

EATON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Eaton Bishop Parish Council held at Eaton Bishop Village Hall on Wednesday 8th January 2020 from 7.30 pm

Present:

Cllr Becky Wall
Cllr Alan Tydeman
Cllr James Ball
Cllr Matthew Johnson (Chair)

In attendance:

Present were Parish Clerk Alison Wright, Lengthsman Paul Wright and Ward Cllr David Hitchiner plus five members of the public. Also present, for the first part of the meeting, were PCSO Fiona Witcher and PC Jeff Rouse.

Open Session: Residents present asked if the 30 mph speed limit traffic regulation order could be extended down as far as Honeymoon Common (where the new notice board is situated) and also be reduced to 30 mph around the Lane Head area. These requests were noted by the Ward Cllr who would need to put forward a Ward Cllr led review of the speed limits currently in place and consideration of the requested reduction. There was also a further request for the provision of horse riding warning signs for the Lane Head area and around Lower Eaton. Lower Eaton would also be checked for the provision of a new notice board and a local defibrillator for the area. Cllr Tydeman would look into possible locations for a new notice board.

1.0 Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were apologies received from Cllr Beth Cross and Cllr David Richards was not present. Cllr Matt Johnson was proposed as Chair by Cllr Wall and seconded by Cllr Ball. Cllr Beck Wall BEM was appointed as Vice Chair.

2.0 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting held on 11th December 2019

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on the 11th December 2019, were signed as true and correct record of the meeting.

4.0 To receive reports from:

Ward Councillor, PCSO West Mercia Police, Locality Steward, Tree Warden, Footpath Officer.

The **Ward Cllr** updated the meeting regarding the appointment of a new Director for Herefordshire Council, the person who had been covering the position had obtained the permanent position following an application process and interview. The Ward Cllr updated regarding funding from the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) for new ventures. Tourism was to be invested in and initiatives with other councils would be taking place. Compensation was available for damage etc. caused by flooding. The Lugg catchment area phosphate issue was noted. Planning had been refused for a development around the viaduct site in Ledbury.

On local matters, the Ward Cllr had asked Bruce Evans of Balfour Beatty to look at the Honeymoon traffic mirror situation. The Ward Cllr was also looking into the parking problems being experienced in Ruckhall Lane near to the Abbey.

The **PCSO West Mercia Police** Bulletins sent. PCSO Witcher and PC Rouse were present at the meeting. The Police advised that a “whacker plate” had been stolen from a garden in Eaton Bishop. There had been numerous fraud attempts reported on vulnerable, elderly people. Some of these people had been escorted by “couriers” into their banks by taxi to withdraw large sums of money. The Police asked those present to spread the warning about the fraud activities. Some of the “couriers” had been caught. The Police were in contact with the banks and taxi drivers to make them aware of the frauds and methods being used.

For further information regarding Courier Fraud, please visit the West Mercia Police website <https://www.westmercia.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/fa/fraud/personal-fraud/door-to-door-courier-fraud/>

The **Locality Steward** was not present. Bulletins had been circulated.

The **Tree Warden** Cllr Richards was not in attendance at the meeting.

The **Footpath Officer** – no update. The suggestion had been made regarding an approach to a local resident, to take up the role of Footpath Officer, and Cllr Wall would follow this up further. There was still a vacancy for a new Footpath Officer.

5.0 Finance and Policies

5.1) To note bank balances

The bank balances were noted as: Business Account £23655.91* and Treasurer’s Account £3794.20, as at the meeting date.

*Contained within the Business Account total are the following amounts:

1) The Cooks Charity Deposit of £2284.51

2) RPA Grant Funding for the Commons Projects - balance £4779.23

3) Defibrillator Fund balance £457.41.

5.2) To resolve to accept payments, as per listing.

The following payments were approved:

Resolved: that the payments were passed for payment: Unanimous.

Mrs A Wright (Clerk’s salary paid in accordance with contract)	
HM Revenue & Customs (Tax)	£64.40
Longfield Services (bins)	£55.00
Longfield Services (Lengthsman bins/materials)	£63.22

6.0 Update on defibrillator and defib contact listing

There would be funding from the Cider Festival to come. Further fund raising ideas were to be sought.

7.0 Update on parish flooding issues

A meeting had been held and the Ward Cllr and Cllr Ball had met with the Balfour Beatty Drainage Technicians in the location of Pear Tree Cottage and Marsh Farm on 16/12/19. They had discussed the culvert under the road as to whether it was blocked. Balfour Beatty confirmed that the road drainage system was “okay”. Cllr Ball had made contact with the landowner and they had agreed to dredge the ditch. The road drains into the ditch at the location. Cllr Ball would keep up with the situation. Thanks were recorded to Cllr Ball for attending the meeting and for helping to deal with the flooding issues.

8.0 Village Matters

Honeymoon Common and Little Marsh Common – updates

No further update.

Village Hall matters – no new considerations were raised.

Pumping Station – no further update.

9.0 Planning Matters

No new applications had been received for discussion.

10.0 Smart Water – to discuss way forward

It was reiterated that there would be a coffee morning arranged for the 11th January 2020 from 10.00 am, in the Eaton Bishop Village Hall, and a member of the Smart Water Team would be invited to attend the morning and present ideas. Further feedback would be brought to the Eaton Bishop Parish Council Meeting on 12th February 2020. There would also be a further presentation from 7.00 pm on the 12th February ahead of the Parish Council Meeting.

11.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths

11.1) To note any defects to be reported to Balfour Beatty and road issues
Pothole reported near Warlow Farm. There were also potholes reported on the Lane Head Road. There were leaves on the road over the bridge at Ruckhall. Sweeping of said leaves would be arranged with the Locality Steward. Flooding at Seven Acres and a pothole under the water – all reported to the Locality Steward.

11.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman:
Dragon Dene drainage issues – jetting team have jetted but the ditch needs clearing.
Flooding down from Camp Villa – grips need clearing and the tarmac is breaking up. Road believed to be unadopted (unclassified) agreement with the Church Commissioner would be checked.
Cllr Johnson would speak to Lane Head Farm owner regarding stiles.

12.0 Information Sheet and Correspondence

- 12.1) To note Information and Correspondence sheet including:
- Core Strategy/Neighbourhood Planning workshop event presentation
 - MINUTES: 1st Red, Norton & Twyford brooks NFM Community Group Meeting
 - October & November flooding, home and business support
 - Short Breaks Capital Funding
 - Marches Renewable Energy Grant Scheme

HALC

- Climate Change in Action!
- Presentation from HALC Conference

13.0 Matters to be raised on the Agenda for the next meeting

All the usual items would be on the Agenda plus any additional items as raised.

14.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th February 2020, from 7.30pm, in the Eaton Bishop Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Signed:

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Chairman

Date

12th Feb. 2020
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Visit the Eaton Bishop Parish Website at: www.eatonbishoppce.btck.co.uk