

# EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council  
held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Matravers,  
Cllr Adams, Cllr Ward, Cllr Worsley

**In Attendance:** Clerk, Two Members of the Public

1. **Apologies:** None.
2. **Co-option of Cllr** – No applications received.
3. **Declaration of Interest:**
  - a. **Register of Interests** – Cllrs reminded to keep their registers updated.
  - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – All Cllrs Item 9d - Eastham Memorial Hall, item 11d – Loud music and Fireworks in Parish.
  - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – Items as above.
4. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –  
**Dispensations received** – All Cllrs Item 11d Eastham Memorial Hall. Dispensation granted at previous meeting for this item until May 2023.
5. **Public Question Time** – No matters raised.
6. **County Cllr Report** – Report at end of minutes. County Cllr sent apologies.  
**District Cllrs Reports** – Report at end of minutes. Dist Cllr sent apologies.
7. **Minutes of last Meeting:** Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
8. **Reports on meeting attended by Clerk/Cllrs: - None.**
9. **Updates -**
  - a. **Noticeboard** – Installed by Hall, key with Clerk.
  - b. **Footpath** – Bridleway gates is logged with WCC and looks to be a longstanding issue.
  - c. **Oaktree by Hall** – MHDC have message on website to say there is a backlog for enquiries. Clerk to send form to resident to make direct enquiries to MHDC as this will be the quickest option.
  - d. **Eastham Memorial Hall** – Some snagging work still to be completed. BLF representatives have been to look at the project, good feedback. The Clerk reported £672.65 left of the £7000.00 granted from PC. Trustees have requested a final purchase. It was agreed by all to agree the purchase by email.
10. **Finances –**
  - a. **Payments made** – See item 18. Worcestershire CALC (Clerks Training 26/04/21) = £15.00.
  - b. **Payments received** – WCC LM May 2021 = £154.00, VAT Repayment = £1343.26, WCC LM July 2021 = £147.00.
  - c. **Bank Reconciliation** (circulated) – July/August 2021 figures were agreed. Balance in cash book £17128.80.
  - d. **ICO Fee 20/09/2021** –To report DD payment of £35.00 to Information Commissioners Office for registration.
11. **Planning:**
  - a. **Plans received since last meeting** – See item 18.
  - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –  
**21/00069/OUT - Land At (Os 6578 6730) Eastham – Refused by MHDC.**
  - c. **Plans for consideration at this meeting** –  
**21/01336/CU - 1 Old School House, Highwood, Eastham, Tenbury Wells WR15 8PB** – After much discussion it was agreed by all to make no comment but to ask Planning Officer to consider concerns raised by resident which are published on MHDC website.
  - d. **ENF/21/0255** – Robins End – noise nuisance – Reported to Enforcement, no update received.
12. **Road Report:**
  - a. **Lengthsman** – No areas of concern, blocked drains now marked by WCC for investigation.
  - b. **Problems to report** – None raised.

# EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

- c. **Eastham Bridge damage** – Following repairs in July 2021 the bridge had been hit twice (10<sup>th</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> September). County Cllr advised it will be repaired, there are no witnesses to the incidents.
- d. **Eastham Bridge dead trees** – County Cllr advised WCC will not replace the trees. It was agreed by all not to pursue the matter.
- e. **Grit order for winter 2021-2022** – It was agreed by all not to purchase as two half bags held already.
13. **Grievance Policy** (circulated) – It was agreed by all to adopt as drafted.
14. **Disciplinary Policy** (circulated) – It was agreed by all to adopt as drafted.
15. **Equality and Diversity Policy** (circulated) – It was agreed by all to adopt as drafted.
16. **Clerks Resignation** – Letter has been sent to PC to take effect from 30<sup>th</sup> November. It was agreed by all to advertise the position, Chair and Cllr Ward to interview candidates. Final choice to be agreed at PC meeting. Papers have been circulated by Clerk regarding the process.
17. **Correspondence for Information:**  
**Updates from CALC, NALC**  
**South Worcestershire Development Plan** - updates  
**WCC** - Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan: Main Modifications Consultation – comments by 12<sup>th</sup> October.  
**WCC** - Dark Sky and Net Zero Policy  
**MHDC - Consultation** - Local List Supplementary Planning Document  
**MHDC** - Planning Peer Review – 6<sup>th</sup> October – 3.45pm at MHDC  
**MHDC** - Housing Needs Survey Workshop for Parish Councils (zoom) – 12<sup>th</sup> October – 6-7pm  
**MHDC** - Connected Communities Consultation  
**The Platinum Jubilee – The Queen’s Green Canopy – June 2022**
18. **Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting –**  
**Payments made –9<sup>th</sup> August** – Mrs S Burrows (Sound System from CPC gifted to EMH) = £685.68, Mrs S Burrows (Microsoft update) = £59.99, Mr C Bunn (LM July) = £147.00.  
**13<sup>th</sup> September** – Mr C Bunn (LM August, Noticeboard fitting) = £212.00, Projectorpoint (gifted to EMH) = £1896.00.  
**Plans circulated by email 20<sup>th</sup> August -**  
**21/01387/HP - Lower Bank, Eastham, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8PA - Construction of detached double garage and garden store.** It was agreed by the majority to make no comment.
19. **Councillor’s reports and items for the next agenda.**  
Agenda items – Appointment of new Clerk, Eastham Memorial Hall, Risk Assessment, Speeding.
20. **Date of next meeting: TUESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.30PM in Eastham Memorial Hall**
21. **Meeting closed 8.08pm.**

Signed----- Date 30<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
Chairman

---

## Public Question Time –

**Speeding Traffic** - Residents raised concerns about speed through Eastham, junction by Hall of concern. It was suggested some Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) be purchased. Clerk thinks they are very expensive. There is a VAS that is shared, Clerk to look into adding Eastham into the rota. Police Commissioner may have funds. CALC collecting information on speeding to take forward as a group to see if anything can be done. Residents have put signs up about children playing but it has had little effect. Request for Horse signs on Eastham roads was not answered. Clerk to follow up for next meeting.

