

EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 27th September 2016

Present: Cllr Arnold (Chairman), Cllr Conway,
Cllr Adams, Cllr Horsfall, Cllr Jones, Cllr Moseley

In Attendance: Clerk, 25 Members of Public, County Cllr Ken Pollock, CSO Vanessa Snape

1. **Apologies:** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Worsley.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
 - a. **Register of Interests** – All Cllrs reminded to keep their registers up to date.
 - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – Chairman, Cllr Conway and Cllr Jones Item 16 Eastham Memorial Hall. All Cllrs are on Hall Committee.
 - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – As (b) above.
3. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –
Dispensations received – Chairman, Cllr Conway and Cllr Jones all granted a Dispensation until May 2019 for Item 12 Eastham Memorial Hall. This was agreed at meeting held on 24th May 2016.
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minutes.
Chairman agreed to discuss item 12 (Eastham Memorial Hall) next as it was of Public interest.
After discussion of item 12 the Chairman agreed to close the meeting at 8.15pm for Members of the Public to leave the meeting if they wished.
Chairman reopened the meeting at 8.30pm, no Public were present.
5. **Minutes of last Meeting:** Minutes of meeting held on 26th July 2016 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
6. **County Cllrs Report** – Report given on Eastham Bridge during item 4.
District Cllrs Report – Apologies received, report circulated, see notes at end of minutes.
7. **Progress reports for information:**
 - a. **Eastham Bridge** – see notes at end of minutes.
 - b. **First Aid Training** – 29th September at 2pm and 1st October at 10am booked.
 - c. **Airband Concerns** – Some residents still having issues, Clerk to continue helping with this matter.
8. **Reports on meeting attended by Clerk/Cllrs: -**
CALC Area Meeting – 14th September – Minutes to be circulated.
9. **Finances** –
 - a. **Payments made** – Mr I Mapp (LM July/August 2016) = £374.40, Mrs S Burrows (see 9e) = £315.69, Mrs S Burrows (see 9f) = £11.50.
 - b. **Payments received** – None.
 - c. **Bank Reconciliation** – July/August 2016 signed Balance = £14583.39. Budget up to 30th June circulated.
 - d. **External Auditors Report** – Query regarding notice being up for one day too long, no other issues.
 - e. **Clerks expenses 1st April 2015-31st March 2016** – it was agree to pay £315.69 to include batteries for defib alarm (£14.97) as circulated.
 - f. **Clerks Salary increase from 1st April 2016** – following National increase it was agree to pay arrears of £11.50 as circulated and to sign bank Standing Order for payment of salary increase, Standing Order £185.98
10. **Planning:**
 - a. **Plans received: None.**
 - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –
16/00610/CC0 – Land at (Os 6557 6668), Eastham Worcestershire – Application for approval of details reserved by condition – condition 4 on Planning Permission 15/01342/FUL. Notification of changes to the application approved by MHDC regarding drainage.
Appeal decision - APP/J1860/W/15/3140104 - 15/00141/FUL – Eastham Grange, Eastham WR15 8NP – Proposed new dwelling. **Appeal dismissed by Planning Inspector.**
 - c. **Plans for consideration at this meeting** – None.

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- d. **Update from MHDC regarding – 14/01640PDU – Oaktrees Caravan, Highwood** - Prior approval of Proposed change of use of part of an Agricultural Building Dwelling House (Use Class 3) and for Associated Operational Development and **14/01127/FUL** - Retention and resiting of mobile home. Case went to High Court in September 2016 but Judge did not agree with the process that MHDC had taken in bringing the case to the High Court. The Judge has asked MHDC to look at their delegation process. The applicant has submitted a new Permitted Development Application regarding conversion of the barn to a dwelling following the fire. The Judge has asked for this application to be decided by MHDC before the matter is taken back to the Judge. Parish Council will have site of new application in near future.

11. Road Report:

- a. **Lengthsman** – continuing work to ensure drains/grips are clear.
b. **Problems to report** – Drains blocked Highwood area, Bine Farm road sinking (STW refill problem).
c. **Hedgerow Concerns** – Cllrs to ask landowners to keep hedges trimmed due to extra traffic using lanes.
d. **Astley Orchard** – Work completed 15th August 2016. Drain may still be blocked Cllr to monitor.

12. Eastham Memorial Hall Committees request to Eastham Parish Council to take out a loan of £100,000.00 for the rebuilding of Eastham Memorial Hall.

Cllrs agreed to Cllr Worley's request for his email to be read out as he could not attend this meeting.

Special Parish Meeting held on 12th September 2016 – Result of Ballot of 69 Residents who attended - 39 Voted against taking out at loan, 29 voted for taking out a loan, 1 paper was spoilt.

14 Residents sent apologies or comments to Clerk for the Special Meeting.

Chairman agreed to close the meeting at 8.35pm for Members of Public to speak (see notes at end of minutes). **Chairman reopened meeting at 8.45pm.**

Chairman stated Hall Committee have worked hard for hall. Consultation last year by Hall showed 25 households had committed to pledge money towards a new hall.

After much discussion Cllrs agreed to vote on resolution as stated below -

- a. **Cllrs agreed to delay applying to Secretary of State for permission to take out a loan to help fund new Hall for Eastham Parish until the outcome of the present Lottery Application is known. It was also agreed further Public Consultation will be undertaken by Eastham Parish Council if Eastham Memorial Hall Committee make a request for help with funding at a future date.**

Cllrs felt a Building Surveyors Report obtained and paid for by Parish Council may help residents if future consultation is required. Surveyors report obtained by Hall was felt, by residents, to be for a grant for new hall, not for refurbishment. Clerk to look into costs for next meeting.

