

EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 29th March 2016

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Inge (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Adams, Cllr Horsfall, Cllr Conway

In Attendance: Clerk, District Cllr Caroline Palethorpe and 2 Members of the Public.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Worsley and Cllr Mosely, apologies received and accepted.
2. **Declaration of Interests –**
 - a. Register of Interests: No changes.
 - b. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – None.
 - c. Other Disclosable Interests – None.
3. **Dispensations –**
 - a. To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –
 - b. **Dispensations requested – None.**
4. **Public Question Time –** See notes below.
5. **Minutes of last Meeting –** Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 26th January 2016 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
6. **District Cllrs report –** Report at end of minutes. Report on Oaktrees given, see item 10(e).
County Cllrs report – Apologies given. Written report at end of minutes.
7. **Progress Reports for information:**
 - a. **First Aid Training –** Clerk is applying for free training equipment, funding should be available after 1st April.
 - b. **Eastham Memorial Hall refurbishment –** The Lottery Grant application has been refused. Committee are meeting tomorrow night to discuss further.
8. **Reports on Meetings attended by Clerk or Councillors:**
Clerk, Cllr and Resident attended Neighbourhood Planning Presentation 28th January. See item below 12.
9. **Finances:**
 - a. **Payments made –** Mr I Mapp (LM February) = £187.20, Mrs S Burrows (Black ink, memory stick) = £16.99.
 - b. **Payments received –** WCC LM August/September = £312.00 and October/November 2015 = £312.00
 - c. **Bank Reconciliation –** January/February 2016 signed, balance agreed as £13440.82.
 - d. **Internal Audit procedures (circulated) –** It was agreed all matters are being adhered to.
 - e. **Internal Auditor 2015-16 accounts –** it was agreed to appoint last year's auditor at agreed cost of £50.00.
10. **Planning:**
 - a. Plans circulated since last meeting – See item 15 below.
 - b. Decisions received since last meeting –
 - c. **15/01563/HOU – Teme Valley View Cottage, Eastham WR15 8PA –** Proposed self-build construction of a replacement dwelling and detached car port and extension of curtilage at Teme Valley Cottage. **APPROVED by MHDC.**
16/00112/CCD – Eastham Kiln, Eastham WR15 8NN – Reserved matters regarding roof-lights (15/00345/FUL refers). **APPROVED by MHDC.**
 - d. Plans to comment on at this meeting – **None.**
 - e. **Oaktrees, Highwood –** Dist Cllr has established that the Enforcement Team have not been able to access site following the fire that damaged the barn on 3rd February. Enforcement have written to landowner requesting a report on structure of barn and asking for mobile unit to be removed by 1st April.
 - f. **Temevale, Eastham –** MHDC have advised the mobile shelter does require planning permission, the landowner has been informed of this. It was agreed by all to write to MHDC to ensure an application is made to formalise the matter for the future and to give residents the chance to voice their concerns.
11. **Road Report:**
 - a. **Lengthsman –** Signs to be cleaned.
 - b. **Any problems to report –** Signs need attention, grit on much of Orelton Lane especially by Orelton Court.

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- Drains need jetting.
- c. **Update on outstanding queries –**
- **Astley Orchard** – repairs to road – Housing Association still to do road repairs. Drain now also blocked. Clerk to meet Dist. Cllr on site to show her the problem.
12. **Neighbourhood Plan** – After discussion it was agreed the work/costs involved for a small parish would be too big for the limited benefit gained. It was agreed by all not to do a plan at this point in time.
13. **Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations 11th June 2016** – It was proposed by Cllr Inge and seconded by Cllr Horsfall to grant £200.00 for this event. It is being organised by Eastham BBQ Committee. It was agreed by all to grant funds but costs need to be justified to PC by Treasurer of Committee. A formal letter of request also to be sent to Clerk from BBQ Committee.
14. **Correspondence for information:**
Circulation with Clerk, list in minute's folder.
MHDC Conference 18th April – 6-8.30pm.
15. **Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting –**
Payments – 11th February – Mr I Mapp – LM January 2016
Plans circulated by email February 2016 -
Appeal lodged APP/J1860/W/15/3140104 - 15/00141/FUL – Eastham Grange, Eastham WR15 8NP – Proposed new dwelling.
It was agreed by all not to make any further comments on this application.
15/01631/HOU – The Old Forge, Eastham WR15 8NW – Proposed extension to existing garage to form private art studio and store.
It was agreed by majority to support this application but to comment on size of extension.
16. **Councillor's reports and items for the next agenda.**
Memorial Hall update.
17. **Date of next meeting: 24TH MAY 2016 - ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 7.15pm**
FOLLOWED BY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT 8PM.
18. **Cllrs agreed to close the meeting to the public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.**
19. **Mowing Contract 2016-17** – Clerk had contacted 2 contractors. It was agreed by all to offer contract to W Morgan as per quotation given.
20. **LM Contract 2016-17** – It was agreed by all to renew LM contract with Mr I Mapp at same rate as last year. It was agreed not to advertise the post due to the specialized nature of the work, to be reviewed in 2018.
21. **Clerks Review (circulated)** – It was agreed for Chairman to sign review. All agreed to increase Clerks hours from 4 to 5 per week from 1st April 2016.
22. **Meeting closed 8.23pm.**

Signed----- Date 24th May 2016
Chairman

Residents asked if drain above gate by Memorial Hall could be looked at. It does not take water due to the lay of the road. Astley Orchard blocked drain and road repairs which are agenda item. Resident volunteered to recoat seat on Millennium Green. Clerk will contact resident after meeting to discuss costs. Request for Speed Gates for village. Clerk to look into costs. Two residents now official Footpaths Officers for Parish.

