



**ELSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the December Meeting**

**Monday 11th December 2023 at 7.30pm**  
**Held at Elstead Youth Centre**

**Attendees:** Cllr P. Murphy (Chair) Cllr J. Jacobs Cllr J. Collis  
Cllr L. Davidsen Cllr A. Goundry Cllr A. Hampshire  
Cllr J. Holroyd Cllr M. Lass Cllr R. Muir

Mrs J. Williams (Clerk)  
Cllr G Long, 4 x MOP's

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

8408 A resident asked whether any monies raised by Our Elstead could be used to support charities/support groups used by residents outside of the village and not just in the village. Cllr Murphy advised that it had been agreed that this year Help in Elstead and Elstead Food Bank would be supported. It was noted that there were other groups and organisations within the village who would benefit from financial support however the Parish Council would be happy to accept a recommendation to consider. It was agreed that Our Elstead would present some ideas at the May meeting which would be ratified by the Parish Council. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

**1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

8409 There were no apologies for absence. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

**2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

8410 No councillors declared a (a) Personal, (b) Prejudicial interests which they are required to disclose by section 94(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Parish Council (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2018. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

**3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PC MEETING HELD 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

8411 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were agreed. The Chair signed the minutes. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

**4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PLANNING MEETING HELD 20<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

8412 The minutes of the planning meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November were agreed. The Chair signed the minutes. **(11/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

**5.0 MATTERS ARISING**

- 8413 FP64: Cllr P Murphy attended and spoke at the Waverley Local Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The local committee unanimously found in favour of the two diversions. The Clerk has written to SCC Countryside who replied explaining that the existing temporary closure will have to be extended until such time as social distancing is relaxed. Once everything is back to normal the diversion order will be made and there will be a formal consultation period. If objections are received during this period and cannot be resolved SCC will have to refer the order to the Secretary of State for determination. Determination can take the form of written representations, formal hearing, or a Public Inquiry. If there are no sustained objections, SCC can confirm the order and the footpath will have been legally diverted (although works may have to be carried out to make the new route suitable for the public). Cllr Mathisen suggested that the EA had neglected to clear tree debris and Cllr Murphy added that another tree had caused scouring to the bank. After many months of chasing Surrey CC have served notice of the order for the footpath diversion on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022 and this will not come into operation until thirty days after it is confirmed. The order has been made however the landowner has objected to it. There has been no progress in this matter by Surrey CC and the Clerk to ask the officer's line manager to meet with Cllr Murphy to explain why progress has been so slow. Cllr Mathisen noted that vegetation needed to be cleared beyond the footbridge. There was no response from SCC before the meeting. The clerk forwarded her letter to Cllr Harmer who will follow it up with officers. Cllr Murphy and the clerk met with SCC ROW on 23<sup>rd</sup> March to discuss the on-going closure of FP64. Cllr Murphy reported that there was no problem with the route and that it was on-going discussions with the landowner that were the problem and were causing the delay. Cllr Murphy and the clerk had asked for SCC ROW to set a target date of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 to resolve the issue after which it was suggested that SCC should send a formal application to the Secretary of State. (June 2023) SCC have met with the landowner and will send over further paperwork once it has been finalised. It is hoped that on receipt of the information the landowner will have all the information that is needed. (July 2023) SCC advised that the landowner has queried the surveyors report. SCC are obtaining permission to send the whole of the surveyor's report to the landowner. SCC will then respond to the query and see whether the objection is withdrawn. If it is not then SCC will respond to the Secretary of State. (September 2023) The clerk followed up with SCC who advised that the resident had been away and was due to respond imminently to previous SCC communications. The clerk suggested that perhaps now was time to issue a deadline which SCC confirmed would be the case should there be no further progress in the next few weeks. (October 2023) SCC responded to the clerk's update request agreeing that deadlines were important and that if further negotiation was not successful with the landowner SCC would have to refer the order to the Secretary of State. The clerk followed up again but there was no response in time for the December meeting. **(12/23)**.
- 8320 Village Green and Church Green Lease: The clerk confirmed that the application has been submitted to the land registry. **(10/23)**.
- 8321 Staceys Farm Road registration: The clerk confirmed that the papers have been signed and returned to Wellers who have submitted them to the land registry. **(10/23)**.
- 8414 Springfield flooding: Cllrs Murphy, Mathisen and Rees met with Ian Fowler (IF, SCC), Cllr Harmer, the clerk and a resident in June 2020 to discuss the flooding issue associated with Springfield which impacts Orchard Close and some properties along the Milford Road. Investigative work was carried out from 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> January 2022 and several blockages were identified. Some remedial work has been completed from Orchard Close to Springfield and at Beggars Folly. WBC have submitted a proposal to SCC to replace the pipework with larger pipework as there are a number of breaks. At the October 2022 meeting, the clerk reported that WBC have advised that the legal paperwork is in place and that WBC are seeking comparative quotes for the work. The project will go out to tender with a closing date set of 7<sup>th</sup> July. The anticipated start date is 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023. At WBC's request the clerk has written to all affected residents asking for permission for the potential bidders to see the proposed scope of the works and WBC have attended with their contractors to pull together tender documents. The clerk printed out and distributed further letters to affected residents on this matter in August and fielded a few telephone calls on this matter too. The clerk has been advised that there is an issue obtaining access which WBC are trying to resolve. (October 2023) WBC advised that they are still waiting on advice from their legal team in order to progress. Engineers are meeting the contractor on site with the aim of starting the Orchard Close section in the coming

