

EATON BISHOP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Eaton Bishop Parish Council held via Zoom Platform, due to Covid 19 Lockdown, on Monday 15th June 2020 from 7.30 pm

Present at the Zoom meeting:

Cllr Becky Wall BEM (in the Chair)
Cllr Rupert Chatwin
Cllr Alan Tydeman
Cllr James Ball

In attendance:

Present were Parish Clerk Alison Wright, Ward Cllr David Hitchiner and one member of the public (from 7.58 pm).

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm. The Chair (Cllr Becky Wall BEM) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.0 Open Session – public questions:

There was no public input.

2.0 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Cllr Beth Cross. Cllr David Richards was not present on Zoom.

3.0 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations made.

4.0 Minutes of previous meeting (Annual Statutory) held on 13th May 2020

The Minutes of the Annual Statutory Parish Council Meeting, held on the 13th May 2020 were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting. It was noted that the date for the moving of the telegraph pole at Ruckhall was scheduled for the 26th June 2020.

5.0 To receive reports from:

Ward Councillor

The **Ward Cllr** updated the meeting about Herefordshire Council matters. This included information about the acquisition, by the Council, of the freehold for the Maylord shopping centre. The final use of the area (stretching to circa four acres of city centre land) had not been determined and was an “open book” at the moment of reporting. The Ward Cllr updated regarding the Council’s budgetary position and the challenges being faced to meet commitments. All available funding streams were being tapped including grant funding. The Council were currently trying to secure funding to pay for the highway repairs at Fownhope which had been damaged in the last bout of flooding problems. The Council were aiming to keep works in the county by using local contractors for works and were looking at a new carbon management plan to help maximise efficient energy generation, for example solar panels for schools. Grants paid to local businesses during the Covid 19 virus pandemic did not need to be repaid and had come from Government funding.

6.0 Finance and Policies

6.1) To note bank balances

The bank balances were noted as: Business Account £26285.73* and Treasurer’s Account £2490.61, as at the meeting date.

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

1) **The Cooks Charity** Deposit of £2144.51

2) **RPA Grant Funding** for the Commons Projects - balance £4339.23

3) **Defibrillator Fund** balance £457.41.

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)	£80.40
Longfield Services (Lengthsman/bins)	£110.00
Herefordshire Council (Election May 2019 recharge)	£88.87
Smartwater Technology Ltd	£1559.28
Allied Westminster (VH Insurance)	£1073.63

7.0 Village Matters

Honeymoore Common and Little Marsh Common – updates

All was well on the commons. Cllr Richards had sent some photographs of plant life on the commons.

Village Hall matters – no further new items were raised. The Village Hall Insurance annual premium was being renewed.

Funding for trees for Parish Councils

Cllr Chatwin gave a brief explanation of the idea of funding for trees, this could be carried out on conjunction with young people in the area, for example Scouts and Young Farmers. This would be kept on the Agenda for review.

8.0 Smart Water – to discuss roll out initiatives

The Smart Water kits had been sent out and were being received by the householders. The Parish had qualified for the free publicity signage and the Chair had circulated a note regarding determining the placing of the signs. The signs came in various sizes with the largest being 23” by 33”. The exact spots for the largest signs would be determined, on the entry points to the village, and the Police would install the signs. The idea would be to saturate the most populated areas of the village with the remaining signs. A parish councillor would attend the installations to ensure they were going in at the right place, as decided.

It was agreed that Cllr Tydeman would mark the defibrillators with his marking kit.

9.0 Planning

There was one planning application for discussion.

Planning application 201410 – Monopitch fodder and implement store.

The Parish Council discussed the application and resolved to comment regarding the flood risk in the area and the cladding materials for the outside of the store. The exact wording for the comments would be supplied to the Clerk by Cllr Chatwin, who had undertaken the research into the planning proposal.

11.0 Parish Roads and Footpaths

11.1) To note any defects to be reported to Balfour Beatty.

It was commented that the footpath at Cagebrook House had been closed by Balfour Beatty. This was believed to be because of a broken bridge crossing.

The grit bin had been completely smashed, allegedly by the mowing contractor, at the steep Bank Pitch in Ruckhall. The Chair had sent photographs of the bin to the Locality Steward. A replacement bin would be needed for the steep Bank Pitch.

11.2) To put forward work for the Lengthsman:

Cllr Ball had applied for the stile for Marsh Farm using the required form. It had been stated that a gate could be fitted but not a stile. The Locality Steward had been asked to supply a stile kit for near to Brooky Cottage. Once received this would be fitted.

12.0 Information Sheet and Correspondence

12.1) To note Information and Correspondence sheet including:

Herefordshire Council Various, as circulated and including:

- Funding for trees for Parish Councils - The Tree Council Branching Out Fund is now open!
- Volunteer Survey
- Short Breaks Capital Funding - Round 2
- Local food/deliveries and warmer homes update
- Planning for phased returns to schools for some pupils from 1 June
- FLOODING – Ongoing support to you and the community
- Safeguarding Corona virus (COVID-19) Information Bulletin
- Talk Community Covid-19 Response Opening Times

The Parish Council agreed to fund HALC Zoom Training for Cllr Chatwin, on planning, and Cllr Wall, on chairing meetings, at the cost of £40.00 per Zoom Meeting. The delegates would make their respective bookings for their convenience.

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

All the usual items would be on the Agenda. Also Trees for Parish Councils, adoption of accounts for 2019 – 2020 and consideration of grant funding for extended Zoom usage (should this become necessary).

14.0 Confirmation of the date of the next Meeting

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th July 2020, from 7.30pm, via Zoom Platform unless otherwise advised.

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm

Signed:

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Chairman

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Date

Visit the Eaton Bishop Parish Website at: www.eatonbishoppc.btkc.co.uk