

ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council held on
3rd July 2019 at Eldersfield Lawn School, commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: P Chichester (Chairman), Mrs W Burr, Mrs D Holt, Mrs T Owen,
Dr L Reynolds

In Attendance: District Councillor Bronwen Behan

**Members of the
Public:** -

1. To elect a Chairman

After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Chichester be Chairman to serve until May 2020.

2. To elect a Vice Chairman

After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Reynolds be Vice-Chairman, to serve until May 2020.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies from Cllr Karen McKenzie Budd were accepted.

4. Members' interests

None

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2019 were accepted as a true record of that meeting and were signed as such by the Chairman of the meeting.

6. Matters arising

None

7. Reports from District and County Councillors

District Councillor Bronwen Behan reported that volunteers were being sought to help man the Tourist Information Centre in the Pepperpot on Church Street Upton. She had also been informed that Harriett Baldwin, MP, would be holding a meeting at Bushley Village Hall on 26th July at 1.30 pm¹ to discuss the provision of broadband to the area, and would be holding a surgery in Eldersfield at a later date.

¹ It has been announced separately that Mrs Baldwin will be holding a public meeting at Berrow & Pendock Village Hall WR13 6JN on Friday 26th July at 7.00 pm.

8. Public Comment

None

9. Broadband

Councillors discussed the broadband. It appeared that only two options for the provision of broadband to the Parish were available: Openreach (i.e. BT) or Gigaclear. Neither appeared eager to undertake the work. Council recognised that a small percentage of premises within the country were unlikely, for economic reasons, ever to be offered broadband and noted that a failure to identify these premises led to the creation of false hope.

Given that the local MP would shortly be holding a public meeting to discuss broadband (see Item 7) it was agreed that one councillor would attend in order to press the case for Eldersfield.

10. Defibrillator

Councillors had made enquiries and had identified people who would be interested in attending a training course. The Clerk undertook to arrange such a course, probably in October, and publicise the event accordingly.

11. Notice Board

It was generally recognised that the Notice Board on the road by the Church was in a poor condition and required maintenance. The Council **RESOLVED** that authority be delegated to the Clerk to engage a contractor to effect such repairs to the Notice Board which might in the Clerk's opinion be reasonable subject to the cost of such expenditure not exceeding £250 (excluding VAT).

12. Insurance

The Clerk advised the Council that because of the delay in effecting a change of bank signatories it had not been possible to pay the insurance premium (or indeed make any other due payment) and that there was therefore a possibility that the insurance company would allow cover to lapse.

13. Neighbourhood Plan

Councillors recognised the desirability of producing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish possessed a number of areas which were sensitive and where development, if any, would need to be undertaken sympathetically. At the same time Councillors were cognisant of the cost of producing such a plan, both in terms of time and money, and the need for involvement by the community.

Cllr Holt undertook the role of heading a working group to produce an initial scope for the production of such a plan and to present its report to the next meeting for further consideration.

14. Lengthsman

The report of the Lengthsman was noted.

15. Authorisation of Disbursements

It was **RESOLVED** that the following disbursements be made for goods and services:

£ 189.63	J L Gabbott
£79.00	HMRC
£25.47	WCC (hire of hall, 3 July 2019)
£354.00	Jeremy Moore (Lengthsman, £118 April, £236 May)

16. Future Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council be held on Monday 2nd September 2019 at Eldersfield Lawn School commencing at 7.30 p.m.

17. Any other business

The Chairman advised that he had received a letter inviting the Council to fly a flag on Merchant Seamen's Day. Given that the Council owned no building from which such a flag could be flown, he felt it impossible for the Council to comply with the request.

It was noted that again no report had been received from the Police. The Clerk undertook to ascertain the reason for the omission.

Cllr Burr thanked the Council for its support of the Eldersfield Musical evening held at Eldersfield Court and was pleased to report that the evening had been a great success.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.48 p.m.

JLG
5.7.19