

ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

In Attendance: -

**Members of the
Public:** 1

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies from Cllr Mrs Owen, and from County Councillor Wells and District Councillor Behan, were accepted.

2. Members' interests

None

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2019 were accepted as a true record of that meeting and were signed as such by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Reports from District and County Councillors

None

6. Public Comment

Mrs Ridley expressed her interest in, and support for, the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. It was her view that such a plan should make proper provision for limited development in order to ensure the continuing vitality of the neighbourhood.

7. Broadband

Councillors discussed the broadband. A lengthy report was presented by the Vice Chairman on behalf of the Working Group. It was quite evident that despite the large effort which had clearly been expended on the topic – for which the Chairman asked that the Council's thanks be recorded – there was regrettably little substantive progress.

The nub of the problem lay in the fact that many properties in the Parish are remote and the cost of improving their broadband connection, whether by upgrading the service through existing copper cable or by supplying fibre to the premises (FTTP), is commercially unattractive.

Nevertheless, contact had been made with Mrs Baldwin, MP, whose chief of staff had undertaken to investigate whether certain political and administrative problems could be eased. The results of those investigations are awaited.

8. Defibrillator

The Clerk reported that he had published in the Parish Magazine a request for those interested attending training on the defibrillator to contact him; he would organise training in the light of the response.

9. Notice Board

The Clerk reported that he had received advice that the notice board by the church was beyond economic repair. In these circumstances he recommended that the Council purchase a new board. Members agreed with this suggestion and accordingly the Council **RESOLVED** that authority be delegated to the Clerk to purchase and install a new Notice Board on condition that the cost excluding VAT did not exceed £900.

10. Neighbourhood Plan

Mrs Holt reported that she had held preliminary discussions with WCC and had made contact with their relevant focal point. With the approval of the Council, which was given, she would hold a meeting with that person and make a report at the next meeting.

It was agreed that in the interim the Council would make an application to WCC to be considered as a Neighbourhood Plan area.

11. Lengthsman

The report of the Lengthsman was noted.

12. Information Commissioner

It was noted that the Council was registered with the Information Commissioner and that a fee of £40.00 was payable.

13. Authorisation of Disbursements

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

£152.37	J L Gabbott
£37.00	HMRC
£40.00	Information Commissioner
£708.00	Jeremy Moore (Lengthsman, £236 June, £236 July, £236 August 2019)
£36.00	WCC election
£25.47	WCC Hire of hall 3 Sep 2019

14. Future Meetings

It was agreed that the meetings of the Council be held on Wednesday 6th November 2019 Wednesday 8th January 2020 at Eldersfield Lawn School commencing at 7.30 p.m.

15. Any other business

None

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.28 p.m
JLG 4.9.19