12. Correspondence for Information:

A list of items will be available at the meeting.

WCC Conference with CALC AGM – 26th October – 5-9pm

MHDC Conference – 17th October – 6-8.30pm

13. Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting.

Payment – 12th September 2016 – Clows Top Stores– (postage) = £55.00, Hands on Printing (Photocopying) = £30.00 (both payments for Special Parish Meeting 12th September 2016).

14. Councillor's reports and items for the next agenda.

Agenda items – Eastham Memorial Hall

15. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 22nd NOVEMBER 2016 at 7.30pm.

16. Meeting closed 9.05pm.

Signed-----

Date 22nd November 2016

Chairman

Public Question Time – Eastham Bridge issues – County Cllr advised a permanent bridge could be put up on site of old bridge. Full Planning Permission not required for this as it will be on site of existing bridge so will be allowed as a Permitted Development. This is quicker and easier than putting temporary structure or larger structure, both of these would require Planning Permission other surveys/permissions meaning a delay of 6 months at least before building work could start.

Delays so far have been due to Inspectors/Contractors/Designs/Surveys etc all being worked on.

New Bridge - Single span steel structure on site of old bridge, partially brick clad, flat bridge.

Would take weight of all vehicles on road, whatever weight.

Costs - Approximately £4 million to rebuild the old bridge, £1 million for metal bridge.

Piers of old bridge to be left in as per Historic England requirement.

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Footway - no footway or refuge area for pedestrians on new bridge as it would mean putting in a larger bridge and this would require full planning permission. Residents were disappointed with this. County Cllr advised WCC will do full risk assessment for pedestrians to ensure their safety.

Road layout – County Cllr did not think changes would need to be made to roadway.

Visibility splays – residents asked if improvements onto main road and access from main road for large lorries etc. could be improved. County Cllr to ask if this can be factored into work.

Steel is ready to bring onsite and contractor is ready to start work. Delay due to a response from Environmental people being needed.

Press release - Marcus Hart expected to give update later this week.

Structural Engineer has been brought in by WCC to look at old bridge and investigate the reason of collapse.

Survey had been done by contractor on 15th December 2015 and diving survey in June 2015, both of which did not alert WCC to any issues being found. Government guidance is to do a diving survey every 6 years, WCC do this yearly.

Winter 2016-17 - Eastham roads would be classed as primary gritting routes.

Residents were disappointed by the lack of information given out by WCC over the summer.

One resident commented that he felt it would be a waste of time and money taking any court action against anyone regarding collapse of old Eastham Bridge.

Other issues raised - Asian Hornets – Cllr wished to alert residents to this hornet which is now in Gloucestershire, it attacks honey bees so please report if you see any. They are darker than the usual hornet.

New Road subsidence - down for repair by WCC.

Highwood – drains need jetting.

Community Support Officer Vanessa Snape – Reported there have been break-ins into sheds/outbuildings, 2 people on bail for some offences, surveillance being undertaken. Ian White (Security Adviser) will come out to residents if requested. Also security marking sessions being held. CSO to send details to Clerk.

Eastham Memorial Hall – Resident stated some of those who attended Parish Meeting regarding Hall were not interested in hall, only in rise in precept, they do not support hall. Land was donated for hall only. Parish pay increase in precept or have no hall. It was noted increase would help to pay some of the costs of rebuild but a lot of funding would need to be found to ensure the project could go ahead.

District Cllr Report

Route to the Hills update - Work has begun on the creation of the Route to the Hills trail to showcase Malvern's history and encourage visitors to explore more of what the town has to offer. A sod cutting ceremony was held this week on Wednesday (7 September) to mark the start of work on the Great Malvern: Route to the Hills. Over several months a series of specially designed features will be installed to create a trail running from Great Malvern Railway Station, through the town and on to the hills. The project is being mainly funded by a £482,800 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and is overseen by ten key organisations.

Visit www.routetothehills.co.uk/ for more information.

Chairman's hike update - Cllr John Raine is near to completing the final leg of his 130 mile fund-raising trek. The last day of his ten day Hike for Health and Happiness took place on Saturday 10 September. Thank you to those of you that have already supported or taken part in any way, over £1000 has been raised so far for three Malvern based mental health organisations – Jigsaw, Positive Thoughts and Link Nurseries. To see pictures from some of Cllr Raine's adventures to date, follow @Hiking4Health on Twitter or check the Malvern Hills District Council Facebook page. To donate visit www.mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/hike4health

Thank you to Jerry Johns who joined me at Ham Bridge with Cllr Raine and his walking party on Saturday.

Call for volunteers - The search is on for keen volunteers to create a litter hit squad to help clean up the district. We plan to introduce a special team to help tackle litter hotspot areas identified by local residents. The idea builds on the success of the Clean for the Queen campaign earlier in the year, when staff, councillors and residents took part in a mass litter pick to mark The Queen's 90th birthday. Almost 200 bags of rubbish were collected over three days. The new team will go out four times a year to tackle specific areas in need of some attention, with the first outing planned for October. We will provide pickers, gloves, bags and collection. Equipment is also available to local community groups who would like to conduct their own litter pick, so if you know of any that would like to take part please get in touch. Email streetscene@malvern hills.gov.uk for more information or to get involved.

Ward Budget Scheme. – Please promote to local groups. There is still money available for one off projects. The deadline is March 31st 2017.

District Councillor Caroline Palethorpe