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**ELSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the March Meeting**

**Monday 18th March 2024 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 D. Harmer. 0 x MOP’s.**

**QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

8519 There were no questions from the public. **(03/24) Minute to be removed next month.**

**1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

8520 There were no apologies for absence. Cllr Long sent apologies. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**2.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

8521 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. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PC MEETING HELD 19th FEBRUARY 2024**

8522 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19th February 2024 were agreed. The Chair signed the minutes. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PLANNING MEETING HELD 19th FEBRUARY 2024**

8523 The minutes of the planning meeting held on 19th February 2024 were agreed. The Chair signed the minutes. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**5.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY PC MEETING HELD 26th FEBRUARY 2024**

8524 The minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 26th February 2024 were agreed. The Chair signed the minutes. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**6.0 REPORT FOLLOWING TOWN & PARISH FORUM HELD 12th MARCH 2024**

8525 Cllr Murphy and The Clerk had attended the meeting in person and virtually respectively. Cllr Murphy reported that the meeting had been somewhat unsatisfactory in terms of content and delivery. The first part of the meeting dealt with Design codes and WBC advised that these can now be included within am NHP. Moving forward parishes were advised that Design Codes would be Waverley-wide. WBC advised that Village Design Statements will be used as evidence but will cease to be a material consideration. Andrew Longley had delivered a good presentation advising that NHP’s that had been made for less than five years and which contained site allocations could not be challenged by developer with a new scheme on the grounds that WBC had not met their allocation. Cllr Murphy advised that he had asked for this in writing. A further presentation was delivered by Thomas Lankaster who is responsible for cycling and walking (LCWIP). Cllr Murphy believed that Elstead had not been consulted on the proposals and given that there were two important routes in the village that need to be improved; 1) WMP to the village and 2) Bonfire Hill ROW. The clerk to set up a meeting with TL. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**7.0 MATTERS ARISING**

8526 FP64: Cllr P Murphy attended and spoke at the Waverley Local Committee meeting held on 13th 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 carried out to make the new route suitable for the public). After many months of chasing Surrey CC have served notice of the order for the footpath diversion on 16th 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 and unless the objection is withdrawn the order has to be sent to the Secretary of State for confirmation. (January) SCC spoke with the landowner before Christmas who advised that they were away until the end of February. The landowner advised that they had not been able to see the posts and markers and SCC will install substantial replacement posts and markers. If the landowner does not retract their objection SCC will consider submitting this to the Secretary of State. The clerk confirmed that she had emailed SCC ROW twice and the officer has promised to follow this up with the land owner. The clerk has requested a site meeting. The clerk to contact Cllr Harmer on this matter as progress from SCC appears to be slow. **(03/24)**.

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).**

8415 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 17th-21st 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. WBC have advised that the legal paperwork has been completed and the tender for the work confirmed. The clerk was subsequently 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. One of the key engineers involved with the project has left WBC. (January 2024) WBC legal team have approved a letter that needs to go out to residents. The engineers tried to complete another survey of the Orchard Run section however the water levels were too high. It is anticipated that work will recommence in Spring/summer 2024. Once underway WBC will secure a firm date from the contractor and will try and give as much notice to residents as they can. **(01/24).**

8527 Elstead-Milford Cycle Route: Following the agreement between Elstead and Witley Parish Councils for the route to be named Blackberry Way, the clerk wrote to SCC Countryside who have advised that there is no specific mechanism to name a route. SCC advised that it is the responsibility of those parties involved to accept the name and this can be advertised via social media and through signage. Signage discs are £2 each and finger post £60 which SCC have confirmed that they will fund. SCC will then update the name on the SCC interactive website. The clerk confirmed she had asked SCC to proceed with the discs etc. **(32/24)**

8143 Costs for the repairs to the spire net and spika podium were approved and the spika podium work 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)**

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).**

8417 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 has followed up for the December meeting but the officer was on leave. SCC ROW are checking to see if the signage has been delivered and if so will install in January. **(01/24).**

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. Elstead Parish Council has agreed to cut sightlines as and when required. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8528 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 11th October to look at what further security measures could be employed – a report with recommendations to be shared once it is received. The clerk has followed up with Absolute Security asking for their proposals on several occasions and has finally received their report. The Clerk to share the report with EVTC and if necessary to set up a meeting with EVTC and Absolute Security to discuss their proposals. **(03/24).**

8529 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. The clerk has chased this several times but the contractor has not visited and other large contactors are not interested in minor repairs. The clerk has continued to look for alternative contractors and has asked RK to swap the rubbish over in both recs. **(03/24)**