- weeks. The clerk followed this up for the December meeting. One of the key engineers involved with the project has left WBC. **(12/23)**.
- 8264 Elstead-Milford Cycle Route: Work has been completed on this project. HG (SCC) advised that she was still in favour of finding a name for the route. The clerk undertook a survey with the most popular name being Blackberry Way. Witley PC have confirmed that they have not consulted residents but are happy with the name choice. The clerk has advised Cllr Harmer and at the Western Village the clerk was advised that the council must make a protocol to say that they agree to the renaming. The clerk noted that this has already been evidenced in the minutes. Cllr Harmer has agreed to speak to SCC Countryside. **(09/23)**
- 8143 Costs for the repairs to the spire net and spika podium were approved and the spika podium was confirmed as being free of charge. The spire net was repaired (May) and was not tensioned in June 2022 as the contractor was not able to access the relevant points. The clerk has received an invoice which is contrary to what was agreed and has followed this up with Kompan. Kompan have not commented on the clerk's response and the clerk has followed this matter up again with Kompan. The PC have received a letter from Kompan's legal advisers which the clerk has followed up. **(06/23)**
- 8265 The Clerk to follow up with the contractor who serviced the zip wire to provide a quotation to make good some of the wet pour in the playgrounds. Other costs received include: to repair the roundabout £1k plus labour. A new accessible roundabout will cost £13k and a replacement see saw £6.5k. (Costs for new were provided by Wicksted). It was agreed that the PC would wait until it received CIL funding and use this to replace the old play equipment. The clerk has chased for wetpour quotes and is seeking alternative contractors. The clerk has followed this up and tried alternative contractors. Most contractors won't repair wetpour – the clerk has suggested that as it is deemed low risk the work is deferred to next fiscal at which point the see saw and roundabout will need to be replaced. **(10/23)**. **Minute to be removed next month.**
- 7789 A resident reported on the unreliability of Stagecoach services to and from the village. The clerk to write to Stagecoach seeking an explanation. **(09/22)**.
- 8415 A letter was received from a resident noting the increased usage of bikes along a footpath leading from West Hill to the Common. The clerk has spoken to SCC Countryside who will investigate what can be done and whether the gate (that was removed) can be reinstated which might help to deter people from cycling along the route. The clerk is working with SCC Countryside on this who have agreed to add some signage. The clerk followed this up with JB (SCC) at the July Western village meeting and emailed SCC in September. SCC advised before the October meeting that they were still intending on putting up signage. The clerk followed up for the December meeting but the officer was on leave. **(12/23)**.
- 8267 Bike track: A resident noted that feedback from the recent survey had been positive. 90% supported low cost outside leisure. 90% would support a bike area and 70% would use it. Most would use it ranging from daily to weekly. There had been four letters against the bike park who were concerned about noise and suggested that it was the wrong location. The objections were discussed at length and it was felt that the concerns expressed, while understandable, could be addressed through the instigation of effective controls. The resident asked whether the PC would support the project and suggested that replies could be sent to those who objected to it and also that it could be trialled for a month. It was advised that some monies have been promised for the project in the way of a donation. The project would be run via the British Cycling website which would offer membership and insurance. Bars would be erected to prevent motorbikes and the gate would be padlocked with members receiving a combination code to access the site. Rules would be visible and the site would not be accessible after a certain hour. Finally the resident advised that there was a constitution in place and that operating hours would be limited to weekends, and outside school hours but not in the dark. The majority of councillors present supported the proposal providing that it was securely fenced off and that should the project not continue the land would be returned to grassland at the end. It was agreed that a memorandum of understanding would be required which would set out the conditions of making over the land. (September 2023) The clerk responded to a resident asking

