

Eastham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council
held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27 September 2022

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Adams, Cllr Matravers, Cllr B Lewis, Cllr A Worsley, Cllr S Ward.

1. **Apologies:** - none
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - a. Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded to keep their Register of Interests updated.
 - b. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests:
 - c. Other Disclosable Interests: As received previously
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** – Dispensations as received.

The Meeting adjourned for Public Question Time:

Notes: the Continuous road closures by Severn Trent due to numerous leaks over the past few years.

Agreed by all for discussion – RESOLVED

Clerk to write to Severn Trent

4. **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on 26 July 2022 were agreed by all, RESOLVED and signed by the Chairman
5. **County Councillor Report:** Cllr D Chambers sent apologies. Report is at the end of the minutes
6. **District Councillor Report:** Cllr C Palethorpe sent apologies. Report is at the end of the minutes
6. **Finance:**
 - a. Payments considered as per the circulated list
L Jenkins Expenses £153.39 plus Dog fouling signs £9.37 total £162.76; LM C Bunn £172.50 Sept invoice
All agreed payments - RESOLVED
 - b. Receipts - WCC LM Scheme total of £502.50; Refund received of overpayment £27.60
 - c. Bank Reconciliation and Report – The bank reconciliation was presented indicating at the 21 September 2022 the reconciled bank balance stood at £15746.63: The budget to date was presented showing no adverse variances.
7. **Planning:**
 - a. Plans received since last meeting - none
 - b. Decisions received since last meeting
M/22/00388/Ful – Lower Bank Farm – approved by MHDC
M/22/00245/FUL – Land @ Eastham – approved by MHDC
 - c. Plans for consideration at this meeting – none
 - d. ENF/21/0255 – Robins End
 - i. Update – further communication received awaiting documentation from owner.
 - ii. Removal of barn that contravenes planning – discussion held it was agreed by all and RESOLVED to write to MHDC on this matter. Councillor will assist Clerk in letter composition.
8. **Road Report**
 - a. LM report – drains at Highwood as blocked being reported to Highways.
Pipers Brook – Orleton Road, bollards which cause an obstruction report to WCC
 - b. Pot holes on layby – reported and awaiting action
9. **Progress Reports**
 - a. Dog Fouling Notices – these have been replaced with new notices
 - b. Dog Waste Bins – Would be required to have a general litter bin, these are emptied by MHDC.
Cost of general litter bins were presented within the range of £200 - £500. Agreed to review situation at a later meeting and if there is a requirement for a litter bin
10. **Reports on any meetings attended by Clerk or Councillors:** none.
11. **Correspondence for information:** as circulated – CALC; MHDC;
12. **Clerks report on any Urgent Decision since last meeting**
Payments made as circulated – ICO £35 by DD; LM £165 for August invoice; Clerk Salary £829.14 for quarter
13. **Councillors reports and items for the next agenda:** Rural Poverty; Bollards;
14. **Date of next meeting – 29 November 2022 at 7.30 Eastham Memorial Hall**
15. **Meeting Closed** at 8.10pm

Signed

Date

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Worcestershire County Council Report

Meeting of Eastham Parish Council 27th September 2022.

1. Families from Ukraine: Worcestershire County Council continue to work closely with the six Worcestershire District Councils to help provide accommodation with families throughout the county. Over two thousand families have offered their homes to Ukrainian families, with the number of guests arriving increasing all the time.
The Malvern Hills District is hosting an above average number of guests. School funding for children of Ukrainian families receive higher than normal funding for schooling, to assist with their additional needs. Early years (age 2-4) £3,000, Primary (age 5-11) £6,580, secondary (11-18) £8,755.
2. Following the unsuccessful Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) submission to the government the County Council is continuing with its complete review of its policy regarding bus services in Worcestershire.
3. At a recent meeting of the County Council, I submitted a Notice of Motion calling on the relevant Cabinet Members to work with relevant agencies and partners to encourage all schools in Worcestershire with year 7 and above, to offer CPR training programmes. Last year I encouraged the promotion of Defibrillators and the need to increase their number across the county. Every year, 30,000 people in the UK suffer a cardiac arrest out of hospital, 80% of these occurring in the home. Sadly, less than 1 in 10 people survive. When a defibrillator is not immediately available to someone who has suffered a cardiac arrest, then someone practicing CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), is the next best thing.
I further urged all County Councillors to encourage their Town and Parish Councils to offer support and encouragement for CPR training programmes in their communities, which I do so now by means of this item.
4. At a meeting of the Children and Families Overview & Scrutiny Panel on 20th September, of which I am Vice Chairman, we received a very positive report from the Director of Worcestershire Children First, regarding "Supporting Families First". This is a relatively new initiative, set up in 2020, it uses a multi-disciplinary approach to promote children remaining with their families, preventing the need for them having to be placed in care wherever possible.
The work which is done with these children and their families is extraordinary and indications are, that this new initiative really is making a very positive impact.

