

EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28th March 2017

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

In Attendance: Clerk, 7 Members of Public, District Cllr Caroline Palethorpe

1. **Apologies:** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Moseley.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
 - a. **Register of Interests** – All Cllrs reminded to keep their registers up to date.
 - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – None declared.
 - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – None declared.
3. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –
Dispensations – none received.
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minutes.
5. **County Cllrs Report** – Apologies received, no issues to report.
District Cllrs Report – Report circulated, see notes at end of minutes.
6. **Minutes of last Meeting:** Minutes of meeting held on 24th January 2017 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
7. **Progress reports for information**
 - a. **Eastham Bridge** – WCC still confident of May 2017 opening with traffic control.
 - b. **Airband issues** – Clerk attended meeting with Airband and WCC on 15th February. Issues from residents reported before that meeting have been attended to and no further complaints have been passed to Clerk.
 - c. **Eastham Memorial Hall** – Stage 2 grant application has been accepted subject to local funding being secured. Hall Committee awaiting letter from Lottery with full details.
 - d. **Parish Path Warden Report** – Nothing to report.
 - e. **Community Speedwatch Scheme** – Parish now registered to join scheme, will update when details known.
8. **Reports on meeting attended by Clerk/Cllrs: -**
Clerks Gathering 6th March - Audit Training – Some matters to be updated.
9. **Finances** –
 - a. **Payments made** – Mrs S Burrows (Printer ink 2016-17) = £28.98, WCC (Rock Salt) = £90.00, Mss J Jones (oil for seat) = £8.95. See also item 14.
 - b. **Payments received** – WCC LM October/November 2016 = £312.00, District Cllr Grant (defib pads) = £115.00.
 - c. **Bank Reconciliation** – January/February 2017 signed Balance = £17193.54.
 - d. **Internal Audit Review (circulated)** – It was agreed by all procedures are being followed.
 - e. **Internal Auditor 2016-17 Accounts** – It was agreed to appoint the usual Auditor.
 - f. **Clerks Salary (circulated)** – National increase in Salary from 1st April 2017 was noted, new Standing Order for Bank signed. Salary £187.84 per month from 1st April 2017.
10. **Planning:**
 - a. **Plans circulated since last meeting: None.**
 - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –
16/01726/PDU – The Old Cattery, The Old Flatts, Eastham – Prior approval for the change of use of a building from office use (B1) to two dwelling houses (C3).
 - c. **Plans for consideration at this meeting – None.**
 - 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.
Enforcement action will be taken by MHDC on this application following the refusal of application 16/01357/CLE (see (c) above).

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11. **Publication Scheme** (circulated)– It was agreed by all to adopt the document as circulated.

12. **Road Report:**

a. **Lengthsman** – Drain needs attention.

b. **Problems to report** – None.

c. Update on outstanding queries -

Astley Orchard repairs to pavement – This is ongoing, County Cllr has been reminded.

Astley Orchard grit bin request - Dist Cllr advised Housing Association will not provide bin and it is doubtful WCC would provide on as it is not on a slope. Clerk advised a gritbin belonging to the PC is by Memorial Hall, the Committee have agreed this can be used by PC as it is no longer required by Hall. Cllr Jones to discuss sitting with residents of Astley Orchard, Clerk will then need permission to place bin.

Astley Orchard blocked drain – Dist Cllr has been in contact with Housing Association. The BT Pole appears to be causing the blockage. Dist Cllr to continue to press for solution to this problem.

Highwood Lane – Request for gritbin by residents - Clerk awaiting response from WCC.

13. **Correspondence for Information:**

A list of items will be available at the meeting.

CALC Area Meeting – 3rd April – Clerk to attend.

MHDC Parish Conference – 24th April 2017 - 6-8-30pm – Clerk to attend.

CALC Spring Training Dates – Clerk to attend two sessions.

Road Closures due to Charity Cycle Event SUNDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2017 – to be emailed to residents.

14. **Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting.**

Chairman and Cllr Jones have an interest in this item. It is on agenda so Cllrs are aware complaints have been dealt with. Vice Chairman has been copied into emails.

Astley Orchard – Complaints received from resident by Clerk were passed to Dist Cllr for action. Dist Cllr confirmed the matter is now being looked into by Housing Association.

Payment 27th September 2016 – omitted from September minutes – Information Commissioners Office (Data Protection 2016-17) = £35.00.

Payments made 6th March – Mr I Mapp (LM December 2016/January 2017 = £374.40, MTM Contracting Ltd (mowing Millennium Green 2016-17) = £1248.00.

15. **Councillor's reports and items for the next agenda.**

Chairman suggested letter be sent to STW for their efforts in establishing an emergency water supply following damage to pipework due to Eastham Bridge works. Clerk to action.

Agenda items – Eastham Memorial Hall

16. **Date of next meeting: ANNUAL PARISH TUESDAY 23rd MAY 2017 at 7.00pm**

to be followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting at close of Parish Meeting.

17. **Cllrs agreed to close meeting to the Public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.**

18. **Lengthsman Contract 2017-18** – It was agreed to renew contract with present LM. WCC have agreed funding.

19. **Mowing of Millennium Green** – It was agreed to renew contract with present contractor at price quoted.

20. **Meeting closed 8.50pm.**

Signed-----

Date 28th March 2017

Chairman

Public Question Time –

Eastham Bridge – Rumour suggested a toll was to be charged, this will not be the case. Traffic control will be needed on initial opening as work will be ongoing but when finished it will be free flowing traffic. No details of opening date or who will be the first to travel over the new bridge have been given to Clerk or Dist Cllr.

District Cllrs Report

Election nominations now open: Nominations are now open for the Worcestershire County Council elections on 4 May 2017. All eight wards in Malvern Hills District will be contested. New EU funded programme for growing businesses: Business Accelerator is a new service that will support 200 businesses, which have been trading for two years or more, to achieve sustainable growth. Visit the Worcestershire Business Central website for more information <http://www.businesscentral.co.uk/business-accelerator/> Overview and Scrutiny Committee update: At the latest meeting earlier this month the committee looked at The Worcestershire Housing Partnership Plan

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2017. It includes issues and challenges that Worcestershire needs to address, including helping to reduce homelessness. The Homelessness Reduction Bill, likely to become an Act in April 2017 and implemented from October 2017, increases the council's responsibility, as it places a duty on local authorities to help all eligible people at risk of homelessness to secure accommodation, and at a much earlier stage (56 days before they are threatened with homelessness). As of May 2016, Worcestershire had 1,395 people under the age of 35 on the housing waiting list, 331 of which were homeless. We are drawing up an Interim Homeless Action Plan which the committee will scrutinise prior to decision. **District Councillor Caroline Palethorpe**