for an update that the committee were in the process of ascertaining what the overall cost would be and whether planning permission was going to be required. The resident noted that there was a covenant on the land that prevented anything that caused a nuisance. Cllr Murphy noted that the PC had given their approval in principle to make the land available subject to several conditions being met and this was echoed in the October meeting when EVAA representatives had asked the same point. **(09/23)**.

8324 A resident asked if there was an update on the Springfield development as there had been no information for residents for over a year. The clerk has contacted WBC who have responded that further pre application advice has been sought. WBC are now updating the financial modelling for the site and WBC hope to be able to present it at the July Council meeting. Once approved WBC will meet with the PC ahead of the resident consultation event that will take place. The clerk has written to WBC in September and is awaiting an update and this was still the case at the October meeting. **(10/23) Minute to be removed as covered under agenda item 11a.**

8325 Representatives from Hey Broadband and F&W networks attended the February PC meeting to provide an update on progress to date. It was explained that there had been 300 expressions of interest of which 293 were committed. It was advised that there had been some delay connecting to the cabinets but by April 2023 it hoped to have hit 900 and by July 2023 1250 connections. It was noted that the main challenge lay with crossing private land where permissions were needed. The provider will have to consult with some residents in Silver Birches Way and Springfield to see which would be preferable – a trench in the pathway or the addition of two telegraph poles. Peat Common also posed issues as the provider had applied to put fibre on the existing electrical poles and it had taken 5-6 months to approve just one pole. Hankley and Lower Ham Lane were also going to be hard to reach and again resident's permission would need to be sought to add more poles. MoD permission was required to install fibre to Guinea Common however MoD were charging an unrealistic fee. Cllr Murphy noted that the PC had taken the matter up with the MoD but so far without success. Westbrook Hill would also need MoD permission. The update concluded by explaining that Hey Broadband had started to canvas for people to sign up to the scheme. (September 2023). Cllr Goundry advised that there had been a notice from F&W networks advising that they could not complete their network installation in the village. They are pausing work in Elstead (plus other parts of the country) and need to see 100-150 residents sign up. Cllr Goundry advised that it was not clear how much F&W had completed as their communication was not clear however they had done a lot of work in obtaining licenses for poles and were close to connecting properties in Ham Lane and Red House Lane. Cllr Goundry has been following up progress with F&W. **(10/23)**.

8326 Cllr Mathisen advised that drains along the Seale Road had been cleared but that there as a leak at the top. The land owner is in dispute with SCC on this matter. The clerk asked if this has been resolved at the Western Village meeting. Cllr Harmer is in contact with SCC Engineers to see if the matter has been resolved and th clerk has followed this matter up with Cllr Harmer. **(10/23)**

8212 Cllr Murphy reported that at the last HUG meeting the MoD had been grateful for residents' co-operation during the recent restrictive use of the common following the recent training. Cllr Murphy had also raised the problem of flooding on the commons and the absence of any effective measures / action to clear the main drainage ditch. Cllr Murphy added that despite much correspondence he had been unable to get an answer from either Natural England (NE) or the EA on what their policies for the maintenance of the drainage system on the commons and their effects on the ROWs. Cllr Murphy explained to new councillors that as the land is owned by MoD they need consent from NE before works can be completed because of its SSI status. Without such consents it would be a criminal offence to undertake such works. The Friends of Thursley Common have asked for a meeting to discuss this with Cllr Murphy. Cllr Muir to attend. **(06/23)**.