David Chambers County Councillor, Tenbury Division.

Report for Eastham Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 27th September 2022

Firstly, please don't forget that I have a small pot of money to support local projects. Unusually I have not received any requests so far, so the £500 is still available and must be spent by the end of the year. Please promote to community groups.

Deadline for apprentice grants fast approaching: Malvern Hills District Council is encouraging apprentices to apply for support grants before the deadline at the end of September.

Last year, MHDC received £283,000 of funding from the Government's Community Renewal Fund (CRF) to invest in skills, training and employment opportunities, and this funding comes to an end this month.

As well as upskilling grants available for businesses going towards the cost of taking on a new apprentice or trainee, support payments of up to £1,000 are also available to help apprentices and trainees.

The support payments go towards covering the cost of travel, equipment, clothing and other associated expenses.

MHDC is also offering a £500 'Golden Hello' payment to anyone starting an apprenticeship to help encourage people to consider on-the-job training as a route into work and to take up the apprenticeship position available locally.

Since December, the CRF has provided 68 Upskilling Grants to 54 companies and supported 35 apprentices and trainees with bursaries.

The deadline for applications is approaching at the end of the month and MHDC is encouraging people of all ages to consider an apprenticeship and to apply for existing apprentices to apply for the grants.

An apprenticeship is a great opportunity to learn a skill whilst earning a wage and valuable work experience. The Development Manager (TDM) is one local training provider who are delivering apprenticeships because they believe in the value of work-based learning. Visit www.malvern hills.gov.uk/skills for more information.

Worcestershire Household Support Fund: With the cost-of-living crisis continuing to escalate the Worcestershire Household Support Fund is still available for qualifying households.

At the moment, Act on Energy are only accepting applications for pensioners, the families and single household scheme is paused, however there is a waiting list that qualifying households can join.

Please pass on this information to anyone you think may need it, so that households who qualify can begin to claim and receive the help that they need. Visit the Act On Energy website <https://actonenergy.org.uk/project/worcestershire-household-support-fund/> for more information. Visit MHDC's General Advice and Support page for more information about support available.

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<https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/community/general-information support>

Wildflower project: Malvern Hills District Council trial project which started this year, in consultation with the AONB and other organisations, aims to encourage wildflowers and improve biodiversity within the Malvern Hills District.

We will be assessing what species are present within the selected areas and how they can improve the biodiversity.

The selected verges and open spaces will be cut once between July and September and the cuttings removed. The benefit of this is that it allows the plants to flower and seed and removing the cuttings will reduce the nutrients going into the soil allowing wildflower species to grow better.

Less vigorous species such as Oxeye Daisy, birds foot trefoil, orchids, and cowslip will all have a chance against the grasses and cow parsley.

The verges will still be cut back regularly at road junctions and a one metre strip along the roadside to make sure that sight lines are clear for road users. Visit www.malvern hills.gov.uk/wildflowers-and-verges for more information

Talk to Tom: Our new regular Leader's Surgery will take place on the first Monday of each month, between 10am - 12pm at the Council House, which started on 4 July 2022. 'Talk to Tom' is an opportunity for residents to meet Cllr Tom Wells and chat face to face about any issues they believe we can assist them with. If you know of any residents that would like to discuss any issues, please ask them to visit our website www.malvern hills.gov.uk/talktotom to make an appointment via an online form

Thank you. Caroline

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