8485 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 has followed up and has been advised this it is still with the retailer’s insurer. This was the same response when the clerk followed this up before the February meeting. **(02/24)**

8530 Village fete 2024. As dates in June were not available due to cricketing commitments, the committee have proposed either 14th or 15th September. The clerk has liaised with the football clubs who have confirmed that Thursley Road Rec can be available on either of the dates. **(03/24)**

8467 It was reported that during the recent flooding issue it took a long time for the roads to be closed and signage was then not removed promptly. It was thought that only the police can close a road. The clerk to ask WBC who else is able to close a road. **(01/24).**

8531 Cllr Lass reported a rogue post on the Milford Road near to Springhill junction. The clerk has reported this to SCC Highways and requested that the directional sign is replaced. There has been no response from SCC on this request to date. **(03/24).**

8532 Cllr Murphy advised that a member of the public had asked to litter pick for the DofE volunteering. The clerk noted that another person was doing this at the moment but had completed their twelve weeks. The student to contact the clerk who will advise what the process is. It was advised that the second student no longer wishes to do litter picking. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8533 Following the meeting with Elivia held on 30th January 2024 the clerk had discussed the fact that the indicative plans showed that 25% of the site was allocated for piggy-back parking with AB the developer’s consultant. AB advised that the number of dwellings had been reduced following the meeting and as result there was less piggy back parking. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8502 Cllr Collis reported that Thursley Parish Council had a centralised way of communicating with residents to ensure that accurate information was being disseminated. The clerk reminded councillors of the need to be careful with holding personal data that needed to be updated. Cllr Hampshire to discuss the option of utilising whatsapp communities for this purpose. **(02/24).**

**8.0 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 vehicles was being dealt with by Waverley BC. Cllr Harmer to confirm whether this is SCC land. **(11/23).**

8534 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 has drafted an article on this matter for the village news which has been circulated to all councillors and approved. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**9.0 SCC UPDATE**

8535 Cllr Harmer re[prted that the numbers on the council tax bills do not necessarily make sense as they contain the adult social care surcharge however Cllr Harmer has checked the detail and it is accurate. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

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

**10.0 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE**

8536 Following on from the deferral to the NHP referendum the maps have been checked for accuracy. Proof reading has now been completed and the final version is with ME (WBC). No new date has been given for the referendum and the Clerk to contact Robin Taylor (WBC) regarding this. Cllr Jacobs advised that some residents might not be fully clear on the purpose of the NHP. As the Parish Council would like to circulate leaflets on The NHP, OE and EVRS it was agreed that the first letter drop should be for the NHP. The other leaflets should follow a month or so later. In terms of promotion, they will be a FAQ’s, drop-in sessions, facebook update, website update. The clerk and Cllr Jacobs to work on this. **(03/24)**

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. In light of the update in planning (see minute 8528) there seems little point in pursuing a revision to the Elstead VDS. **(03/23). Minute to be removed next month.**

**11.0 OUR ELSTEAD**

8537 Cllr Lass noted that the cemetery beds would be replanted on 24th March. The clerk to ask if RK can paint the window sill before this date. **(03/23).**

8538 Proposed hedge in front of the cemetery: the clerk advised that there was no funding for this unless funding was used for this instead of another project for which a budget had been given and expenditure must be made within the confines of the council’s annual objectives. It was agreed that cllrs would conduct a visit around the village to look at where expenditure is required in order to make a decision. Any improvements to the cemetery hedge/fence should consider any possible future development schemes. **(03/23).**

8437 Christmas tree hole: Cllr Lass advised that the hole was not adequate for the size of the tree. Cllr Lass to seek professional advice on the appropriate specification. **(01/24).**

**12.0 ELSTEAD VILLAGE ROAD SAFETY (EVRS)**

8495 Cllr Goundry advised that he along with Cllr Lass and the clerk had met with AS (SCC) on 12th 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. It was noted that in a neighbouring county a village had employed a consultant who had suggested a range of traffic calming measures which had had a positive impact on that village. It was agreed that EVRS would collate a document which would be presented to the local authority portfolio holders. **(02/24).**

8431 Traffic speed signs: It was noted that there was no speed-reminder along the Thursley Road for 300 yards beyond the chicane. The clerk shared information on the statutory space between speed reminders with councillors. Cllr Muir has contacted AS (SCC) on this matter. **(01/24).**