8213 Cllrs Elses are seeking to get the footpath repaired along the Milford Road where the tarmac is disintegrating. Cllr J. Else advised that there had been no progress since October 2022. Cllr J Else advised that she had spoken to SCC and that it is on a "consideration list". Cllr Harmer explained that

- problems were fixed in order of severity. The clerk/EVRS to take over following this matter up. **(07/23)**.
- 8214 Cllr J. Else advised that there had been a lot of issues regarding the reliability of No 46 bus and that she was in discussion with SCC over this. The clerk to take over following this up. **(07/23)**.
- 8271 Cllr Jacobs stated that she felt that the policy on grass cutting was not well considered and proposed that Elstead should be responsible for cutting the grass throughout the whole of the village. It was noted that there are currently four contractors who cut different sections of grass on different days of the week in Elstead which was clearly not ecologically sound. Cllr Lass asked who would pay for the grass cutting and it was questioned whether some funding could come from the borough/district council. Cllr Long advised that there was to be a meeting between SCC and WBC to discuss this matter and was asked by Councillors to request that funding and responsibility for this be passed down to the parishes. The clerk and Cllr Lass met Grasstex in September who advised that some councils pay for Grasstex to provide top up cuts in between visits by borough/county contractors. Grasstex advised that they could provide a quote but would need to know the size of the area in square metres. **(07/23)**.
- 8416 It was noted that there had been a spate of vandalism at Burford Lodge. Councillors agreed that the clerk should meet with Absolute Security to assess the quality of the CCTV images. Images of the camera quality were shared with councillors prior to the October meeting and Cllr Holroyd, a representative from EVTC and the clerk met with Absolute Security on 11<sup>th</sup> October to look at what further security measures could be employed – a report with recommendations to be shared once it is received. Councillors agreed to replace both benches which had been vandalised beyond repair as these had been kindly donated by families in memorial of long-standing residents. The expenditure is made under the council's power to acquire and maintain land for public recreation (Public Health Act 1875 s. 16). The clerk has followed up with Absolute Security asking for their proposals. **(12/23)**.
- 8289 The clerk circulated the inspection reports for each playground prior to the meeting. The clerk advised that repairing wetpour was proving to be impossible and as it was a low risk item proposed that the repairs be made when the roundabout and seesaw were replaced. One item was regarded as moderate risk (the broken bench) and the clerk informed councillors that this had been removed already. Councillors agreed that the litter bin should be replaced as per the report recommendations which it does under its powers to provide bins (Litter Act 1983 ss5.6). It was agreed that this needed to be a substantial bin. Cllr Muir voiced concern about the spire net and the clerk advised that as it was considered low risk the advice on the report was to monitor however the clerk would go and check the spire net. The clerk has asked a contractor to check the spire net and is waiting on a quote to do the works. **(10/23)**
- 8295 A resident asked for help in getting some overhanging trees cut back. The clerk is liaising with SCC on this matter. **(09/23)**
- 8417 Cllr Murphy noted that he thought that the oak tree in the centre of Burford Lodge rec was not looking very healthy. The clerk has noted that there is likely honey fungus at the base of the tree. First Call have checked the tree and confirmed that it was honey fungus. The tree will slowly die but does not need to be removed immediately. The clerk asked for clarification about how long before it needs to be removed and whether it poses any risk as it is and was advised by the tree surgeon that the tree is still stable but that as part of the tree inspection the tree should be checked – the ideal time being in September. The clerk to arrange as part of the two yearly survey. **12/23)**. **Minute to be removed next month.**
- 8330 A delivery truck damaged the notice board at the spar towards the end of July. The clerk obtained repair and replacement costs which she has forward to Blakemore. Blakemore have explained that they will need to refer the replacement costs to their insurance company and there has been no update – the clerk to follow up. **(10/23)**

8418 An inaugural meeting had been held to discuss the village fete for 2024. A provisional date of 22<sup>nd</sup> June had been agreed however ECC have confirmed that there are matches on that date and so the pavilion area would not be available. The fete committee have requested 23<sup>rd</sup> June as an alternative. It was suggested that the fete committee might need to consider working towards a 2025 date and the parish council will advise ECC of the 2025 date accordingly. **(12/23)**

8388 It was first stated that it was unclear how far F&W were going to cover within the village – they had been recently observed working in Guinea Common. In terms of Gigaclear for whom Lanse-I Ltd are providing the infrastructure, they are not clear how much of the village they will cover but are intending to install the network using a lot more civil engineering methods compared to F&W. It was agreed that a follow up letter be written to Gigaclear asking when they intended to hold the public meeting and when they would be sharing more precise details of their scheme. Cllr Goundry reported that there had been communication from SCC digital regarding a scheme to help VHTR (very hard to reach) premises and that the aim was to achieve 85% coverage. Cllr Goundry felt that F&W had achieved 60% coverage and added that VHTR does not essentially apply to Elstead. Cllr Goundry added that F&W have left ad hoc locations where there are no connections but that dwellings either side have been connected. It was agreed that it would be important to have a completed spreadsheet from Gigaclear of connectable properties. **(11/23).**

