

MINUTES OF EAST PENNARD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 21st November 2024 at 7.00pm

Public Participation	No speakers
Present	Adrian Pearse (Chairman), Paul Heal, Roger Cock, Martin Llewellyn, Hilary Tripp (Clerk), Kerry Dodd (Footpath Officer) and 5 members of the public
1. Apologies	Martin Dearden
2. Minutes of Last MeetingS	The minutes of the meeting on 10 th October 2024 were approved as being a true record on the proposition of Martin Llewellyn and seconded by Roger Cock. The minutes of the planning meeting on 15 th October 2024 were approved as being a true record on the proposition of Paul Heal and seconded by Martin Llewellyn. Both were then signed by the Chairman.
3. Matters Arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cockmill Lane junction – the lower branches of the oak trees opposite the ditch need to be cut• Flagstones – See later• Yew Tree Farm – Nothing more heard• Barn in Ty Cook's field [Pilton parish] – Nothing more heard• Longacre, Parbrook – Approval with conditions• Yew Tree cottage – No decision yet• Evercreech junction – No decision yet
4. Financial Report	No cheques had been written since the last meeting but one is required for village hall hire. The clerk had been in touch with the Ditcheat clerk regarding changing to a gov.uk website, which is something Ditcheat is going to do. The council decided to go ahead with changing to a gov.uk website, which will cost no extra. The possibility of gov.uk emails will be discussed at the next meeting.
5. Glastonbury Festival Donation Spending	A quote had been received from Clive Millington for work on the flagstone path in East Pennard. The price, £2,710 +VAT, included all machinery, labour, mortar and waste removal. Since two councillors have industry expertise and recognise Mr. Millington as a trusted contractor who has previously done work in the village, it was proposed by Adrian Pearse and seconded by Roger Cock that this quote be accepted and the work go ahead, with a request for a finish date before the end of March 2025. The clerk to contact Mr. Millington. It was noted that the path from The Gardens to Home Farm also needs repair work, particularly where a lime tree had fallen and the flagstones were now missing.
6. Planning Applications	i) Hembridge Farm 2024/1815/PCS Notification only <i>Installation of solar panels on an agricultural building as part of a 76kWp solar system</i>

to provide renewable energy for dairy unit.

ii) **Home Farm** 2024/1894/TCA Notification only *T1-T5 (Yew) – Reduction in height from 6.5m to 3m as agreed in the permission no 2020/2614/TCA dated 22nd Feb 2021*

iii) **Pennard House** 2024/1968/HSE and iv) Pennard House 2024/1969/LBC *Remove existing conservatory and replace with new.*

Decision: Recommend Approval as this will be an improvement on what is currently there and will make a useful and productive space.

v) **Land adjacent to Anvil House** 2024/2011/FUL *Conversion of cart shed to 1 no 1 bedroom dwelling with parking and amenity space*

East Pennard Parish Council strongly supports this modest application by a long-established local family that will retain their links with the village, and allow the next generation to live and work here in a sustainable way in the family motor repair business, ensuring that the business can remain in the village and the family can continue to participate in the local community. The applicants will also be able to provide support to their neighbouring extended family. The building needs a use; it has long been derelict though there is evidence that it was formerly used for ancillary residential purposes having a fireplace and chimney. EPPC would like to encourage young people living in the village to continue to do so.

7. Shooting Ground

Paul Heal reported that Mr. Robin Heal of SSG had declined the invitation to come and talk at the meeting tonight. EPPC has written 3 letters to him, giving him a reasonable opportunity to say how he will comply with the regulations and disappointingly received no reply to this question. Paul Heal will draft a letter to the head of Somerset Council.

8. Glastonbury Festival

A debriefing meeting with GFL took place on October 15th. Minutes of this meeting had been received. Issues around GFL were discussed including 2 buildings which are going up at Winding Lake Farm with a large slurry pit, a new camping area at Holt Farm and glamping sites. A further meeting will take place on 18th February 2025.

9. Village Hall

Secondary glazing is currently being fitted. EPPC requested that further improvements be carried out as soon as possible to make it more accessible, getting wifi for the hall and ensuring it is heated properly. Adrian Pearse had given an interesting talk there on new discoveries in East Pennard. A coffee morning was planned for December 7th.

10. Footpaths

Kerry Dodd reported that she had been on a walk around the parish with Glyn Edwards (footpath warden of Somerset Council), Adrian Pearse and a member of the public to ascertain what needs doing to make the footpaths safer and more accessible to all. In his report, which had been emailed to the councillors with a map, Glyn Edwards states that there are a number of bridges that require replacement, at a cost of £4,760. These are the responsibility of Somerset Council to maintain. There are also a number of stiles which need replacing and these are

the responsibility of landowners to maintain; there is an allowance towards this. Glyn Edwards can offer the parish a number of galvanised gates and kissing gate cradles to upgrade these stiles and make them more accessible. Martin Llewellyn offered to store the gates. The Mendip Rambler Volunteer group could carry out the necessary work. Kerry has started a Facebook group called The Parish Ramble, which is a closed group. She proposes to do a number of parish walks, perhaps with Adrian Pearse as he knows so much local history, and with an accompanying leaflet. Refreshments might be provided at various points on the routes by, for example, glamping sites. The walks would benefit the community in many ways, such as mental health. She also wondered about getting people to foster footpaths, which has started to happen. The possibility of making a wheelchair accessible circular walk was discussed. Martin Llewellyn proposed agreeing to the Somerset Council work on the bridges and to spending £2,000 of the money donated by Glastonbury Festivals Limited (GFL) towards upgrading the stiles. This was seconded by Roger Cock. Kerry will clarify exactly how this money will be spent.

11. Kennel Lane, Hembridge and other drainage problems in the parish

A letter had been written to Somerset Council about drainage issues in the parish. An acknowledgement of this was received on 5th November, stating their aim to respond within 10 days, yet nothing more had been heard. It was agreed that a photograph from Kerry Dodd showing extensive flooding at Hembridge on 19th November be sent to the council.

12. Correspondence

Nothing new

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 22nd January 2025 at **7.00pm**, an earlier time than usual.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm.