firgrove Lane that has concrete block on it, why? EPC is aware and will write to the owner requesting removal as permission hasn't been sought or granted.

Vehicle Counting Strips on the roads – There are strips along the Reading Road, Hollybush Lane, and Firgrove Lane, are these in relation to the planning pre-applications? As far as we are aware yes.

47 Hart District Council / Hampshire County Council

HDC – Cemex UK Properties Ltd are attending a meeting with HDC's planning officers shortly. Cllr A Crampton (HDCllr) requested to attend but was denied. However she will get a full report on the meeting and has requested that EPC is also present for it.

Currently HDC is in the process of revising their Local Plan as their housing targets have been amended. HDC are now looking at their housing allocation and what percentages they want to allocate to certain areas. HDC have confirmed that they will advise our Neighbourhood Planning Working Group of what Eversley's housing allocation figure is likely to be.

HCC - A public consultation is currently open on the Local Government Reorganisation and closes on 26th July 2025.

The lane leasing initiative that HCC is currently considering is only likely to cover up to 10% of Hampshire roads, so major A and B roads only. This is disappointing but this figure comes from Central Government so is unlikely to be increased.

The Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer have both resigned and the recruitment process has started.

48 Financial report

The Responsible Financial Officer's reconciliation for June 2025, the schedule of payments for July and August 2025, the Year-to-Date Update, and the supporting bank statements had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED

- The reconciliation for June 2025 was accepted.
- The schedule of payments for July 2025 was accepted.
- The anticipated schedule of payments were approved for August 2025, when the Council does not meet.
- The Year-To-Date Update was accepted.
- The supporting bank statements were accepted.

49 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman apologised that it hadn't been arranged for the resident's group to give a short presentation. The Chairman gave a short report on the pro's and con's, mentioning no budget was set for a Neighbourhood Plan now, before allowing residents to input on his summary (see Appendix A). It was also suggested that Bramshill Parish Council may want to submit a joint Plan. After a short debate a vote took place. Five voted in favour and one voted against.

RESOLVED

That the Neighbourhood Planning process will proceed, with an offer sent to Bramshill Parish Council presenting the option of a joint submission. **Clerk**

50 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

RESOLVED

- a) That setting up the Working Group was approved.
- b) The modified Terms of Reference, submitted by the Working Group was approved.
- c) That Cllr E Batup was appointed as Lead Councillor to the Working Group.

51 Councillor Surgery

RESOLVED

It was agreed to set up a Councillor Surgery at the Community Café at the ESA on Wednesdays between 10.00am to 12.30pm. The Clerk will set up a rota of available Councillors. **Clerk**

52 Up Green Conservation Review

RESOLVED

It was agreed that a review of all four conservation areas within Eversley should be undertaken, with priority given to that covering Up Green. **Clerk**

There being no further items for discussion the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:01pm.

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

The next Full Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd September 2025.

Forward Plan

Date	Meeting
8 th July 2025	Open Spaces Committee Meeting
2 nd September 2025	Full Council Meeting
9 th September 2025	Open Spaces Committee Meeting

Appendix A

Co-Pilot AI:

A neighbourhood plan can be a powerful tool for shaping the future of a community, but like anything, it comes with both advantages and drawbacks. Here's a quick overview:

Pros

Local control: Residents have a direct say in how their area should develop—everything from housing design to green spaces.

Tailored solutions: Plans can reflect the unique character and needs of the community, rather than relying solely on broader council policies.

Planning weight: Once adopted, neighbourhood plans carry legal weight in decision-making, giving communities more clout.

Boosts engagement: It can foster a stronger sense of community by encouraging people to get involved in local planning.

Cons

Time and effort: Creating a plan is a big commitment. It requires significant volunteer time, consultation, and navigating bureaucracy.

Costs: While some funding is available, the process can still be expensive—especially if consultants are needed.

Limitations: Neighbourhood plans can't override national or local strategic policies. They're great for adding detail but can't block developments already in line with broader plans.

Slow process: From start to finish, it can take years to complete and adopt a plan, which can be frustrating for fast-moving issues