## **6.0 WBC UPDATE**

8376 Cllr Long reported that residents have been concerned about a number of vehicles parking along verges on Hookley Lane adjacent to The Croft and Hookley Close and have requested that bollards be installed to deter this. It was noted that one untaxed vehicle was being dealt with by Waverley BC. Cllr Harmer to confirm whether this is SCC land. **(11/23).**

8162 Cllr Long explained that she had been dealing with the issue of some telephone poles that had been erected recently as part of the fibre broadband installation. The problem was that some of the telephone poles have been erected seemingly without consultation with residents. F&W are adamant that they have the requisite approvals in place. A telephone pole in Hookley Close has been controversially erected. Residents believed that they had ownership of the land however it might be responsibility and not ownership and Cllr Long is investigating. Cllr Goundry advised that SSE have been hampering the roll out by taking up to eight months to approve each pole and it was noted that the voucher scheme only has validity for twelve months. **(06/23).**

8276 Cllr Murphy explained that he had written to the CEO of WBC concerning how unfairly Elstead was being treated. Cllr Murphy noted that the village generated income of c £300k but received £100k in identifiable services. Cllr Murphy to write an article on this matter for the village news. **(09/23).**

## **7.0 SCC UPDATE**

8378 Cllr Harmer advised that the PC should notify him of which single highways issue they would like to see addressed. Cllr Goundry proposed the zebra crossing as it required urgent attention – the anti skid surface had disappeared and the white lines were all but faded. It was explained that DK (SCC) had suggested that he had a scheme in mind for Elstead and would submit a CIL bid to secure funding for it. As part of the scheme included the zebra crossing it was important that all parties were working collaboratively. It was agreed that the crossing needed to be made safe immediately, further improvement could be made via the DK's plan once CIL had been confirmed. Cllr harmer to discuss with DK. **(11/23)**

6004 Cllr Mathisen raised the issue of Fulbrook Lane – the side of the road near to Thundry Farm needs improvement. **(02/20)**

7878 Cllr Harmer noted that the Elstead-Milford cycle route needs a safe crossing over the A286 to allow children to cross. Cllr discussed various options but it was felt that crossing under the underpass would be the safest option. It was also suggested that the road should be reduced from 40 mph to

30 mph. Should this be the preferred route the underpass would need upgrading as it currently does not have any lighting. **(10/22)**.

