

# EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eastham Parish Council held in Eastham Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Present: Cllr Adams, Cllr Worsley, Cllr Matravers,  
Cllr Horsfall, Cllr Ward

**In Attendance:** Clerk, 6 Members of Public

1. **Apologies:** Received and accepted from Chairman and Cllr Jones. It was agreed by all Cllr Worsley Chair the meeting.
2. **Declaration of Interest:**
  - a. **Register of Interests** – Cllrs reminded to keep register updated.
  - b. **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** – All Cllrs Items 11 and 21 Eastham Memorial Hall issues.
  - c. **Other Disclosable Interests** – See above.
3. **Dispensations** - To consider written requests from councillors for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) –  
**Dispensations requested** – All Cllrs requested a Dispensation for items 11 and 21 regarding Eastham Memorial Hall, it was agreed by all at previous meetings Cllrs can speak and vote on this matter until May 2019.
4. **Public Question Time** – See notes at end of minutes. No resident wished to record the meeting.
5. **County Cllrs Report**- Apologies received, see notes at end of minutes.  
**District Cllrs Report** – Apologies received, see notes at end of minutes.
6. **Minutes** – Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 and Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were agreed by all and signed by Chairman.
7. **Progress reports for information** – None.
  - a. **Parish Path Warden** – Cllr not available to give report.
  - b. **Data Protection Law changes** – Clerk continuing to delete records and to publish policies as agreed when time allows.
8. **Reports on Meetings attended by Clerk or Councillors** – Details circulated  
**WCC Conference - 9<sup>th</sup> October, Clerks Training (finances) - 26<sup>th</sup> October, CALC AGM 14<sup>th</sup> November** – Clerk gave brief report of meetings.
9. **Finances**
  - a. **Payments made** – MTM Contracting Ltd (Mowing) = £1215.00, Eastham PCC (see item 9d) = £500.00, Mr I Mapp (LM October/November) = £374.40.
  - b. **Payments received** – WCC LM July/August 2018 = £312.00, MHDC Precept = £3850.00.
  - c. **Bank Reconciliation** – September to 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018 balance in cash book agree as £20086.33.
  - d. **WW1 Celebrations - Grant request from Eastham PCC** – Clerk read a letter out which requested £500.00 towards the costs of celebrations held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 to commemorate those who lost their lives in WW1. It was agreed by all to pay a grant of £500.00.
  - e. **Eastham poppy crosses by Memorial Hall** – Cllr agreed to pay for this out of his own pocket.
  - f. **Budget September 2018** (circulated) – No queries were raised. Precept to be agreed at next meeting.
10. **Planning** –
  - a. **Plans circulated since last meeting** – See item 16.
  - b. **Decisions received since last meeting** –  
**18/01228/HP – 1 Old School House, Highwood, Eastham, Tenbury Wells WR15 8PB** – Proposed single storey rear extension. (retrospective). **Approved by MHDC.**
  - c. **Plans to comment on at this meeting** – None.
  - d. **Update from MHDC regarding – 14/01640/PDU and 14/01127/FUL** – Oaktrees Caravan, Highwood. The mobile unit has not been taken down to the satisfaction of MHDC. The barn is still of concern and MHDC legal team will advise.
  - e. **SWDP Consultation** – Clerk to contact Dist Cllr for advise and any comments to be circulated before sending.
11. **Eastham Memorial Hall** –
  - a. **Parish Council Working Party Meeting** – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – notes circulated and were agreed by all.
  - b. **Eastham Memorial Hall Subcommittee** – It was agreed to appoint Cllr Worsley and Cllr Adams to sit on subcommittee. It was agreed by all when legal matters have been completed Cllrs will attend meetings.

# EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

- c. **To discuss any issues that may arise.** No issues to discuss.
12. **Risk Assessment** (circulated) – It was agreed and signed by Chairman.
13. **Publication Scheme** (circulated) – Document noted by Cllrs. Clerk to keep updated as needed.
14. **Road Report** –
- Lengthsman** – WCC are arranging refresher training for LM.
  - Any problems to report** – None.
  - Outstanding queries** –
    - Eastham Bridge** – dead trees – WCC cannot identify trees. Clerk to take photos.
    - New Road subsidence** – WCC have inspected the site and agreed **‘the road is in poor condition with gradual subsidence’**, investigations are ongoing.
    - Grit bins and rock salt** (circulated) – It was agreed to order two bags of salt to be stored at Bine Farm and Court Farm and one parish grit bin for siting at Khandala, Highwood. Landowner agreeable to this. Total cost £507.00 + VAT.
    - Clerk to look at site of Parish grit bin at Astley Orchard due one resident objecting to the siting of bin on grass.
15. **Correspondence for Information** –  
A list of items will be available at the meeting.  
MHDC Photo competition  
WCC Library Review – open until 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019.  
WCC Bus Services consultation – comments 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
Protect your Farm, Protect yourself event 22<sup>nd</sup> November  
Hereford and Worcester Radio – requesting local input for evening programme  
MHDC Great British Spring Clean – 22<sup>nd</sup> March to 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019
16. **Clerks report on Urgent Decisions since last meeting** –  
**Plans circulated by email on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018 -**  
**18/01228/HP – 1 Old School House, Highwood, Eastham, Tenbury Wells WR15 8PB – Proposed single storey rear extension. (retrospective).** It was agreed by all to support this application.  
**Payments omitted from minutes dated 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018 –**  
**Paid 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018** – Thorntons Solicitors = £2280.00, Mr I Mapp (LM May 2018) = £187.20, Mss J Jones (oil for seat) = £10.00  
**Payments omitted from minutes dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 -**  
**Paid 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018** – Mr I Mapp (LM July/August 2018) = £374.40, Mr I Mapp (LM April 2018 replacement cheque 000642 cancelled by bank) = £187.40.
17. **Councillors reports and items for the next agenda.**  
Data Protection, Eastham Memorial Hall, Memorial Hall Subcommittee.
18. **Date of next planned meeting: Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm**
19. **Cllrs agreed to close meeting to the Public due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.**
20. **Internal Auditor for 2018-19** (circulated) – Clerk obtained two quotes. It was agreed by all to appoint DM Payroll Services Ltd at a fee of £70.00.
21. **Eastham Memorial Hall -**  
No legal matters to discuss. Clerk confirmed the final legal papers were posted to PC Solicitor on 13<sup>th</sup> November and he has confirmed receipt.
22. **Meeting Closed – 8.14pm**

Signed----- Date 29<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Chairman

---

## Residents asked for an update regarding the legal papers for Eastham Memorial Hall.

Clerk and Chairman explained PC had signed papers immediately after the last PC meeting and they were posted to PC Solicitor on 13<sup>th</sup> November but Trustees did not sign their papers until 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The Trustees Solicitor has not received the Trustees signed papers so completion is delayed. Upon completion of legal papers the Tenant will have to

## EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

apply to Landlord to make alterations to old Hall, as per conditions of Licence. Trustee present at this meeting did not know when the BLF were meeting to make decisions. He thought all papers were with Trustees Solicitors on 20<sup>th</sup> November. Clerk advised this was incorrect and has an email to that effect.

**New Road Subsidence** – Clerk updated, see agenda item 14c.

**Eastham Bridge collapse** – Resident asked if any report on reasons for collapse had been published. Clerk to ask County Cllr.

**Grit bin Astley Orchard** – A resident requested the bin be moved off the grassed area. Clerk to look at siting elsewhere but felt the salt would cause minimal damage to grass and no other objections had been received.

### DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

**South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) review:** The public consultation on the review of the SWDP was launched on Monday 5 November. This will help us, along with Worcester City and Wychavon District Councils, to decide how to best accommodate housing and employment growth in the area to 2041. This includes the building of another 14,000 new homes to meet demand as well as 169 hectares of employment land to support companies to grow and create new jobs. As you will recall, the current SWDP was approved by the three South Worcestershire Councils in 2016 and set out proposals to deliver 28,400 new homes and 300 hectares of employment land by 2030. But the Government now requires all councils to review their local plans every five years to ensure they are keeping up with the latest housing requirements. Failure to do so could mean councils losing control over where development takes place.

**Full details about the review can be found on the SWDP website [http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/?page\\_id=14121](http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org/?page_id=14121)**

**£15,000 pledged for Community Transport:** Additional funding is being given to community transport providers to help limit the damage done by cuts to commercial bus services across the district. Malvern Hills District Council has announced plans to invest an extra £15,000 a year in volunteer run services to help people continue to make essential journeys for health, leisure or other reasons. If approved at a meeting of the Executive Committee on Tuesday, 27 November it will take the council's total investment in community transport to £50,000. The council currently provides funding to several organisations operating community transport across the district, which includes anything from community buses and minibus hire to a community car scheme. Councillors decided to act after First Bus withdrew services or reduced timetables on 17 routes across the district in September leaving some residents with difficulties getting to work or hospital appointments and others fearing they would be left isolated by the changes. At the time councillors from all political parties on the council met with Nigel Eggleton, Managing Director of First Midlands, to request changes were delayed to allow more time for alternative options to be explored, which was declined. More than 5,400 households in the district do not have access to a vehicle and more than 1,300 of them are households where residents are in work.