Summary of District Cllrs Report

Parish Conference - Monday 18th April between 6pm- 8.30pm in the Malvern Hills District Council Chambers.
South Worcestershire Development Plan update - At the MHDC Full Council meeting on Tuesday 24 February, plan was adopted. Long term vision for south Worcestershire, emphasis on boosting local economy/delivering sustainable housing up to the 2030. Includes plans for 28,400 new homes as well as land for retail/employment.
Syrian Refugee update - MHDC has in collaboration with WCC; put together a Syrian Refugee FAQs page which every district council in Worcestershire has been asked to place on their website.
Details <http://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/syrian-refugee-resettlement>.

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LEADing Rural Business Programme - The second round of the LEADing Rural Business Programme is now open for outline applications until 5pm on Monday 1 April 2016. The key objectives include growth of the rural economy and job creation in rural areas. This round is focussed on supporting projects that increase farming or forestry productivity. Grants of up to £35,000 are available. **Please highlight the scheme to any businesses in your area that may be able to benefit from this of funding. Visit www.business-central.co.uk/leader for information, or contact Joel Keller: joel.keller@malvern hills.gov.uk 01684 862486.**

Superfast Expansion Programme - Superfast Worcestershire has announced the first communities set to benefit from an expansion of the faster fibre broadband programme. More than 8,000 additional households/businesses across Worcestershire will get access to the technology as a result of the 'Superfast Extension Programme'. A number of other areas across Malvern Hills district are set to benefit later in the programme (which will be finished by autumn 2017). Visit <http://www.superfastworcestershire.com/cabinet-status> and select 'Malvern Hills District' (the Superfast Extension Programme upgrades are labelled "New").

Councillor Caroline Palethorpe, Teme Valley Ward, Malvern Hills District Council, Tel: 07974 966412
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Summary of County Cllrs Report

Simon Geraghty was elected as the new Leader of the Conservative Group, and then as Leader of the Council. He also took on the role of Cabinet Member Responsible for Finance. This created a vacancy on Cabinet for the job that Simon had done, that of being responsible for the Economy/Skills/Infrastructure. He asked me to take on this new role. This is a significant position, with a budget for the directorate that includes Highways and the Environment of around £60 million.

1. Strategic planning – community and spatial
2. Economic development and regeneration
3. Business Partnerships (including Local Enterprise Partnership)
4. Regional, European and international relationships
5. Strategic Transportation (including Local Transport Plan)
6. Skills Policy and Development, including training/apprenticeships/business engagement/employment skills
7. Broadband.

Worcestershire's productivity growth has been second fastest in the country, equalling Oxford and behind London. The economy as a whole is the fourth fastest growing in the country. The budget for 2016/17 was set in February. It is clear that the coming year will be one of serious austerity and we will be aiming to see that front line services are maintained as far as possible. As already announced, the County's contribution to Council Tax will increase by 3.94%, including the 2% precept that the Chancellor has allowed to be devoted to Adult Social Care.

1. **Broadband** - One of my areas of responsibility is broadband and I can assure you that I am working closely with our officers and BT in the implementation of the two contracts to bring faster broadband to the whole of Worcestershire. You may have the services of the Airband contract, as the extension programme under the second BT contract will not benefit Eastham. I would be pleased to hear of any problems with broadband coverage via Airband as we are making strenuous efforts to increase coverage and to use the BT "Never say no" project to find answers for all properties, particularly those beyond the reach of the conventional methods..
2. **Road Works**- The Council is devoting £12 million towards the Driving Home project to improve the state of the county's roads. While we believe that our roads are in better condition than many neighbouring counties, we recognise that residents are very aware of the deficiencies of the roads near them. This investment should bring the condition of the roads to a state that can be maintained into the future without extensive efforts each year. **Locally, I have been informed that Highwood will be resurfaced later in the year, one of the outstanding poor roads in the area. Please use the online reporting system for letting us know which roads need attention and let me know if the response is inadequate.**

3. **Household Recycling Centre** - Tenbury's new recycling centre in the Bromyard Road Business Park is open. It is able to recycle and reuse a much wider range of material and I would urge you all to use it to the full. Tenbury has lagged behind the rest of the County for many years but now the recycling percentage of material offered should increase from about 34% to 75%. It is open three days a week, **Thursday, Saturday and Sunday from 08.00 to 18.00.**

Cllr Ken Pollock, Martley, Worcester, WR6 6QA