## **8.0 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE**

- 8379 Regulation 16: (July 2023) Cllr Murphy advised that the first Examiner, Mr Edge had been stood down and Mr Ashcroft, a very experienced Examiner, has been appointed in his place. A letter of complaint concerning the former Examiner's conduct was submitted to NPIERS the body responsible for the register of examiners. A response has been received from NPIERS which explained that the first Examiner had not been well. Cllr Murphy noted that NPIERS had not explained why it had taken two years to come to this decision and equally there had been no comment regarding the first Examiner's refusal to accept Counsel's advice. It was agreed that a follow up letter would be sent to NPIERS. Cllr Murphy to draft the letters and the clerk to circulate to all councillors for their approval. **(11/23)**.
- 8419 Report following meeting with WBC re Springfield Redevelopment held 6<sup>th</sup> November: Cllrs Jacobs, Murphy, Long and The clerk attended the zoom meeting at which LB (WBC) shared an update of the plans. LB advised that the proposal was working its way through the various committees in WBC and it had been given the go-ahead to go to the Executive. LB is confident that the scheme will be realised and financing is available. Slightly amended plans of the proposal were shared and Cllrs fed back comments on building scale and parking allocation. The clerk advised that the plans were being presented to the Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> December where funding would be confirmed or otherwise. Cllr Long will be speaking at the Committee. **(12/23)**.
- 8381 Report following meeting with agents for Sunray Farm & Four Trees held 6<sup>th</sup> November: Cllrs Jacobs, Murphy, and The clerk attended the meeting which was beneficial given that Elstead Parish Council is having to attend the Hearing without a professional Consultant. The agents shared technical support and advice which helped focus the Parish Council on what would be asked at the Hearing. **(11/23). Minutre to be removed next month.**
- 8420 Report following the NHP Hearing held 16<sup>th</sup> November: Cllrs Jacobs, Murphy, Davidsen, Hampshire, Long and The clerk attended the hearing. The examination started with Cllr Jacobs introducing why the PC had decided to develop an NHP and that it had stemmed from the locality act which gave local communities the chance to say where new housing will go and what it will look like. Emphasis was given to explaining that the sites that had been chosen were as a result of much detailed public consultation and following research and advice from independent professional advisers. There was interesting representation from the two opposing sites. During the Hearing the PC agreed to change a few things such as reduce the number of self-build from 20% to 5% which would be in-line with current legislation, remove the buffer zone on Four Trees. The Examiner is going to make suggestions with regards the Green Gap policy. Cllr Hampshire explained that the Examiner was not opposed to the Green Gap policy just that the wording needed to be tweaked. Cllr Jacobs added that the employment site at Sunray would be reduced in size marginally. It was argued that Springfield should not be perceived as a windfall site as the call for sites had to be above 5 dwellings. A revised map of Four Trees to be sent to the examiner as soon as possible. Cllr Jacobs highlighted by explaining how supportive ME (WBC) was during the hearing and it was agreed that a letter of thanks should be written to him. The fact checked report has been received and as a result a few minor elements have been updated following the Examiner's recommendations. The Examiner has endorsed the parish Council's choice of sites and endorsed the policy of the Green Gap preservation. There followed a vote and all councillors raised their hand and voted to accept the Examiner's report and his modifications. The clerk has contacted Peper Harow Parish Meeting asking for them to write to ratify it too. It is expected that the Referendum can be held in Easter 2024. Councillors were reminded that once the plan is made Elstead PC will receive 25% CIL rather than 15%. Following the vote of acceptance it was agreed that the clerk would write to WBC informing Planning Policy that councillors had unanimously agreed to accept the plan and the recommendations of the Examiner. It was agreed that the draft plan must be proof read as soon as possible as there are some minor updates that need to be made e.g. 172 has become South Downs Coffee. The clerk has contacted Nexus who have said that they can make the amends and the charge is approximately £750 for one days work. **(12/23)**.

8040 Village Design Statement (VDS): Cllr Jacobs chaired a meeting on 30.11.2020 at which it was agreed that the VDS just needed basic refreshing and updating and would benefit from photographs. Two meetings were held in January and one in February at which the whole revised copy was reviewed. Cllr Jacobs and the clerk did some final proof reading and here are a few more amends to be made. The flooding section still needs completing. The final draft to be shared for the July meeting. The clerk has contacted WBC regarding the VDS (at ZE's suggestion) as it is better if they formally consult on this. WBC have responded saying that they do not have capacity to manage this process at the moment but councillors have agreed that this should be progressed anyway. At the clerks briefing it was noted that the due to changes in planning policy there is no place for a VDS. The clerk to obtain a definitive statement on this from Surrey ALC. **(03/23)**.

## 9.0 ELSTEAD VILLAGE ROAD SAFETY (EVRS)

8421 Speeding Watch: a community speedwatch team has been set up. To date there have been eight speed watch sessions mostly conducted in rush hour and early mornings. 43 vehicles were caught exceeding 36mph with the fastest travelling at 48mph. 59 letters have been sent out by the police. The maximum speed recorded was 48mph which was not an unusual speed. It was noted that in 2019 one vehicle was recorded exceeding 70mph. Cllr Goundry to share the date with Cllr Hampshire. Cllr Goundry reported that traffic flow was 10,000 movements per day with c. 1200 / hr in the morning rush hour. **(12/23)**. **Minute to be removed next month.**

8422 Cllr Goundry advised that he along with Cllr Lass and the clerk had met with AS (SCC) on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023. AS had advised that much of what EVRS had proposed might not be allowed as did not conform with SCC policy. For example SCC only use VAS signs from one supplier (Westcotec) and would not use solar powered signs. Cllrs had seen that there were solar powered signs in Normandy and Norney and it was agreed that the PC should take this matter up with Cllr Harmer. An email was sent to Cllr Harmer asking for support in this matter. There has been no response on this matter. **(12/23)**.