**Residents should visit [www.communitytravel.org.uk](http://www.communitytravel.org.uk) to view community transport services in their area.**

**Tenbury Transport Trust is our local community transport service and the website address is [www.tttrust.org.uk](http://www.tttrust.org.uk)**

**Councillor Caroline Paethorpe, Teme Valley Ward, Malvern Hills District Council, Tel: 07974 966412**

**[caroline.paethorpe@malvernhillsc.net](mailto:caroline.paethorpe@malvernhillsc.net)**

### COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

**Remembrance Day** - It was a huge privilege to take part in the Remembrance Day parade and service in Tenbury two weeks ago, and to be present at the dedication of the memorial benches in their Civic Garden later that morning. I have taken part in this event for several years, and it is very good to be able to lay a wreath on behalf of the County Council outside St Mary's church. This year there seemed to be far more people watching, the march itself seemed larger, and the church was packed out. All this was entirely fitting on the exact day 100 years on from the end of the First World War. It was very moving to hear the names of those who had given their lives in the service of their country over the last 100 years read out in church, and one can only echo the pledge that "we will remember them". The last post was played brilliantly (as was reveille later) and I am sure we were all moved by the Rev Mark Inglis' sermon. There are many things wrong with this world, but there are also many for which we can be profoundly grateful. The Civic Garden now boasts two superbly designed and built memorial benches, flanking a cut out figure of a soldier, with head bowed. Dozens of people were present for the dedication, in appreciation of the effort in getting the installation completed, and its deeper meaning. I would like to thank all those involved in this enterprise, and indeed the Remembrance Service itself, i.e. principally the Royal British Legion, for their selfless efforts on this day, and indeed, throughout the year. Symbolically the sun shone brilliantly almost throughout, and one can only take that as a symbol of hope for the future.

**Public Realm** - With regard to the Public Realm work, it is distressing to have to report little progress. In fact, of course, what progress that has been made has been in the wrong direction. The wrong design of bench has been installed in the wrong place. This will be remedied in the near future, and the appropriate black bench, more like the ones in the memorial garden, will be installed next to the Regal entrance. The proper red tarmac will be installed at the entrance to Tesco's after the Christmas embargo and when the appropriate temperature can be anticipated. By that time, any residual problems with drainage around the Bridge Hotel will have been sorted out. I am pleased to see that the rest of the snagging work seems to have been completed satisfactorily and I am sure that all councillors will be anxious to let me know of any deficiencies that arise.

**Economic development** - Over the last couple of weeks I have had the chance to address two breakfast meetings in Sixways, one a "Find It In Worcestershire", and the other a strategic business breakfast. On both occasions I was able to point to some very satisfactory figures describing the Worcestershire economy. As a county, we are creating more businesses, growing faster and creating more jobs than in the rest of the West Midlands and indeed in England as a whole.

## EASTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The only factor in which we lag behind is average wage levels – good if you are an employer, not so good if you are seeking to attract or keep young people living here. In that respect, we are very keen to see increased levels of skills training and a broad range of careers, not all concentrated at the higher end of university entries. As aid to the business breakfast last week, when did you last hear a teacher recommend their less academic pupils might seek a job as a long distance lorry driver? But could our society survive without them? Last week, I attended another “Find It In Worcestershire” breakfast this time concerning the developments of the Worcester 6 game changer site, just by J6 of the M5. This is progressing well with several companies moving in or completing their contracts to move. We anticipate a large number of jobs and a boost to our GVA as a result of this development, and expect that the expansion of J6 of the M5 by Highways England will allow for the increased traffic to be generated by the site.

**Local Issues** - I am pleased to note that the repair work on Eastham Bridge has been completed and I hope the night closures were not too inconvenient. You seem to be making slow but certain progress on the rebuilding of the Memorial Hall, and I would like to express my appreciation for all the hard work that has gone into this project. It has undoubtedly been fraught over many months but perseverance now seems to be paying off. In particular I would like to thank your clerk Sue Burrows for effort above and beyond what one would normally expect to offer in such a position. I wish you all well in the future while the project proceeds to completion.

In the past, concern has been expressed about the state of New Road on the far side of the brook. I have reported this on a number of occasions and I hope it will be repaired in the coming season.

**Cllr Ken Pollock, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire**

DRAFT