

EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council
held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 29 March 2022

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

In Attendance: Clerk, 3 Members of the Public, and County Councillor

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Matravers gave apologies, noted, agreed by all. Resolved.
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** – Cllr A Worsley item 11.d
 - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – Declared
4. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – Dispensations received agreed
5. **Public Question Time meeting adjourned.**
Noise, item 11.d
6. **County Cllr Report** – in attendance - Report at end of minutes , and added Worcester Royal ambulance waiting times County Council Scrutiny committee is looking at the problem no fault with A&E or ambulances, nor criticism
District Cllrs Reports – Report at end of minutes
7. **Minutes of last Meeting:** Minutes of Parish Council meetings held on 8 February 2022 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
8. **Progress Reports**
Tree at Astley Orchard has been removed by the Housing Association
Eastham Bridge – Cllr Chambers has visited with Highways Liaison Engineer who has agreed to chase with appropriate officer for a new date
9. **Reports on meeting attended by Clerk/Cllrs:** - Clerk attended the Clerks Gathering at WYF HQ on A449, arranged by CALC, emphasis on financial year end procedures.
10. **Finances -**
 - a. **Payments to be considered** –, C Bunn (LM – March) £ 154.00. Retiring Clerk S Burrows expenses £133.20; Clerk L Jenkins Expenses £ 89.56 All agreed, resolved.
 - b. **Payments received** – none
 - c. **Bank Reconciliation** (circulated) – February 2022 figures were agreed. Balance in Cash book £ 15720.97
 - d. **Payroll outside source** – Clerk presented for outside agency to administer Payroll on behalf of Council at £65.00 for the year, All agreed to go ahead with outside agency, Resolved.
 - e. **TSB Mandate** – is being returned for correction and resubmission – not received at time of meeting
11. **Planning:**
 - a. **Plans received since last meeting** – none
 - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –
21/01479/HP - 2 Hill Top Cottages, Rochford, Tenbury Wells, WR15 8SR – approved 08/02/22
 - c. **Plans for consideration at this meeting** –
22/0245/FUL - Land At (Os 6578 6730), Eastham – Access track and construction of building for agricultural storage purposes and occasional livestock housing - Supported
22/0379/AGR – Hillwood Farm, Eastham – Proposed Grain and Combine Harvester Store – Supported
M22/0388/FUL - Lower Bank Barn, Eastham, WR15 8PA – Construction of Manege and Stable Block – Supported, Clerk to question if also a change of use with Planning Officer.
 - d. **ENF/21/0255** – Robins End – noise nuisance – update
Since last meeting emails received on 11 and 24 March 2022 from MHDC.
It is noted the primary resident is in separate accommodation at rear of property (within holiday let), reference was also made to retrospective planning permission.
Councillors supported Clerk to write in consultation with Councillor
WRS reference noise no further response received at present time.
12. **Road Report:**
 - a. **Lengthsman Contract Renewal** – Mr C Bunn hourly rate increased; the rate is still comparable with other LM rates. All agreed, Resolved
 - b. **Monthly Update**
 - c. **Drain** – Church lane, visited by LM and County Council who agreed to jet.
 - d. **Any problems to report** - Councillor had notice water running onto road, near to Highwood turn from a field orchard close to Robins End, believed water to this field area has now been turned off.
13. **WMP Community Charter**
 - a. **Speeding update** – email indicated Police had been out with speed gun. Clerk requested to ask for another visit and what other measures are available

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- b. **Review Charter** - the charter is due for review, Top 3 Community Issues are: Speeding, Thefts (outbuildings), Thefts (Farms).
Agreed to the existing Top 3 issues.
14. **Worcestershire County Council – As one community project** – had been circulated agreed to not order a banner
15. **Policies to be updated/reviewed**
Risks Assessment review, Grant Awarding Policy – All agreed, resolved..
16. **Grants to consider** – Jubilee Celebrations Eastham Memorial Hall - £300. All agreed Resolved.
17. **Correspondence for Information:**
CALC – training opportunities
NALC – 2021-22 national salary award scales
WCC – Smartwater offer
Email from Parishioner – Carparking memorial hall see point 19
18. **Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting** –
Payments made – 8 March - Mr C Bunn – February (LM) = £154..00. HMRC £162.60; Clerks Salary £651.52
19. **Councillor’s reports and items for the next agenda**
Questions asked of planting trees on Village Green , part of the Queens Green Canopy. It had been agreed to not plant any trees in this area due to its use for Entertainments and to keep a clear green space.
Agenda items next meeting -
O/S map of footpaths outside Memorial Hall or Village Green
Green Area Car parking email received from Parishioner
20. **Dates for meeting: TUESDAY 24 May both AT 7.30PM in Eastham Memorial Hall and future meeting of 26 July, 27 September 2022.**
21. **Meeting closed at 8.40pm**

Signed-----

Date

Chairman

Public Question Time –

Robins End Noise Nuisance that Parish Council to follow up with MHDC situation.

Update on the Parish Celebrations progress given for interest purposes

Noise experienced early on a Sunday morning from Quad bikes/scramblers – no knowledge of where the noise originated

District Councillors Report

Support for Ukraine: Malvern Hills District residents are being urged to back a national appeal to help the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians fleeing conflict in their country.