8423 Thursley Road Surface Snagging: Cllrs Lass and Muir have completed a large piece of work documenting all the defects along the road which are mostly as a result of inadequate sealing following repairs. The clerk has shared the list with Cllr Harmer, AS (SCC), PG (SCC). **(12/23)**

8386 Traffic speed signs: It was noted that there was no speed-reminder before the chicane. The clerk shared information on the statutory space between speed reminders with councillors. **(12/23)**.

8281 Sightlines: members of the EVRS team have been assessing conditions of the roads and are due to meet on 9<sup>th</sup> October to discuss this further. Once all areas have been reviewed this will result in a snagging / defects list. It was agreed that footpaths would be bought into this list too as well as the Milford Road pavement where much is being lost to encroaching vegetation. Cllr Hampshire added that there had been a huge puddle outside Water Meadow Place believed to be caused by a blocked access to the ditch. It was unclear if the roads had been sprayed this year as there was much evidence of weeds growing – Cllr Long to ask WBC. **(09/23)**.

8337 Zebra crossing: to change the crossing to a raised table with LD lighting will cost in excess of £30k. Councillors asked as a first stage whether LD beacons could be installed and then for the table to be installed at a later date. The clerk wrote to DK (SCC highways) copying Cllr Harmer. DK has responded to Cllr Snape stating that the proposal will be added to SCC's list of potential road safety schemes for design next financial year. SCC have not yet prioritised which schemes throughout the county they will be proceeding with as this will depend on the level of collisions and likely level of investment required. However SCC are aware that there have been a number of collisions through Elstead and SCC need to consider how to tackle this. Should the scheme be selected it is anticipated that design and consultation would take place next financial year and then implementation the following year. The clerk has asked DK if the beacons could be changed to LED in the interim. The clerk has reported the belisha beacon online and has been advised that it has been fixed however it does still not illuminate the crossing sufficiently. At the site meeting with SCC on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 AS proposed that when the belisha beacon on the Farnham Road is upgrade the current halo light will be installed on the Elstead crossing which will help to improve its illumination. DK advised the clerk that he had



proposals for a CIL application that would include the current zebra crossing being upgraded to a table top and for other road calming ideas. It was noted that remedial action was required as the orange beacons were all but invisible. The new halos were expected March 2024. It was noted that the conversion to a raised table could help with the issue of speeding along this stretch of road. To replace the zebra crossing with a pelican crossing would cost in excess of £100k. The clerk to contact JR (SCC) regarding refreshing the lines. AG to draft a letter for JH and Cllr Murphy to contact Cllr Harmer (SCC). **(12/23)**.

7885 20 is plenty: it was noted that Witley appeared to have implemented this in some areas. Cllr Harmer noted that SCC had applied to The Secretary of State asking for the power to enforce movement on the roads which would mean that SCC can put up their own monitoring devices on the roads and therefore enforce things such as speeding. SCC are introducing 20 mph across some rural lanes in Surrey. Cllr Harmer suggested that the road from Moors Lane to Copse Edge could be a candidate for 20mph and suggested that EVRS sub committee to liaise with AS (SCC) on this point. **(11/22)**.

8424 Parking: Cllr Goundry advised that there is a new casualty reduction officer for this area and he has already visited the school twice. **(12/23)**. **Minute to be removed next month.**

8425 Encroachment: Cllr Lass advised that there was significant encroachment on the Milford Road and requested that the width be reinstated. There were a lot of leaves and detritus that needed to be cleared – the clerk to log with WBC. There was also a lot of leaves that needed to be cleared in front of St James Church which the clerk would also log. Cllr Murphy noted that when the Gala Lane needed to be cut back the council usually asked its contractor for speed although the entrance is highways land. **(12/23)**.

## **10.0 OUR ELSTEAD**

8426 Christmas light switch on: The Parish Council commented on how good the Christmas tree looked and felt that the event had been well attended. It was noted that c £900 of donations had been raised and ten sponsors had generously contributed towards the event which had covered provisions etc. A huge vote of thanks was offered to the working party. OE were politely reminded to reference The Parish Council in all their adverts as the cost of the tree and lights were paid for by the Parish Council and OE is a working party of the Parish Council. OE to meet on 11<sup>th</sup> and debrief following the event. The date for the Christmas light switch on for 2024 would be agreed earlier. **(12/23)**.