8497 Zebra crossing: this item has been on-going for several years and the current status is as follows; to change the crossing to a raised table with LD lighting will cost in excess of £30k. SCC have agreed that they will submit a CIL bid to cover the cost of realising this change. AS (SCC) has promised that the belishas will be upgraded to halos once these are freed up from another location likely end March 2024. There have been numerous requests to get the crossing lines painted however SCC are unable to do this. A letter has been sent to Jeremy Hunt on this matter. The clerk to follow up again with DK (SCC) and AS (SCC). Cllr Goundry reported that the belisha beacon had been repaired and all lights in it were LED. There has been a further letter from Surrey CC stating that they cannot paint the white lines and are still proposing a raised table. EVRS feel that for the same cost a pelican crossing would be safer and preferrable. **(02/24).**

8539 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 a small section of the Thursley Road in front of St James Primary School could be a candidate for 20mph and suggested that EVRS sub committee to liaise with AS (SCC) on this point. Further to a request from Waverley BC asking PC’s to nominate roads that could be changed to 20mph zones, it was agreed that a village wide consultation on 20mph would be the best approach. A draft survey was circulated to cllrs before the March meeting. Some amends to be made. EVRS to consider the use of Survey Monkey or alternative to record the survey results. **(03/24).**

8540 Speedwatch – Cllr Goudry noted that more volunteers were needed. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**13.0 UPDATE ON BURFORD LODGE PLANS**

8541 An email from MB (Sharks/Elstead Football) containing an update was circulated to cllrs in advance of the March meeting. MB advised that he had met with ST (EVTC) and advised that EVTC do not wish for a new pavilion to abut their pavilion even though it would improve facilities for their members. MB has met with a local contractor who has agreed to help with the design and build of the pavilion. The contractor will also be able to help provide materials at a reduced cost etc. MB will measure the area so that a footprint can be agreed. Once the measurements and footprint have been agreed it will be given to the contractor in order that project costs can be estimated. Following this MB felt it would be important to hold a “town hall” meeting to understand the views of residents after which funding could be sought. Cllrs thanked MB for the update and noted that they would need to see a proper project plan/tender document e.g what are you planning, the designs, how funds were going to be raised, how the building was going to be managed in the long term etc. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**14.0 BIKE TRACK**

8542 The promoters of the bike track have advised the Parish Council that they are not able to proceed with the project for the time being. The parish council thanked the promoters for the notification. It was agreed that should the promoters wish to resurrect the plan they could come back to the Parish Council with a fully considered project plan in the future. The clerk to advise the EVAA. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**15.0 CLERK CILCA QUALIFICATION**

8543 The clerk advised that Tilford PC were keen for her to complete her CILCA qualification. Councillors agreed to sharing the costs 50/50 therefore c. £500 per council. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**16.0 ONLINE ACCOUNTING SYSTEM**

8544 The Clerk advised that owing to the increase in expenditure and the time taken to process invoices it was proposed that the Parish Council should consider using an on-line accounting system. The auditor for Tilford had suggested Scribe which is a cloud based system used by a number of parish councils across the UK. The Clerk to find out more information and to send the details to Cllrs Collis and Hampshire to evaluate. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**17.0 CHANGING TO A GOV.UK EMAIL ADDRESS**

8545 The clerk advised that councils were being strongly urged to adopt a .gov.uk mail address. The clerk added that this would be checked during the audit stage and therefore the council needed to actively consider this. The clerk to send information to Cllrs Hampshire and Collis. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**18.0 ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024**

8546 The clerk advised that the report was almost completed and would be circulated ahead of the April meeting. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**19.0 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY**

8547 Councillors agreed that the following topics should be covered at the Annual Assembly in May; Bonfire Hill Management Plan, MoD and OE update. Cllr Murphy to contact MoD to invite them to attend. Cllr Murphy to provide a draft document highlighting Bonfire Hill plans ahead of the April meeting. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**20.0 REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

