

ELDERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Eldersfield Parish Council held on
Thursday 5th July 2018 at Eldersfield Lawn School, commencing at 8.10 p.m.

Present: A. Davies (Chairman), P. R. Chichester,
J. Keighley, Mrs T Owen, Mrs S Rush

In Attendance: -

**Members of the
Public:** 1

1. Apologies for absence

Mrs D Holt, Mrs C Powell-Chandler

2. Members' interests

None

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd May 2018 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

There was no reports available from either the County or District Councillor.

6. Police Report

Members noted the report received from the Police and circulated prior to the meeting. One member reported that she had received comments about the high speed of cars in the Frogsmarsh area.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Broadband

The Chairman reported that he had received from BT a preliminary report on the possible provision of high speed broadband by means of Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) i.e. the provision of a fibre internet connection directly into a consumer's house.

BT had analysed the data which the Parish had submitted. They had excluded all premises which were served directly from the exchange (i.e. where the cable did not pass through an intermediate cabinet) and all premises where they had calculated that the internet download speed available was greater than 24Mbps. All of the remaining premises potentially qualified

for FTTP but BT had eliminated a number of these premises from their considerations on the grounds that supplying a cable to them would have been prohibitively expensive.

Accordingly, BT reported on two scenarios: providing FTTP for a selected 58 premises, and for 85 premises. Subject to a number of provisos, the net cost per household, after taking into account grants and subventions, would be in the region of £2,000 per premise.

The provisos included the assumption that all the premises within the scenario signed up to the scheme, and that the costs of the scheme, some of which had been estimated, were correct. Where either of these assumptions did not apply, there would necessarily be changes to the cost.

(It has been suggested that some premises might decide that, if they had fast broadband connection, a landline, and the costs associated with its 'rental', would no longer be required; telephone calls could be made through a VOIP service.)

Councillors thanked the Chairman for his work on this subject. They agreed that the next stage should be to call a public meeting, at a date to be decided (but probably in September), when representatives of BT Openreach would be invited to give a description of the scheme and WCC could explain the operation of the various grants and subventions.

It would then be for parishioners to decide how, or if, they wished to proceed.

Members accepted this proposal. Details of the meeting will be published in due course.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman reported that he had been informed that most parish councils within the MHDC area either had prepared or were preparing Neighbourhood Plans. He suggested that the Council would benefit from having greater knowledge of the role of such plans and the advantages and disadvantages of preparing one, and suggested that a consultant who had helped Martley Parish prepare their plan be invited to address the next meeting of the Council. Councillors warmly accepted the suggestion and the Clerk was instructed to issue an initiation.

10. Lengthsman

The reports and invoices submitted by the Lengthsman for April and May 2018 (£118.00 and £236.00) were noted.

11. Correspondence

Council noted the following correspondence:

a. various emails from Captain Carr expressing 1. his belief that the minutes of the Council's January meeting should have given a more detailed explanation of the quantum of the increase in the precept for 2018-19; 2. that the quantum was too great; and 3. that his views had not been noted by Council; and that in response the Clerk had replied that: 1. Council had adopted the draft minutes of the meeting of 8th January on 5th March and *ipso facto* manifestly disagreed with Captain Carr's view; and that with respect to 2. and 3. his views were, and had been, noted by Council;

b. letter from Corse Lawn Women's Group advising that the expected request for grant from Council to assist with meetings in 2018 will be £62.82;

c. letter of thanks from School's PTFA for the Council's grant of £10,000 towards defraying the cost of creating additional parking places opposite the school.

12. Authorisation of Disbursements

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

£ 139.14	J L Gabbott
£86.40	HMRC
£354.00	Lengthsman (£118.00 April; £236.00 May)
£50.94	WCC (hire of hall 12th March and 2nd May 2018)
£10.00	CALC (Clerk's attendance at training session)

13. Future Meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would be held on Thursday 6th September 2018 at Eldersfield Lawn School commencing at 7.30 p.m.

14. Other business

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.

JLG
6.7.18