## **11.0 ELSTEAD VILLAGE TENNIS CLUB & ELSTEAD FOOTBALL AND SHARKS PROPOSAL**

8427 EVTC had written to Elstead Parish Council requesting space to erect a padle court. Members of the Parish Council met with EVTC on site. The original location that EVTC were considering for the padle court would require the movement of the sharks storage container, an extension of courts 4 and 5 into the car park and was on the site of a proposed new pavilion for the football club. An alternative location (where the Burford Lodge pavilion currently stands) was suggested for the padle court. Councillors agreed that the installation of a new pavilion was important as an improvement to the facilities offered at Burford Lodge was long overdue. It was noted that there are a number of funding bodies who might be able to support a new pavilion funding application. Cllr Murphy advised councillors that in 2012 Elstead Parish Council had adopted a sport and recreational policy for Burford Lodge which stated that no further green space should be taken. The only issue with the pavilion proposal is the amount of time that the sharks and football will need in order to raise the monies for the new pavilion. EVTC noted that they had funds available and would like to have the padle court in situ for summer 2024 however the old Burford Lodge pavilion could not be demolished until the new pavilion had been built. Councillors asked whether one of the existing tennis courts could be turned into a padle court as it was noted that for much of the time not all five courts were in use and given that EVTC wanted the padle court sooner rather than later. Elstead PC to write to the football clubs asking them to come forward with an initial project plan with costs and timings in the Spring 2024. Cllr Murphy also questioned why the EVTC AGM minutes referenced that EVTC would oppose ECC erecting a padle court at Burford Lodge as this idea has never been proposed. EVTC were unsure why this was in the minutes. **(12/23)**. **Minute to be removed next month.**

## **12.0 SPRINGHAVEN WARDENS OFFICE**

8428 WBC have advised that HiE and Elstead Parish Council will not be able to access the warden office.

- a) The Village Hall Committee have kindly agreed that Elstead PC can use a room for the storage of their papers. It was noted that this would be free of charge at the moment but the space might be charged for in the future. The clerk to move the papers for the new year.
- b) Cllr Goundry has arranged for the HiE telephone to be connected at the village Hall. A small lockable cabinet has been purchased for the phone/answer machine. The council has agreed to pay for the cabinet to support HiE. Should there be further costs associated with the installation The Parish Council has agreed that it will fund these. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

## **13.0 CLERKS COMPUTER**

8429 It was advised that the clerk is using her own computer which is now quite old. It was proposed that the Parish Council should purchase it's own computer. The clerk to bring a proposal to the PC meeting in January. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

## **14.0 ELSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL CHRISTMAS DRINKS**

8430 Owing to a busy month and people's availability it was agreed that drinks would be held after Christmas. Our Elstead, ward and borough councillors as well as the PC's contractor would be invited. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

## **15.0 REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

8431 A letter was received from SSEN requesting a wayleave for a dwelling on peat Common. There will be a compensatory fee of £40 payable to the PC for this. Councillors agreed to this request. **(12/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

## **16.0 FINANCE**

8432 Bank balances to end of November were circulated in advance of the meeting and are £65,448.04 deposit account (includes £50k contingency and £15k held from easement payment) and £54,339.62 current account. 32 day notice account for POR monies is £29,714.17 as at end November. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

8433 Accounts for payment for December 2023 were circulated in advance of the meeting. 2 cheques and have been raised totalling £1667.58 of which 2 x payments are greater than £500 as listed below. The clerk to invoice Frensham and Tilford for their participation at the councillor training sessions. 39 x Smiths charity cheques @ £145 each have also been raised. The clerk to submit the paper for the reimbursement of the Smiths Charity monies. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

8434 Reconciliations were circulated to councillors to the end of December 2023. All months reconciled exactly and have been independently checked by Cllr Jacobs. A monthly review of expenditure broken down by cost centre was shared with councillors prior to the meeting. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

8435 Draft budget 24/25: To confirm that the draft budget will be submitted to WBC before the deadline of 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

## ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT - November 2023

Cheque no	Payee	Purpose	Amount
4806	QLS	Bin Emptying April to November	£707.58
4807	Mulberry and Co	2 x training to be recharged	£900.00
			£1,607.58

### 17.0 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

8436 Cllrs asked whether there was an update from Gigaclear. The clerk to write Gigaclear for an update as it was anticipated that the cabinet at Hookley Lane was being installed imminently. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

8437 It was reported that the Elstead sign on the approach from Farnham was 'wonky' by The Mill. The clerk to report. **(12/23) Minute to be removed next month.**

**Meeting closed at 9.40pm**