8548 It was advised that NE’s application to install a building had been withdrawn. An alternative location within the cemetery land had been proposed by the clerk. It was felt that this was a better location with dedicated access away from the main road but within close proximity of the nature reserve. Cllr Murphy to write to NE proposing this idea. If NE were interested the PC would grant a long lease rather than sell the land. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8549 An email from the Bonfire Hill Benefactor has been received advising that the land transfer is now complete meaning that the benefactor now owns the land. Cllr Murphy advised that the temporary terms now apply however the PC cannot exercise its powers and / or duties until such time as vacant possession has been obtained. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8550 An email from WBC issuing a Call for Sites has been received. As the NHP already provides more than the number of houses that are required there is no requirement to respond. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8551 A letter from the valuation office was received regarding the cemetery. The clerk to share with Cllr Davidsen. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8552 An email asking for one-off vehicular access across Parish Council land is approved and granted. The Clerk to write confirming the request and stating that this does not mean that access rights have changed as a result of this one-off request. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8553 An email advising of a collapsed section of boardwalk was received and shared with NE. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8554 An email from a resident at WMP was received regarding speeding along The Shackleford Road. The clerk has referred the resident to PH Parish Meeting. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

8555 An allotment request has been shared with the EVAA. **(03/24). Minute to be removed next month.**

**21.O FINANCE**

8556 Bank balances to end of February were circulated in advance of the meeting and are £65,662.73 deposit account (includes £50k contingency and £15k held from easement payment) and £32,906.72 current account. 32 day notice account for POR monies is £29,907.42 as at end February. **(03/24) Minute to be removed next month.**

8557 Accounts for payment for March 2024 were circulated in advance of the meeting. 13 x’s cheques and 1 x DD have been raised totalling £6,575.15of which 6 x payments are greater than £500 as listed below. **(03/24) Minute to be removed next month.**

8558 Reconciliations were circulated to councillors to the end of February 2024. 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. Excluding POR / CIL monies used for the boardwalk and other Natural England projects, it showed that receipts were -7% versus budget. The clerk advised that the Henry Smith Charity reclaim had been submitted and was awaiting credit – this accounted for £5,800. A final payment of £825 for rent on the Backland Field was due – changes to the payment schedule i.e moving from annually to quarterly had affected the timings of the payment receipts. The clerk also noted that there had been less cemetery receipts this year versus budget (- £1,654).

In terms of expenditure the Parish Council was also -7% versus budget. HMRC payments, grants, NHP and insurance were some of the cost centres where the council had spent less than it had budgeted. No costs had been incurred on playground maintenance (£3,000) – this was in part due to a lack of availability of contractors and £1,460 had not been spent on the cemetery as the drive remedial work had been deferred. Costs centres that had spent more than had been budgeted included OE (+£1200), this is because the tree lights accounted for +£1,200 and planting was over the initial £1,200 budget. Tree surgery costs were significantly over budget £9,000 actual v £3,000 budget owing to the invoice scheduling of the tree works. This did mean however that with the current reserves (£50k) along with the carry forward (c. £21k) the PC was in a more robust position moving into the new financial year. **(03/24) Minute to be removed next month.**

8559 Investment Policy for 2024-2025: Councillors agreed that £70,000 should be transferred from the Treasurer’s Account to the Deposit Account as soon as the FY 24/25 precept funds are received. **(03/24) Minute to be removed next month.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cheque no** | **Payee** | **Purpose** | **Amount** |
|   |   |   |   |
| 4889 | Richard Knight | various | 1293.25 |
| 4890 | Richard Knight | various | 514.2 |
| *4891* | Imprint Colour | NHP Booklet | 44 |
| 4892 | Juliet Williams | Expenses | 45.98 |
| *4893* | Juliet Williams | Microsoft software for Elstead PC | 59.99 |
| 4894 | Elsetad Viullage Halls | Hall Hire March | 19.25 |
| 4895 | Martyn Lass | Plants for the cemetery | 251.68 |
| 4896 | Juliet Williams | salary march 1 of 2 | 999 |
| 4897 | Juliet Williams | salary march 2 of 2 | 782.78 |
| 4898 | HMRC | months 10-12 | 1629.61 |
| 4899 | Hilary Hamlym | plants for the cemetery | 85.36 |
| 4900 | Juliet Williams | Go Daddy web hosting | 215.86 |
| 4901 | Juliet Williams | Go Daddy email | 86.26 |
|   |   |   |   |
| DD | SCC Pensions | Monthly pension | 547.93 |
|   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  | **£6,575.15** |

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**23.0 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS**

8560 Cllr Muir reported that concrete posts around the Thursley Road Rec were in a poor condition and needed to be replaced. The clerk to investigate. **(03/24).**

8561 Cllrs reported that Blackberry Way around Borough Farm was impassable. The clerk to report to ROW, SCC. **(03/24).**

8562 The dilapidated state around the telephone Exchange was raised by Cllr Murphy and it was agreed that he would write to the real estate company to ascertain their plans with the area. **(03/24).**

**Meeting closed at 9.50pm**