The UK's Disasters Emergency Committee is coordinating the efforts of 15 agencies to help people who have fled Ukraine or been displaced to other parts of the country, following the invasion by Russia. A number of community groups and businesses are also holding fund-raising events and appeals for donations of items to send to refugees. These include Malvern Town Football Club, Chernobyl Children's Lifeline and Austin and Co. More information on these local appeals can be found on our website at www.malvern hills.gov.uk/community/support-for-ukraine

Any other community groups organising events can add them to the page by emailing communications@malvern hills.gov.uk

Locally there are several requests from residents wishing to open their homes to Ukrainian refugees or support families who may be housed in the area. Councillor David Chambers and Harriett Baldwin MP have been informed

Young people to have a say on the district’s future: We have launched our biggest ever youth survey and young people are being encouraged to have their say on the changes they would like to see in their area.

The Bigger Picture Survey is open to 11 to 18-year-olds who live, work or study in the district.

The questions cover topics such as mental health, lifestyle and local community and the results will help the council to make the district a better and safer place for young people.

Paper copies of the survey will be shared in schools, but there is also an online version on the Let's Talk Malvern Hills engagement platform. An accessible version can also be found online.

We first ran the Bigger Picture Survey in 2018 and have since acted on the results, including developing a What's On guide for young people because 57% of those surveyed said that more things to do would improve their lives.

As well as this, 85% of participants wanted to keep informed and involved with council decision making, as a result, the Youth Chair and Advisor roles were created to represent young people.

Participants also said that life skills, mental health support and volunteering were important to them. To respond to this, we launched the Futureproof campaign in 2020 to support our young people to develop their skills, build resilience and feel a part of their communities.

Please pass this survey survey can be found on our Youth web page on to any relevant contacts, the www.malvern hills.gov.uk/youth. As the District Council Youth Champion, I am supporting this activity and promoting in the five secondary phase schools and via a YouTube video I created!

All information entered into the survey will be anonymous and it will run until 15 April 2022

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New 'Village Office' set up to tackle rural isolation: A new 'Village Office' has been set up in Lindridge to tackle isolation and provide a working space for people living in rural areas.

We are working with Community First to trial the concept across rural areas of the district, with Lindridge Parish Hall, Tenbury Wells, as the first location.

The idea has come about as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the rise in homeworking.

The Village Office provides a space where people can come together to work, study, hold meetings and more, to prevent loneliness and isolation.

The large space includes a workstation for people to bring their laptops, a social space, a photocopier, printer, Wi-Fi and tea and coffee facilities.

There is also high-quality audio-visual equipment available for video conferencing.

Visit www.lindridgeparishhall.co.uk for more information. Contact the hall directly on 01584 881747 or email lindridgeparishhall@outlook.com

Councillor Caroline Paethorpe Teme Valley Ward Malvern Hills District Council Tel: 07974 966412 caroline.paethorpe@malvernhillsc.net

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

1. Covid Figures as at 29th March 2022 are:
 - a. Worcestershire is showing an infection rate of 986 cases per 100,000.
 - b. The infection rate in the Malvern Hills District is 1,101 cases per 100,000.
 - c. The direction of travel is dramatically up in all Worcestershire Districts.
 - d. Wychavon District has the highest infection rate in Worcestershire with 1,120 cases per 100,000. Redditch has the lowest infection rate with 864 cases per 100,000.
 - e. The rate of infection in England as a whole is 880 cases per 100,000.
2. Worcestershire County Council's Budget for 2022/23 was approved on Thursday 17th February.
 - a. There will be the following increase in Council Tax: the Precept will increase by 0.94%; in addition, there will be a 1% Adult Social Care Levy; in addition, there will be a 2% Adult Social Care Levy that was carried forward from 2021/22.
 - b. This additional funding for Adult Social Care will ensure the most vulnerable in society are protected.
 - c. The above increases in Council Tax will give an additional £11.3million in Council Tax revenue for 2022/23.
 - d. This will result in an increase of £52.95 per annum on a Band D property.
3. It has been agreed that Local Members' Highway Fund of £22,000 and Councillor's Divisional Fund of £10,000 will be extended to the next financial year. If there are any community projects that you believe would benefit from financial support, then please let me know from April onwards.
4. WCC has agreed that grants to Town and Parish Councils will be increased by 15%, with regards to the Lengthsman Scheme.
5. Worcestershire County Council is working closely with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and with local partners, to co-ordinate actions regarding our response to the Ukraine refugee crisis. The County Council has agreed with the six Worcestershire District Councils, to co-ordinate our response as "One Worcestershire", to ensure a joint approach is undertaken. Further details will be available shortly.

At the moment the best way to provide humanitarian help for the people of Ukraine is through financial donations to organisations with a presence in the region. This is considered a more effective way to support those in need, rather than physical donations, given the complexities and time it can take to physically transport supplies. Together with this Report, I am forwarding a list of agencies supporting Ukraine, should anyone wish to contact them.

6. The Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing strategy consultation 2022 – 2032, has been launched. Formal consultation will run until 2nd May 2022. Good mental health and wellbeing may mean different things to different people. Your thoughts and feelings are welcomed, to help WCC shape the future of health and wellbeing over the next ten years. The consultation survey is open to everyone and will help build up a picture of what Wellbeing means to people of all ages across the county. More details can be found at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/HWBStrategy2022
7. For those aged 15 to 24 and would like advice on careers, apprenticeships, 6th Forms, full-time college courses, university and more, a number of Careers events are being held throughout Worcestershire between 2nd March and 7th April, each between 4pm and 8pm. There is no need to book, just drop into any of the events at any time to suit you. Further details can be obtained from: careersworcs@worcestershire.gov.uk

Worcestershire County Council are awaiting the outcome of our Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) submission to the government, and so it is extremely disappointing to hear that First Bus have announced they intend to significantly cut services in Worcestershire. The details are yet to be finalised but this will have a detrimental impact on residents. The BSIP grant is now even more critical to enable us to deliver our aspirations for Worcestershire residents

David Chambers - County Councillor, Tenbury Division