ENFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of 1st July 2025
Held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:	Cllr Mark Hiskett	Vice Chairman
	Cllr Pat Holdway, Cllr Jane Young	Councillors
	Cllr Rob Hibberd, Cllr Martin Farrow	Councillors
	Cllr Cliffe-Roberts	Councillor
	Mrs Elizabeth Harrison	Clerk
	Mr Ian Blair-Pilling	Wiltshire Councillor

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.27hrs. He introduced Elizabeth Kearney who had come to present two paintings by the late Marshall Kearney which had been specifically left in his Will as a gift to the Parish. Both paintings are watercolours of different views on Longstreet. One painting was a copy of a photograph taken in 1910. Marshall Kearney moved into the village in 1984 when he bought Long Cottage, it was completely derelict. He rebuilt it and lived happily there for the next 37 years. The paintings will be hung in the Village Hall for all to see.

25/051 Apologies
Cllr Roberts, Cllr Waight and Cllr Clark

25/052 Public Question Time.
There were no members of the public present.

25/053 Police Matters and Neighbourhood Watch
There were no issues raised.

25/054 MOD/Army Matters
MoD Liaison officer SSGT (QGI) Ben Whitbread appears uncontactable and was therefore unable to attend the meeting. No report had been sent.

25/055 Unitary Council Matters
WC Ian Blair-Pilling confirmed that Wiltshire Council is now being jointly run by the Liberal Democrats and Independents. The Outline Plan has been received this week and is due for discussion in Cabinet next week. They still need to create their budget.
He reported that he is no longer as busy as he was but he is now the Chairman of the Stonehenge Area Board as well as LHFIG (Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group). In the Area Board role they will not be appointing specific roles to people but want to work jointly covering all aspects. In the LHFIG role, they will be looking to work on priority jobs rather than the current method of taking each case by case submission. He is also appreciating more time at home with family!

25/056 Verification of the Minutes
The Minutes of the meeting of 6th May were proposed as a true record by Cllr Holdway and seconded by Cllr. Hibberd

25/057 Declaration of Interests
There were none.

25/058 Matters Arising
i. Cllr Hiskett read through the Flood Warden's report:

1.General Update

i.Since the beginning of March there has been no rain of substance and, therefore, no flood issues to report.

2.Wessex Water (WW)

*i.**Enford Infiltration Reduction Plan**; Enford's infiltration is a stand-alone document; enford-infiltration-reduction-plan-summary.pdf. This identifies WW's short, medium and long term plans for Enford. The latest update from WW is as follows*

-WW were in Enford 13th – 15th Jan undertaking CCTV investigations. I've asked WW for the results on how this went to understand the extent of the investigation, the results and, if any issues were found, a timetable for rectification. I was hoping for an update by the end of June but this hasn't materialised and so I will need to chase again.

*ii.**Pumping Station**; I have been advised that, following their investigations into the pumping station in Longstreet, WW have:-*

-Replaced one pump.

-By upgrading this pump WW say, "we are now passing forward an additional 4 litres per second down the rising main, this is an increase of 51% in volume passed forward. We would expect to see a marked improvement in the capacity of our network due to this increase, following this replacement."

- Whilst only time will tell as to the effectiveness of this upgrade, clearly this is a very positive step to prevent surcharging of the sewage drains and contamination of any surface water.

3.Wiltshire County Council

*i.**Surface Water Drainage Plan**; we produced a report and marked up plan of the surface water gullies back in August 2024. WCC agreed to review this, together with their records, and provide a plan showing the location of gullies and the network of connecting drains. We have now received a plan which is attached. Whilst this is out of date, it is a start and I am meeting the Highways Engineer on Monday the 7th July to try and move forward on the production of a more up to date plan.*

*ii.**Surface Water Drainage Pipework**; we are working with WCC to establish the location and condition of the underground pipe network. I am advised that the equipment required is prioritised elsewhere, eg high-speed roads. If the equipment becomes available, Enford is on the list for surveys to be completed. No timescale can be given and this has yet to take place.*

*iii.**Gully Clearance; there are two separate roles:-***

*-**Area Highways**; responsible for reactive maintenance. Cleared gullies on 9th Jan and again post Eowyn and Herminia. We have requested verge overrun clearance to parts of the east side of Longstreet. Whilst this has happened it is not clear as to who undertook these works.*

*-**Discretionary Gully Service**; there is a plan in place to provide a gully pumping service across all Parishes and Enford is scheduled for August. We have to select our 5 top priority gullies. Explained at the last OFWG meeting that this was a challenge given we don't know where the pipes run or their condition and, therefore, what our priority gullies might be. Further explained that it would be beneficial to have more than 5 on the target list. This is linked to (i) above and I will raise this at my meeting with the Highway Engineer on 7th July.*

*iv.**Operational Flood Working Group (South);** chaired by WCC they bring together relevant parties including the EA, Water Companies (Thames Water and WW) and local Flood Groups. I attend with Richard Roberts and they are held bi-monthly. At a meeting, 19th Feb, telemetry points and sluice management protocols were raised, which will be helpful going forward. It has been acknowledged by WW that we are on the list to be considered. Neither Richard nor I were able to attend the last OFWG meeting held on the 18th June.*

4.Enford Flood Plan

i.The plan needs to be developed and I've made a start.

ii.Access to equipment and materials will also need to be considered within the plan. There would be some benefit in having this centralised, together with other equipment used for the benefit of the Community, and maybe the EPC could consider undertaking a feasibility study to establish whether this is something that should be taken further.

On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Hiskett thanked Mark Symonds for his detailed and thorough report and his continued attention to the flooding issues.

25/059 Resident's issues raised

Cllr Hibberd raised an issue with the top of the hedge at Old Bengers which had been reported to him. Whilst the lower is maintained, the top part leans into the road.

25/060 Finance

i. The Clerk reported on the Council's finances for the months of May and June. In June the previously agreed donations (November 2024 Precept meeting) were paid out to those Associations, Clubs and Committees and therefore the outgoings for June were just over £5000. The Parish Council's balance at the end of June was £17,000. There were no questions from the Cllrs. regarding funds.
ii. The Clerk also reported that grateful thanks had been received from all those who had benefited from a donation.

25/061 Planning Applications

Five applications had been received on the afternoon of the 1st of July. Two of these applications were Listed Building Consent to go along with the total of 2 household alteration applications and one application to fell trees in a conservation area. All of these can be seen listed on the Parish Council website (www.enfordparishcouncil.gov.uk). Whilst briefly discussed none of these applications raised concerns.

25/062 New Playpark

Cllr Young had nothing to report.

25/063 Roads and Highways

Cllr Farrow reported that we were still awaiting the new signage on the A345. The Parish Steward continues doing good work and he is now starting work to clear the gullies and the gutters.

25/064 Public Rights of Way (PRoWs)

Cllr Hiskett reported that he would be strimming the steps and pathway on the west side of the A345 at the top of Enford Hill.

25/065 Correspondence

There was no correspondence to be circulated.

25/066 Any Other Business

Cllr Hiskett noted thanks and appreciation from the Council to the Community Fund for organising another enjoyable and hopefully successful Summer Fete.

25/067 Date of Next Meeting

2nd September - Parish Council meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.15hrs

Richard Roberts, Chairman - Enford Parish Council
Dated: 2nd September 2025