

**MINUTES** of the meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council at Edwardstone Parish Hall on Monday 20 March 2017 at 7.30 pm

**Present:** S Norman (Chair), M Childs, C Britcher, P Clarke, S Flack

**In attendance:** A Robinson (Clerk); Daphne Clark (Edwardstone Parish Hall)

1. **Apologies** – J Finch
2. **Councillors' Declarations of Interest** – there were none.
3. **Reports**
  - 3.1. **Report from SCC** - J Finch is unwell but had telephoned to say that he had been advised that the outlying areas of Edwardstone should have high speed broadband by the end of the year.
  - 3.2. **Report from BDC** – B Hurren was not in attendance.
4. **The Minutes** of the meeting of 21 November 2016 were approved and signed, proposed C Britcher, seconded S Norman.
5. **Councillor vacancy** – no further applicants had come forward. The position will continue to be advertised.
6. **Highway and footpath matters**
  - 6.1. Potholes – The road at Mill Green (U8339) is still badly in need of resurfacing with potholes worsening. Someone tripped on one of the deeper holes recently. SCC had responded to the request for resurfacing made by the PC in December, saying that one pothole met the criteria for repair and they would speak to the engineer about putting this road forward for future resurfacing schemes but it will be prioritised against other locations. The Clerk will report the issue again.
  - 6.2. Footpath cutting issues – none at the moment.
  - 6.3. Other Highway and Footpath issues – the Clerk reported that SCC was not prepared to put steps down to the sleeper bridge on the footpath between Groton Street and Sherbourne Street as in its view the gradients are acceptable. An email had been received regarding the possibility of designating some roads in the area as Quiet Lanes. Councillors expressed some interest but will await further information before any decision is made.
7. **Reports and Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public**
  - 7.1. D Clark said that progress had been made with regard to the cracks in the wall of the disabled toilet in the Parish Hall. B Hurren had facilitated meetings with BDC and she is currently waiting to hear from the Hall's insurers following a visit by a loss adjustor. Hopefully the repair work can then go ahead.
8. **Planning**
  - 8.1. **Planning applications received** – B/17/00091 Land to the south of Daking Avenue (Goodlands Phase 2) – erection of up to 24 dwellings (including up to 8 affordable dwellings) with access – the PC resolved to send a letter of objection on the grounds that Swan Street is already badly congested, and further homes here will make this worse, and that the proposals will add to existing parking problems in the village centre.  
B/17/00175 – 3 Groton Street, Groton – erection of front and side single storey extension – the PC had no objections to these proposals.
  - 8.2. **Planning decisions received** – B/16/01721 Fletchwood, Sherbourne Street – erection of single storey rear extension and garage – approved.
9. **Chairman's and Clerk's reports and correspondence** – a letter had been received from Veronica Hobbs thanking the PC for the donation towards the Peter Hibben Valentine disco.

**10. Financial matters**

10.1. The Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment were approved as under.

Business Premium Account as at 30 December 2016	£2517.76
Business Current Account as at 31 January 2017	<u>£5462.84</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7980.60</b>

Cheque no	Amount	Payee	Purpose
100797	£23.90	Anita Robinson	Clerk's expenses Dec 2016-March 2017
100798	£457.93	Anita Robinson	Clerk's salary 1//10/16-31/12/16
100799	£5.60	HMRC	Tax on clerk's salary 1/10/16-31/12/16
100800	£222.76	BDC	Litter & Dog Bin emptying service
100801	£443.95	Anita Robinson	Clerk's salary 1/1/17-31/3/17
100802	£2.40	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's salary 1/1/17-31/3/17

10.2. The accounts to date were checked against the bank statements and agreed.

10.3. The Parish Council's assets were reviewed and no issues were found.

10.4. The Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were reviewed and no changes were required.

10.5. The PC resolved to make the following further donations under the General Power of Competence:

Cheque no	Amount	Payee
100803	£300	Edwardstone PCC
100804	£375	Edwardstone Millennium Green Trust
100805	£350	Edwardstone Parish Hall
100806	£150	Boxford Playing Fields
100807	£100	East Anglian Air Ambulance

10.6. The PC reviewed the Clerk's salary in line with her contract and resolved to increase it from SCP 18 to SCP 19, at a rate of £9.743 per hour.

**11. Future Agenda items** – footpaths, potholes, Quiet Lanes

**12. To confirm the date of the next meeting** – the Annual Meeting will be on 15 May at 7pm with the Annual Parish Meeting the same day at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 pm.

Chairman

Date