---

## District Councillors Report

**Afghanistan Resettlement Scheme:** There are 2 schemes relating to Afghan resettlement to the UK:

**1. The Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP)** - For Locally Employed Staff (LES) in Afghanistan.

This scheme is designed to support those Afghan nationals who have worked with our forces e.g. interpreters. This scheme was launched in April 2021.

**2. The Afghan Citizen Resettlement Scheme (ACRS)** - This was the scheme that was announced last week which is designed to welcome 5,000 vulnerable Afghans into the UK in the first year of the scheme and 20,000 over the longer term. Further guidance on this scheme is still awaited. Locally, the current Afghan resettlement scheme is being co-ordinated by WCC, this will be the same for ACRS. WCC will work closely with the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership who are delivering this programme for the West Midlands on behalf of the Government. WCC will consider wider support arrangements for Afghan arrivals, co-ordinate financial

## EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

support from Government and donations from communities. We are also working with groups Citizens Advice and Malvern Welcomes. As non-housing stock councils we are working with our housing association partners/private landlords to identify accommodation. Commitment has been sought from both Platform and Rooftop to begin to identify suitable family sized accommodation within our districts that could be appropriate, and both have responded positively to these requests. In addition, we will be working with voluntary groups in due course to help them with their work supporting new arrivals and getting access to funding

### **Plans are being drawn up to help get the district's town centres fit for the future:**

MHDC is producing five town centre transformation plans for Barnards Green, Great Malvern, Malvern Link, Tenbury Wells and Upton upon Severn. The documents will set out a vision for the future of each retail centre, identifying the different challenges facing each one and the opportunities available. They will then be used to attract inward investment from both the public and commercial sector, as well as guide planning decisions. Working with consultants Geoff Hughes Ltd with Paul Sampson Associates, a consultation will be launched in September with businesses, land and property owners, WCC, Town and Parish Councils, community groups and the public to gain views on how they see the future of the high street. The results of the consultation will be published in January, and it is planned the prospectuses will be signed off by Spring 2022. The prospectuses are part of the MHDCs Five Year Plan commitment to help revitalise the town centres as they come under attack from the rise of online competitors, out of town retail parks and changing consumer habits. The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the high street, accelerated the move towards online shopping and resulting in the collapse of several big chain stores. While the strong independent shopping scene in the district's retail centres means they are well placed to weather the current storm, the towns will still need to adapt to survive.

**To be the first to take part in the consultation, sign up to the dedicated consultation e-newsletter at [www.malvern hills.gov.uk/emailalerts](http://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/emailalerts).**

**Malvern Hills Comedy Festival:** Get ready for the most hilarious and jam-packed month to take Malvern Hills district by storm. Some of the biggest names in British comedy right now will be performing in our local theatres as part of the Malvern Hills Comedy Festival, for the entirety of October. Malvern Theatres is also welcoming award winning Alistair McGowan; Jasper Carrott, OBE; Josh Widdicombe, Jack Dee and more. Other locations involved will be the Boat House at Upton, Malvern Con Club and The Regal in Tenbury.

**Seann Walsh will be performing at the Regal Theatre in Tenbury on October 8th. Further details <https://www.visitthemalverns.org/blog/comedyfestival/>**

**Donate your unwanted sports kit:** Freedom Leisure is working with BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester to support the month-long 'Kit Out The Nation' campaign to help provide sports equipment to children and young people who need it most. Up until 2 October 2021, people will be able to donate their unwanted, good condition sports kit at Malvern Splash and Tenbury Community Pool. Donations can include everyday items of sports clothing and regular games equipment that a young person can use in an activity, such as balls, bats and rackets.

**Further details <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/news-alerts/sports-kit>**

**Councillor Caroline Palethorpe, Teme Valley Ward, Malvern Hills District Council, Tel: 07974 966412 [caroline.palethorpe@malvern hillsdc.net](mailto:caroline.palethorpe@malvern hillsdc.net)**

---

### COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

#### **Latest Covid Figures as at 27<sup>th</sup> September are:**

- a. Worcestershire is showing an infection rate of 307 cases per 100,000.
- b. The infection rate in the Malvern Hills District is 172 cases per 100,000.
- c. The direction of travel is up in all districts in Worcestershire.
- d. Malvern Hills District has the lowest rate in Worcestershire, with Redditch District the highest at 469 per 100,000.

**Traffic** volume levels in Worcestershire are now 97% of pre-Covid levels.

**Bus travel** levels in Worcestershire are now 21% of pre-Covid levels.

**Road "Surface Dressing"** continues to take place across the County. Structural repairs are completed first followed by an application of hot bituminous binder to the surface, followed by one or two layers of chippings. After about a week the road is then swept and road markings re-painted.

**Afghan Resettlement Schemes** - The current schemes are being co-ordinated by WCC. WCC will work closely with the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership who are delivering this programme for the West Midlands, on behalf of the Government. WCC will consider wider support arrangements for Afghan arrivals, co-ordinate financial support from the Government and donations from communities.

Details of the schemes are in the Dist Cllr report so I will not list them here.

**David Chambers - County Councillor, Tenbury Division**